

SMP CONNECTED

Friday 12th June 2026 Issue #138

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THE TIMES
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TOP 100



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Dear Friends,

It's been another fantastic week at St. Matthew's, and I couldn't be prouder of our pupils. A special well done to our Year 1 children for their focus and effort during the phonics screening, and to our Year 4 pupils who tackled their multiplication tables tests with great determination. They have all approached these challenges brilliantly, and we are very proud of what they've achieved.

We also added a splash of colour to the week with our World Cup dress-down day – thank you to all families for embracing the occasion so enthusiastically. It was wonderful to see the school filled with so much colour, spirit and celebration.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome our school governors, alongside our new headteacher, Mr. Wheatley. It was a real pleasure to share the many positive things happening across the school and to showcase the hard work, enthusiasm and pride of our children and staff.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support – it makes a real difference.

With brightest blessings,
Mr Gray

Cornerstones Week - parents' workshops

You may have read on Class Dojo that we are offering two workshops for adults during Cornerstones Week. These are completely free of charge and will run for 30 minutes after school. Your child(ren) will be supervised during the sessions to allow you to participate.

Monday - Freestyle Football

Tuesday - Hula-hooping

Please either add your name in the comments section on Dojo or email the office if you would like to join in.

New Academic Year - Transition Days

The first of our nursery transition days is taking place next **Wednesday 9:30-11:15am**. We look forward to welcoming your child to St. Matthew's. The next session will take place on **Tuesday 30th June 1:00pm-2:15pm**

A whole school 'move up' day is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday 30th June**. This coincides with one of the St. Thomas More transition days. Please be assured that there will be provision made for on this day for pupils transitioning to different middle schools.

Friday 19th June - INSET DAY

A reminder that **next Friday, school will be closed to pupils**. We will reopen again on **Monday 22nd June**.

Junior Duke Submissions

Mrs. Hatherley has asked me share that all completed Junior Duke books should be **submitted during Cornerstones Week (22-26 June)**.

Music Festival - Tuesday 7th July

We are looking forward to sharing a musical celebration with you all on **Tuesday 7th July at 2pm**. This is an opportunity for **children who are learning instruments outside of school** to showcase their learning and progress. If you would like your child to be included in the programme, please contact the school office marked for the attention of Dr. Saunders.

150th Anniversary Mass with Bishop Stephen

We extend a warm invitation to families both past and present to join us for a special celebration on **Friday 10th July at 10am** in church. We are delighted to be welcoming Bishop Stephen Wright to help us mark 150 years of our wonderful school. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

SMPTA Reminders

IMPORTANT

Thank you all for your supporting preparations for the summer fair by sending in sweet treats yesterday. **We are still accepting donations so please drop these into school as soon as you can.**

Framed **father's day portraits** can be purchased via the [SMPTA store](#) now - please get your **orders in by 6pm Tuesday 16th** at the very latest!

Commemorative tea towels can also be pre-ordered [here!](#)

Wednesday 17th June Nursery transition morning

Friday 19th June School closed INSET day

LET'S CELEBRATE

YEAR 1



ALL THE CLASS

YEAR 2



XANDER

YEAR 3



GEORGIE

YEAR 4



ALL THE YEAR GROUP

YEAR 5



XAVIER

YEAR 6



MILLIE

HT'S AWARD



KALEB

NEXT WEEK

17th June
19th June
22 - 26th June
22nd June
23rd June
24th June
25th June

Transition day for September nursery starters 9:30am - 11:15am
School Closed - INSET Day
Cornerstones Week 2026 / Summer fair on Friday
Football freestyle - including free parents' workshop after school!
Hula-hooping - including free parents' workshop after school
EYFS Pirate Trip to Longsands Beach
Tennis Day!

26th June

Year 1 Bake Sale - details to follow!
Inflatables and school fair!

29th June
30th June

Final date for Junior Duke submissions
Year 6 visit to the Emmaus Youth Village
'Move up' Day (Y6 transition day at STM)

1st July

Transition day for September nursery starters 1:00pm - 2:15pm

2nd July

New Reception Parents' Information Evening - 5:30pm

3rd July

Year 6 transition day at STM

6th July

Year 5 Celebration of Sport at Gateshead International Stadium

7th July

Sports Day - Reception - Year 6

8th July

Stellar Futures Club - Kielder Observatory Visit

10th July

Reception visit to Prudhoe Castle and Prudhoe Library (morning)

15th July

Summer Arts Festival - 2pm

16th July

Nursery Sports Afternoon - 1:30pm

17th July

Anniversary Celebration Mass with Bishop Stephen Wright - 10am

Nursery Graduation 1:30pm. Nursery will close for the summer today

Leavers' Mass - 10am

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - 2pm / School closes



**Please note that
all dates are
subject to
change.**

Menu Week 1

APRIL 29th - MAY 11th - JUNE 1st & 22nd - JULY 13th - SEPTEMBER 14th - OCTOBER 5th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Chinese chicken curry with rice Sweetcorn & Garden peas Chocolate brownie	Chicken bites with crispy potatoes or Macaroni cheese with garlic bread Carrots & Green beans Iced sponge cake	Sausage, mash & Yorkshire pudding or Quorn sausage, mash & Yorkshire pudding Mixed vegetables & Garden peas Flapjack	Chicken pasta bake with garlic bread or Cheese & tomato panini Sweetcorn & Broccoli Muffin	Fish fingers & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas Ice cream pot

Garden KITCHEN

FOR ALLERGENS AND NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION SCAN THE QR CODE

Plain pasta, basil and tomato sauce, sandwiches, jacket potatoes and a variety of fillings are available daily as an alternative to our main courses. We also offer a salad & fruit bar to accompany your child's meal. Yoghurts, cheese and crackers are also available daily, as an alternative dessert option, cold drinks also supplied.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH VIA THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOUR CHILD HAS AN ALLERGY OR SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENT. YOUR CATERING TEAM WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN PROVIDE TAILORED MENUS TO CATER FOR YOUR CHILD'S NEEDS.

Bishop Wilkinton Catholic Education Trust - Primary School, Three-Week Menu Cycle for Spring/Summer 2024

Menu Week 2

APRIL 27th - MAY 19th - JUNE 9th & 26th - AUGUST 21st - SEPTEMBER 21st - OCTOBER 12th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Chicken goujons with wedges Sweetcorn & Garden peas School cake	Hot dogs* & tortilla chips or Mild chicken korma with rice & naan bread Carrots & Green beans Belgian waffle	Chicken dinner with roasties & Yorkshire pudding or Cheese & tomato panini Mixed vegetables & Garden peas Muffin	Beef lasagne with garlic bread or Pasta meatballs* with garlic bread Sweetcorn & Broccoli Shortbread biscuit	Battered fish & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas Ice cream pot

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*vegetarian alternative available

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Menu Week 3

MAY 4th & 25th - JUNE 15th - JULY 6th - SEPTEMBER 1st & 23rd - OCTOBER 16th

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Margherita with potato wedges or Sausage roll with wedges Sweetcorn & Garden peas Baked doughnut	Chicken burger with crispy diced potatoes or Cheese pasty with crispy diced potatoes Carrots & Green beans Iced sponge cake	Pork dinner with roasties & Yorkshire pudding or Quorn mice & dumplings Mixed vegetables & Garden peas Chocolate cake	Mild beef chilli tacos or Macaroni cheese with garlic bread Sweetcorn & Broccoli Shortbread biscuit	Salmon fish fingers & chips or Quorn nuggets & chips Baked beans & Garden peas Ice cream pot

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