



Friday 20th December 2024

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

As we have reached the end of our Autumn term 2024, I would like to wish you and your families a very 'Merry Christmas and every blessing for the New Year and 2025'. It has been a busy and enjoyable term and it continues to be a source of pride seeing our pupils grow and learn as individuals and as members of our community. Thank you to everyone involved in this week's Carol service, it was a truly special evening. It has been a wonderful morning in school celebrating our Advent Masses. A special thank you to Fr Whelan and Brother John for enabling us to celebrate Mass together. Please encourage your children to attend Mass over the Christmas and we will hold you all in our prayers.



Prayer Theme

"I indeed baptize you with water; but there shall come one mightier than I, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to loose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: - Luke 3: 10 -11

- We have prayed together as a community:

Dear God,

**Thank You for the gift of joy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Bless all secondary school students with peace in their studies and friendships. Help them find joy in their tasks and share Your love with others and prepare their hearts to welcome You fully, today and always,
Amen.**



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Arbor - Communication with Families

- Please download the Arbor app if you have not done so and provide 'consent' so we can keep you fully updated
- If you change your email details, please update these via the app.
- We send out in-app messages and emails as our main way of communicating information to you, so please ensure you are signed up.
- You can and should update your personal information, if required, via the app itself, not the school office.
- Thank you for your support and if you have any questions please feel free to contact us via STM-Arbor@stm.bwcet.com



Kooth - wellbeing support for families over the holidays

- Please find below a letter from Kooth about wellbeing support for students and families during the holiday period:

 Newcastle and Gateshead - CYP & Parent_Carer letter. Kooth December 2...



School Uniform

- Pupils wearing our school uniform correctly always look very smart.
- Can I please remind all parents and carers of our expectations so it is clear that when a pupil returns after the Christmas break they are not wearing an incorrect uniform which includes false nails and piercings.
- Thank you for your ongoing support.

School Admissions 2026 / 2027

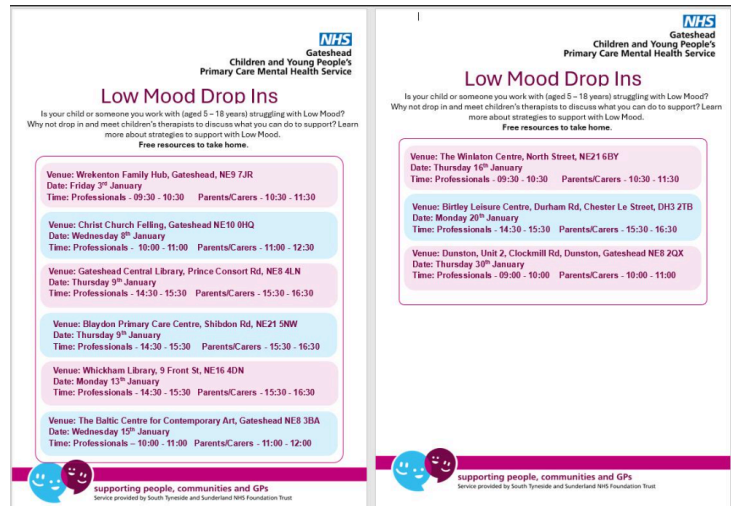
- We are proposing changes to the Admission Policy for 2026/27 and as a result are required to consult.
- The consultation documentation can be found on the school website from 20 December 2024 and consultation will run until 31 January 2025. We are consulting on a minor change to the tie break and notes section.



Gateshead 'Low Mood Drop ins'

- Please see details of Low Mood drop in sessions organised by Gateshead CYPs service
- January can be a challenging time of the year for many. These sessions aim to give some practical advice and resources to help young people.

 Jan 2025.JPG



NHS Gateshead Children and Young People's Primary Care Mental Health Service

Low Mood Drop Ins

Is your child or someone you work with (aged 5 - 18 years) struggling with Low Mood? Why not drop in and meet children's therapists to discuss what you can do to support? Learn more about strategies to support with Low Mood. Free resources to take home.

Venue: Wrekenton Family Hub, Gateshead, NE9 7JR
Date: Friday 3rd January
Time: Professionals - 09:30 - 10:30 Parents/Carers - 10:30 - 11:30

Venue: Christ Church Felling, Gateshead NE10 0HQ
Date: Wednesday 8th January
Time: Professionals - 10:00 - 11:00 Parents/Carers - 11:00 - 12:30

Venue: Gateshead Central Library, Prince Consort Rd, NE8 4LN
Date: Thursday 9th January
Time: Professionals - 14:30 - 15:30 Parents/Carers - 15:30 - 16:30

Venue: Blaydon Primary Care Centre, Shibdon Rd, NE21 5NW
Date: Thursday 9th January
Time: Professionals - 14:30 - 15:30 Parents/Carers - 15:30 - 16:30

Venue: Whickham Library, 9 Front St, NE16 4DN
Date: Monday 13th January
Time: Professionals - 14:30 - 15:30 Parents/Carers - 15:30 - 16:30

Venue: The Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead NE8 3BA
Date: Wednesday 15th January
Time: Professionals - 10:00 - 11:30 Parents/Carers - 11:30 - 12:00

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Venue: The Winlaton Centre, North Street, NE21 6BY
Date: Thursday 16th January
Time: Professionals - 09:30 - 10:30 Parents/Carers - 10:30 - 11:30

Venue: Birtley Leisure Centre, Durham Rd, Chester Le Street, DH3 2TB
Date: Monday 20th January
Time: Professionals - 14:30 - 15:30 Parents/Carers - 15:30 - 16:30

Venue: Dunston, Unit 2, Clockmill Rd, Dunston, Gateshead NE8 2QX
Date: Thursday 30th January
Time: Professionals - 09:00 - 10:00 Parents/Carers - 10:00 - 11:00

supporting people, communities and GPs
Service provided by South Tyne and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust

Return to School

- A reminder that we return to school on Monday 6th January, 2025.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

With every blessing,

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher