

Let our news shine bright!

St Catherine's Chronicle

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Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter, written by us, the Year 5 and 6 Newsletter Club! We're excited to share our stories and news with you. Our school mission, "Let your light shine and set the world on fire," inspires us to do our best and make a difference. We hope you enjoy reading about all the amazing things happening in St Catherine's. Happy reading!

Our diverse school

At St. Catherine's, we are extremely lucky to have so many children from different parts of the world. We have someone from every continent (except Antarctica, of course) who is unique and different in their own way. We are a catholic school but we respect everyone in this school. The teachers encourage students to embrace their culture and never change who they are. All the staff are wonderful to all the students, no matter what their religion is or where they come from. We spoke to Michelle, a child in Year 5 about this;

"I am Spanish and I think that it is wonderful to see such uniqueness in our school. Everyone should be different and have a right of identity. I feel like I have a different personality from everyone else but I'm still special."



The display board in our school entrance showing all the places in the world our students are from!



St Catherine's Chronical journalists

Interviews

In each addition we will interview a range of staff and volunteers here at St Catherine's so keep a look out!

Mr. Thompson (Year 5 Substitute from 4th November – 29th November):

I rate 10/10. One of the best and nicest schools I've been to during my career as a teacher. I'm from Newcastle and have been to many schools to teach, and I love this one.

Miss Hoey (Headteacher):

Miss Hoey is our wonderful head teacher. She has been working as a headteacher for two years and loves each and every student and adult in this school. She is dedicated to helping us in a unique way, and is always working hard in her office. Miss Hoey is extremely busy but still manages to come in with a smile on her face!

Mrs. Gowens (Volunteer):

Mrs. Gowens has been a volunteer at St. Catherine's for over six years! She has helped the students and teachers from years one to four. She really likes this school as they've let her volunteer. She's here four days a week, helping Year 4. Everyone is very kind and helpful to her, and she loves all the classes.

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Nativity

This year, all of the children let their light shine in the nativity: The Inn-Spectors. All of the staff and children worked really hard and the crowd went wild with our final song: Fit For a King!

Years one to six have learnt their lines, prepared fun actions, and sang songs with joy and excitement! Everyone performed, even if they didn't have a line, and everyone enjoyed it!



Carols at St. Mary's Cathedral:

This trip took place on the 4th December, and we gathered in the cathedral with plenty of other catholic schools in Newcastle. There were about twenty speakers (one from our school) who let their light shine. The children walked for about half an hour past the Christmas market in town and lots of other shops. This was a really enjoyable experience for all who came, and the carols were lovely.

Swimming

Every year children in Years 4,5 and 6 go swimming as part of their PE curriculum. Children are put into three groups which are matched to their confidence and ability in the water. The first thing they tell you in group 1 is that you need to have confidence in water and not be afraid. Group 2 concentrate more on teaching you different styles of swimming for example, back stroke, front crawl, breast stroke.

Residential Trips at St. Catherine's

At St. Catherine's, we are very lucky to go on residential and fun trips. Years 5 and 6 get the opportunity to go on a residential trip every year. Last year, we went to Ford Castle for a two-night adventure with activities like trapeze, obstacle courses, archery, and zipwire. This year, there is the exciting opportunity to go to Paris and visit Disneyland!

Last year, when I was in Year 5, we went to Ford Castle. It was an amazing experience! We stayed for two nights and did so many fun activities. One of my favourite parts was facing my fears and trying new things. The trapeze was 20ft up in the air, and I felt so brave jumping off it!



Waiting to go on the zipwire

France

This year, we have an even more exciting trip planned. In February, many of us will be heading to France. We'll get to visit Disneyland and see the Eiffel Tower. Dexter, a year 6 child, said, "I can't wait to climb halfway up the Eiffel Tower and taste the delicious food."

We are so fortunate to have these amazing experiences. These trips allow us to explore new places, try new activities, and create wonderful memories with our friends.

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Student helpers

Mini Vinnies and School Council

Students from Year 3 – 6 are proud to be part of the St. Vincent de Paul Society as Mini Vinnies. They help nearby charities and strive to build a better community for everyone.



Mini Vinnies donating the food from our harvest festival.

Bella (Mini-Vinnie):

I wanted to become a Mini Vinnie because I could help a lot of people and I enjoy helping others. I could help by giving to local charities and helping out in events like the harvest festival. If I ever see someone sad or hurt, I would immediately tell a teacher or an adult to see if they could help, and I would try to make them feel better. When I got voted to be a Mini Vinnie, I felt super happy, excited, and joyful. I would care for my community by spreading joy and happiness.

Mansukh (Year 5):

I like being a Mini Vinnie because it's really nice and fun to help others. I could help by donating to charities, and this is fun because I can donate to the homeless and poor. When someone feels sad, I would talk to them and try to cheer them up. I felt really happy and excited when I was selected to be a Mini Vinnie.

School Council

Our student councils are determined to help our school in as many ways as they can they love to help and we pick new ones every year. This year our student council are 2 per year part from year 6 who have a few more because they are the oldest of course.

Haniya (year 5 student council)

I love being a student council because I can help many people and help the school. Our school is a beautiful place and I am so proud to be a student here. I have been in this school from ladybirds nursery and I am currently in year 5.

Joke section (For fun)



Why did the teacher punish his student?

Why did the teacher draw on the window?

Why did the music teacher need a ladder?

Why did nose not want to go to school?

How do you get straight A's?

What did the pen say to the pencil?

Where do math teachers go for vacation?

1. He was trying to teach them a lesson
2. Because he wanted his lesson to be very clear
3. Because she needed to reach the high notes.
4. He was tired of getting picked on
5. By using a ruler!
6. So, what's your point!
7. Times Square!