



St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form College

'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze'

Newsletter: 19 September 2025

Faith

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 16:1-13) reminds us about the value of being trustworthy people. There may be times when we make a wrong choice but we can trust that God is always there to help us start again.

We can show that we are trustworthy by making good choices. When we give God first place in our lives – using our talents, our time and our money to serve God we are blessed here and now and can be certain that we will be rewarded in the life to come too.

Excellence

JOIN NOW

Our doors are always open to prospective students and their families. At St. Bede's, we pride ourselves on fostering a nurturing and inspiring environment where each individual is encouraged to reach their God-given potential. During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to meet our dedicated staff, explore our excellent facilities, and witness firsthand the vibrant community spirit that defines our school. We look forward to welcoming you and answering any questions you may have about joining our school family.

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND BYRON 6TH FORM COLLEGE PETERLEE, SR8 1DE



OPEN EVENINGS

YEAR SIX OPEN EVENING
THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2025
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER 2025
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**OUR
PROSPECTUS**



enquiries@st-bedes.org



0191 587 6220



st-bedes.org



[@stbedesandbyron](https://www.facebook.com/stbedesandbyron)

RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Rewards

Headteacher's Award: This week's worthy winner is **Brodie Goodricke** in **8H1**. Brody has had an amazing start to the academic year and his smile on the photograph says it all! He's been a fabulous role model and has thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of school life. Well done, Brody - you're setting the world ablaze with your gifts and talents and we're proud of you.

Tutor Group of the Week: This week the award goes to **10H2**. 10H2 have had a great week, achieving many credits and being the people God wants them to be. Collectively, they're making a positive impact upon our school community.

Columba Student of the Week: Ava Hawley 7C1

Columba Highest Credits: Chloe Ebbelwhite 8C1

Columba Attendance Hero: Zack Young 7C1

Hilda Student of the Week: Sebastian Treanor 9H

Hilda Highest Credits: Brody Goodricke 8H1

Hilda Attendance Hero: Charlie Wilson 10H3

Oswald Student of the Week: Georgia Watson 9O2

Oswald Highest Credits: Alice Andrejczyk 8O2

Oswald Attendance Hero: Payce McGovern 7O1

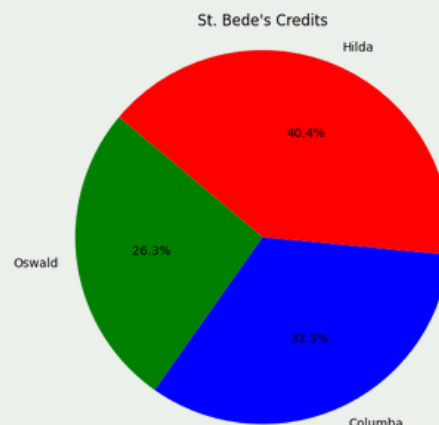


Parent Information Evening

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who gave up their time to come to our information evening sessions on Thursday.

For reference - and for those that were unable to attend - the presentations can be found here: <https://www.st-bedes.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Parent-Information-Evening-3.pdf>

2025-2026 Current Credit Totals:



Hilda: 4738 credits
Columba: 4160 credits
Oswald: 3217 credits



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St Bede's Maths Department are delighted to announce the first Maths Legends of the 2025 - 2026 season!

Each week, every teacher in the Maths Department nominates one pupil they teach to be awarded Maths Legendary status. These pupils have their names displayed on a board in the Maths Department and get a post card home from their teacher. Pupils who achieve legendary status have been role models, tackling problems with determination, showing their classmates respect and taking responsibility for their own learning. Every legend deserves a massive well done!

Mr Fowler - **Neve Muir 8X3**
Miss Houghton - **Aiden Haughey 8Y3**
Mr Hudspith - **Kruz Herron 11Y2**
Mrs Keniry - **Michael Amusat 8Y1**
Mr Taylor - **Lincoln Homer 8X1**
Dr Treanor - **Mercy Sheidu 9Y2**
Mr Wyness - **Ava Chester 9Y3**



Extra-curricular Music - All Welcome

Bede's Voices is open to all students. Our school vocal group meets on Monday lunchtimes (both early and late lunch).

Music Student of the Week

This week's award goes to **Connor Burgin 7H2**. Well done, Connor - what a great start to secondary school!



Music Lessons with Durham Music Service - Sign Up Now!

We're delighted to continue working with Durham Music Service to offer high-quality music lessons in school. Pupils can learn a wide range of instruments or voice with expert tutors, and take part in exciting musical opportunities throughout the year.

- 🎵 Lessons take place during the school day
- 🎵 Open to all abilities
- 🎵 Instruments available to hire
- 🎵 Opportunities to perform and join ensembles
- 🎵 Certificates of Achievement through the DMS STARS framework

Sign up here: <https://www.durhammusic.org.uk/sign-up>



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This Week in Science

This week in Science pupils have been reading and evaluating examples of high quality text such as a published article related to the topic that they will be studying. This involves reading together as a class, looking at words and phrases which they have not heard of before, and discussing the article together. They then write a short summary on the article.

8Y1 have been reading an article about the development of submarines. The summaries which they have written have been incredible and Miss Armstrong is really impressed by the effort they put into completing the task.

Lab coat Legends

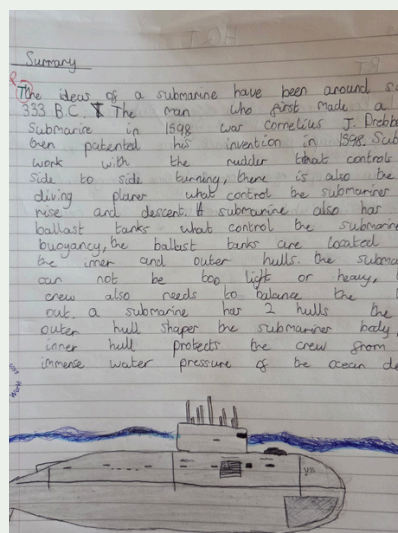
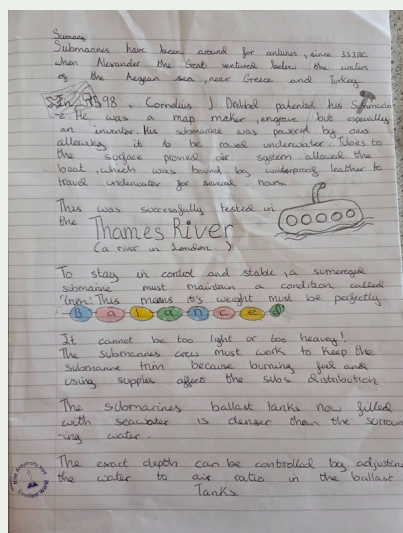
In science we want to award and celebrate the excellent effort put in by our different students. Working hard in science lessons builds problem-solving skills, encourages curiosity, and helps students understand the world around them. It shows determination by often involving analysing complex problems, predicting outcomes and conducting experiments.

- Mrs Hayward - **Poppy Wilkinson 10Y3**
- Mr Moss - **Owen Charlton 11X4**
- Mr Griffiths - **William Bryson 8X2**
- Mr Bowyer - **Noah Rutter-Bryson 11X2**
- Mr Balls - **Lennon Watson 11X3**
- Miss Armstrong - **Layla Mai-Brown 9X4**
- Mr Gooch - **Jacob Moss 7S**
- Mr Day - **Sonny Iley 8Y1**
- Mrs Lord - **Leah Semple 11X4**



Special science shout out!

Jacob Moss in 7S has done some incredible independent work about groups in the periodic table. We love seeing how conscientious our pupils are! Well done Jacob, team science are really impressed!



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Students Attend Mass with Bishop Stephen

Two of our students had the honour of attending Mass with Bishop Stephen today, alongside students from schools across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. It was a meaningful experience and a wonderful opportunity for them to participate in the life of the wider Church. Moments like these deepen faith and foster a stronger connection to our Catholic community.



Sport Hall of Fame

Throughout the year, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 Sport students will have the opportunity to earn their position on the Sport Hall of Fame. This display celebrates outstanding achievements, whether it's a key task completed to a high standard, excellent progress made throughout the cycle, an excellent example of St Bede's standards, an impressive piece of work, or a model response to a question. There are many ways for students to earn their place on the wall of fame, giving them something to be proud of - along with the chance to receive a prize.



PE Sport Stars of the Week

Each week, every member of the PE Department will select their Sports Star of the Week. This award recognises students for exceptional progress or achievements in physical education. It can be earned for radiating positivity, showing fantastic leadership, being reliable and organised, making tremendous progress, being a great team player who overcomes challenges, or displaying an outstanding attitude to learning in every lesson. Important to note is that PE isn't always about how you physically perform - it's about how we communicate, how we work as a team, give and receive feedback, analyse and collaborate to overcome challenges, and maintain a positive learning atmosphere for everyone involved. Each teacher will choose their own Sports Star, meaning there will be four winners every week to celebrate the many fantastic contributions our students bring to PE.



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Physical Education Department Display: Careers in Sport

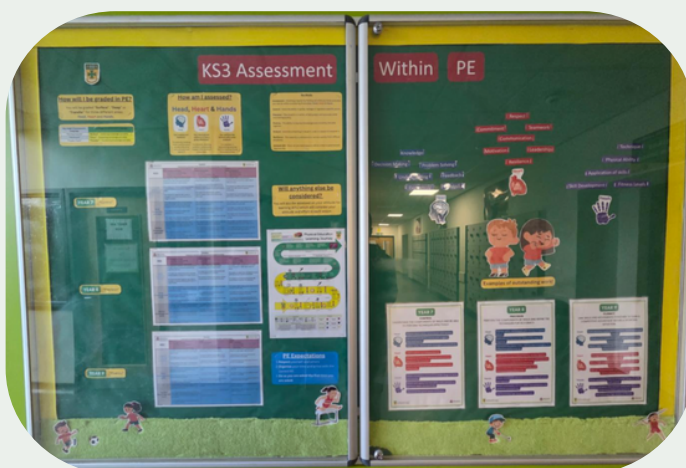
We are committed to helping students see the many exciting opportunities that sport and exercise can lead to. Our Careers in Sport display highlights 19 different pathways within the industry, including roles such as strength and conditioning coach, personal trainer, sports psychologist, dietician, sports coach, physiotherapist, PE teacher, outdoor activities instructor, event organiser, occupational therapist for sport and rehabilitation, and sports scientist.

Each career profile includes a short summary of the role and responsibilities, the qualifications required, the key skills and qualities needed, salary expectations from entry level to progression, and practical career tips. We've worked incredibly hard to provide students with inspiration and ideas for their future — showing them that if they are passionate about sport and exercise, there are many ways to turn that passion into a career.



Physical Education Department Display Boards

We encourage all students to take time to look at our PE displays, which have been carefully designed to support their progress and celebrate achievements. Our displays include information on how students are assessed in PE, careers linked to sport, women's greatest sporting achievements, and how we live out our school's six core values through PE. You'll also find our Sports Star of the Week and extra-curricular opportunities proudly displayed - a constant reminder of the effort, talent, and dedication shown by our students.





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Extra-curricular PE Clubs Timetable

Here are the extra-curricular PE opportunities for this half term. Other sporting clubs and activities will be added in due course:

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Week A lunch	Y7 trampolining - Miss Brown BTEC Club Y10/11		Y7 trampolining - Mr Wilson Y8/9 trampolining - Miss Brown	Y7 Gym - Mr Wilson Y8/9 Trampoline - Miss Brown	Y10/11 House events - Mr Garlinge
Week B lunch	Y7 Trampoline - Miss Brown Y10/11 Gym - Mr Garlinge	Y7 House events - Mr Garlinge	Y7 Gym - Mr Wilson Y10/11 trampolining - Miss Brown	Y8/9 trampolining - Miss Brown Y8/9 Gym - Mr Wilson	Y8/9 trampolining - Miss Brown Y8/9 House events - Mr Garlinge
After school each week 1315-1615				Trampoline - all years - Miss Brown	Friday Fun Club - all years - Mr Wilson

Safeguarding: What's New in KCSIE 2025?

The Department for Education's Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025 guidance outlines what schools must do to safeguard children. Key updates include a stronger emphasis on online safety, with new risks such as disinformation and conspiracy theories now explicitly mentioned. There's also clearer guidance on the use of generative AI, responsibilities around alternative provision, and the role of Virtual School Heads in supporting children in kinship care.

Schools are reminded that safeguarding includes early help, protecting children from harm (including online), and ensuring they grow up in safe environments. Staff are encouraged to use the DfE's data protection guidance and remain vigilant about signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation—especially when pupils are absent or missing from education.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are named / pictured on the final page of every newsletter and in classrooms, offices and spaces around school.



Keeping children safe in education 2025

Statutory guidance for schools and colleges

September 2025



RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

Online Safety Briefing

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our parent information evening yesterday. During the meeting, Mr Logan highlighted the importance of keeping our children safe online. For those that couldn't make it, here are the key points:



The online world is full of opportunities but also risks. As parents and carers, you play a vital role in helping your child stay safe online. Here are some simple, practical steps and free tools you can use at home.

Talk, Don't Just Monitor

- Have regular conversations about apps, games and online friends.
- Set clear rules about screen time and online behaviour.

Check Devices and Accounts

- Set up devices in your name as the parent/guardian.
- Review privacy settings on social media and gaming apps.
- Remind your child never to share personal details or locations publicly.



Free Parental Control Tools

- Google Family Link – manage screen time, block apps, track location.
- Apple Screen Time – built into iPhones/iPads for reports and limits.
- Microsoft Family Safety – works across Windows and Xbox.
- Qustodio (free version) – app and web monitoring, daily reports.
- Broadband & mobile providers – BT, Sky, Virgin, EE, Vodafone all offer free parental filters.

THESE ARE
EXCELLENT & I
USE THEM FOR MY
OWN CHILDREN -
MR LOGAN

Practical Tips

- Keep devices in shared spaces, especially at night.
- Know your child's passwords (explain it's about safety).
- Check chat functions in games and apps – risks often come via messaging.
- Be a role model in your own online behaviour.



If You're Worried

If you are concerned about your child's online safety, please contact the school safeguarding team.

You can also report directly via:

- CEOP – www.ceop.police.uk
- SPCC / Childline – 0800 1111

IF YOU'VE GOT ANY
CONCERNS OR
WORRIES, PLEASE
GET IN TOUCH
WITH US

Sixth Form

BYRON

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Sophie Inspires Next Generation of Oxbridge Candidates

Last week we were delighted to welcome back our alumnae **Sophie Jubb** who is about to start her second year reading History and English at the University of Oxford. Sophie returned to Byron Sixth Form to share her insights on her first year of student life as well as some invaluable tips for the application process and adjusting to university life.

Her visit was a source of great inspiration for our current students, many of whom aspire to follow in her footsteps.

Sophie's journey from St. Bede's to one of the world's leading universities serves as a testament to the quality education and supportive community that our school provides. Her story resonated deeply with the audience, sparking lively discussions and motivating our future Oxbridge candidates to pursue their ambitions with confidence and determination.

We are immensely proud of Sophie's achievements and grateful for her willingness to give back to our school community. Her visit not only provided practical advice but also ignited a renewed sense of enthusiasm and possibility among our students.



Year 13 - ready for UCAS

Year 13 have been working hard to complete their UCAS form and personal statement. There are an exciting range of ambitious choices this year in Byron. Students are considering courses as diverse as law, economics, paediatric nursing, occupational therapy, politics and psychology. We're very proud that so many of our students are considering careers in the education and healthcare sectors, a real testament to the caring and friendly community in the Sixth Form.

Enrichment begins

It's never been more important to stand out from the crowd. Enrichment activities help students to develop valuable employment skills and develop passions and interests. Students have been deciding which of the dozens of opportunities they would like to take up this term. These include opportunities to be a senior student, take part in the John Paul II award, play football or coach younger students. They even have the chance to complete placements at Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School.

To view our latest Sixth Form Prospectus [click here.](#)



Key Dates

- **Mon 22 September:** Timetable Week B (planner & equipment checks)
- **Thu 25 September:** Year 6 Open Evening
- **Fri 26 September:** MacMillan Coffee Morning
- **Wed 1 October:** SEND Coffee Morning
- **Thu 9 October:** Sixth Form Open Evening
- **Mon 20 - Thu 24 October:** Y13 Geography Field Trip
- **Thu 23 October:** Y7 Smashed (alcohol awareness theatrical production)
- **Thu 23 October:** Y7 & Y12 Welcome Mass 11am

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Designated safeguarding leads:



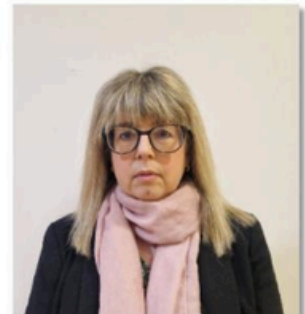
Mr Logan
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Cessford
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Robinson
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Ord
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Home and School Links

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Facebook: [StBedesandByron](https://www.facebook.com/StBedesandByron)

Our Parish: Our Lady of the Rosary in Peterlee and Horden

Our Diocese: Hexham & Newcastle

