



#### Reception Mrs. Smith

★ Pupil of the Week is Spencer Spearman for great independent writing during Phonics sessions this week.

Something exciting happened this week in Reception. We watched a video that showed a spaceship zooming past our classroom! We think that it might be Q Pootle 5! We have been looking outside for clues that he has been here. Next week we will be learning about Chinese New Year.

#### Year 2 Miss Cameron

★ Pupil of the Week is Charlie Austin for always giving 100% in everything that he does and for always looking for new ways to challenge himself.

Our next Forest Friday session will be Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January where we will take part in RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch! Keep an eye out on ClassDojo to see what we get up to.

#### ★ Year 4 Miss Prosser

Pupil of the Week is for Sophia Cummings for always trying her best and being a kind friend to everyone.

#### Nursery Miss King



Pupil of the Week is George Partington for remembering so many landmarks in London.

This week Nursery have been exploring our capital city- London. We have also made bird food and taken part in some winter bird watching.

#### Year 1 Miss Crampton



Pupil of the Week is Emily Martin for writing a letter, independently, to the penguins.

#### Year 5 Miss Hird and Miss Oliver



Pupil of the Week is Dean Howe for persevering with fractions even when he found the work hard.

#### Year 3 Miss Gregg



Pupil of the Week is Byron-Joe White for improving his sentences in English using the 'sentence strips' tray.

#### Year 6 Miss Denham

#### ★ Pupils of the Week

Pupil of the Week this week is Alex for his great work, in history, looking at how WW1 impacted the people of Durham and the surrounding areas.





**Mrs Cutmore is our Staff Star of the Week.**

**Dates for your diary:**

- Break up for half term Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Return to school Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Break up for Easter Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023
- Return to school 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023
- Break up for half term 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- Return to school **Tuesday** 6<sup>th</sup> June
- Break up for summer holiday Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

**Statutory Test Dates**

- Year 1 Phonic screening checks (including Year 2 resit checks) begin week commencing Monday 12 June 2023.
- Year 2 SATs will be administered during May 2023.
- Year 4 Multiplication Tests week beginning multiplication tables check within the 3-week period from Monday 5 June 2023.
- Year 6 SATs week beginning Monday 8 May to Thursday 11 May 2023.

# jobs and employability fair

Wednesday, 1 February 2023 - 10am to 3pm  
at Bowburn Community Centre, DH6 5AT

Looking for work? **We will help you!**

Come and chat about jobs and employability support with:

- believe housing
- EE
- Lidl
- Bishop Auckland College
- Bowburn Care Centre
- Wheels 2 Work
- County Durham Volunteering
- And more

We can provide support with applications and CVs.

Whether you are looking for your first job, thinking of returning to work after a break, or are looking to create a pathway towards training, come along and chat to us!

Or visit our website to find out more about what we can offer:

[www.believehousing.co.uk/  
your-community/employability-and-learning](http://www.believehousing.co.uk/your-community/employability-and-learning)



## Warm Spaces

Warm Spaces are somewhere you can go to get warm, stay warm and enjoy a little company. In some, you'll also be able to get refreshments.

With many people feeling the pressure because of increased energy costs and the rising cost of living, Warm Spaces network aims to support residents across County Durham this winter.

Warm Spaces are free and will let you stay for as long, or for as short a period as you wish (within their opening hours).

Please see link below for more information

[What Warm Spaces are, why we need them and how to find them - Durham County Council](#)

## Safeguarding

### For Parents - Social Networks for Children Under 13

It's a big issue and we all know about it, sadly there is very little we can do about it if parents are allowing their children to use mainstream social media apps apart from talk to and educate children about the safe and appropriate use. There is very little choice for younger children, principally this is because legally companies cannot make money out of children under 13 by harvesting personal information and using this for targeted advertising. But there are a few apps out there for those younger children. However, the challenge is that, given children primarily use social to message their friends, if their friends aren't on the app then the children won't use it. It's a real dilemma but it is worth letting parents know that there are alternatives out there, which you can find [HERE](#).

#### Setting up devices:

It can be difficult knowing all the different settings that are available on different devices to help protect children, this includes allowing or disallowing chat, friends, spending money, content filters and much more. On these pages you will find the details, as well as non-technical instructions, which will help you understand what is available to you and how to set up your child's devices.

Gaming consoles and devices - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>

Smartphones - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>

Broadband and mobile networks - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>

Entertainment and search engines - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/>

#### Safety/privacy settings on social media:

With many children and young people using social media it is important to understand what features are available to you to help protect your children. This is also important because for the most part, all privacy settings are default off when a new account is created, but also because some social media providers change their features quite frequently, e.g. TikTok.

Take a look at this link to see what is available to you and how to set up your child's social media. We would also advise doing this with your child so that you can discuss the features together.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>

#### Useful new features on YouTube and YouTube Kids

YouTube is hugely popular with all age groups but historically parents haven't had a lot of control over what their children can/cannot watch. But things have changed and YouTube now gives parents a greater degree of control. It isn't perfect but it is a step in the right direction. Take a look at the page below where you will see a few short videos of newer features that can help you on YouTube and YouTube Kids.

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/youtube-parental-restrictions/>

#### Gaming

Finding good games, as well as knowing what is appropriate for the age of the child isn't easy, particularly when there can be lots of peer pressure to play the more popular games which are not always appropriate. Taming Gaming is a great resource for parents to find new games for children as well as lots of advice about content, suitability etc.

<https://www.taminggaming.com/>

## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Updates

### Upcoming Events and Information

Most upcoming events are being advertised on social media [Durham SEND Information, Advice, Support Service | Facebook](#) This is the link to the page and there is also an Autism Hub group [Durham SENDIASS Autism Hub | Facebook](#) which promotes not just the Autism Hub events, but also other events going on across the county.

There is a mailing list for parents/carers to join. To become part of the mailing list, email: [ann.connor@durham.gov.uk](mailto:ann.connor@durham.gov.uk) and ask to be added to the mailing list. You will then get any information emailed directly to you.

### Fun and Food

...and here it is, our Fun and Food Christmas 2022 video which shows just a handful of the brilliant activities that took place over the holidays. Thank you again to all of our partners and providers to make this happen - we couldn't do it without you.

We hope you enjoy this video 😊

[\(11\) Christmas Fun and Food 2022 - YouTube](#)

### Peterlee Town FC – SEN focused football sessions

Does your child have special educational needs that stop them being part of a team? Peterlee Town FC are committed to ensuring football is accessible to all. Come along to our S.E.N. focused free sessions throughout January with our FA fully licensed Coaches. Register Your Interest Here: <https://forms.office.com/r/LXhJ3tY4Qn>

Dene Academy – outdoor/grass pitch

Starting Saturday 7th January at 14:00pm

Free throughout January

### Investing in Children – Care Day 2023

Please see attached information on Investing in Children Care day.



Investing in Children/Children in Care  
Care Day  
Feb 18th 2023

We are pleased to announce.....

'The Word Bird'  
Sky Hawkins

will be joining us!

Framwellgate School  
Newton Dr, Durham,  
DH1 5BQ

11am until 3pm

JOIN US

CICC Trust Workshop  
Feedback Zone  
Key Note Speakers  
Sports Hall Activities  
And lots more.....

Book here via **Eventbrite**

# You are not alone

Investing in Children  
Durham County Council  
DURHAM CICC

## Child and Adolescent Mental Health service (CAMHS)

Please find attached information for free awareness training delivered by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health service (CAMHS) in county Durham and Darlington.



**Understanding emotionally based School avoidance** This is an awareness session to increase understanding of what anxiety based school avoidance is, identify potential triggers and look at available support and strategies. This session is suitable for parents/carers of all school aged children but may be of limited value to parents of children with more complex needs. Wednesday 11th January 2023 09:30am-11:30am or

Wednesday 8th March 2023 09:30am-11:30am (both sessions will be the same)

**Anxiety (Two groups)** this session looks at what anxiety is, what the triggers might be, how to identify it and how we can support our children and young people.

Tuesday 7th February 2023 09:30am-11:30am— Ages 5-11 years or

Tuesday 21st March 2023 09:30am-11:30am—Ages 5-11 years

Tuesday 14th February 2023 09:30-11:30am—Over 11 years or

Wednesday 19th April 2023 09:30am-11:30am—Over 11 years

**Emotional Wellbeing** What is it and how can we improve it for ourselves and our children? This session explores the link with mental health and looks at how we can manage our own well-being as well as that of our children and young people. Wednesday 1st February 2023 09:30am-11:30am

To book places please email [tevv.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net](mailto:tevv.countydurhamcamhstraining@nhs.net)

Please state which session/s you would like to attend and give your name,

The sessions are aimed at parents of school aged children but parents of younger/older children are very welcome. The sessions will be led by a CAMHS trainer and will run on Microsoft TEAMS



**NHS**  
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
NHS Foundation Trust



DURHAM  
[www.mctdurham.co.uk](http://www.mctdurham.co.uk)  
c/o Durham SENDIASS  
0191 5873 541



[www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonpcf.co.uk)



[www.rollercoasterfamilysupport.co.uk](http://www.rollercoasterfamilysupport.co.uk)  
Tel: 07377213952



[www.dccarers.org](http://www.dccarers.org)  
Tel: 0300 0051213