

# Information Bulletin for Parents and Carers

## Friday 1 March 2024



**St. Wilfrid's**  
R.C. College

*Excellence through Faith, Learning and Support*

**WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH 2024 IS YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING.  
SCHOOL WILL FINISH FOR PUPILS AT 2.15pm.**

### **Faith:**

Today is the feast of Saint David, the Patron of Wales. Daffodils are one of the emblems of Wales. As the month of March begins, we can pause for a moment in silence to think of some of the signs that remind us that winter is past, and spring is upon us – signs such as daffodils and other bulbs that have flowered.

Let us pray:

*Lord of life,  
We give you thanks  
For the beauty of creation,  
And we rejoice  
When we see signs of new life.  
May we be Spring to others  
And never Winter.  
Amen.*

### **Learning:**

#### **Students of the Week**

Our wonderful winners this week were:

**Aidan:** Grace Myers 8A1 and Alyssia Kaur 8A1  
**Bede:** Daisy Blyth 9B1 and Blair Kennedy 8B2  
**Cuthbert:** Amelia Atkinson 7C1 and Saul Connor 10C1

**Hilda:** Ethan Shirley 8H2 and Lillie Oliphant 11H2  
**Margaret Clitherow:** Gurmilan Kaur 7MC2 and Digonto Mridha 9MC1

**Headteacher's Award:** Olivia Camm 8A1  
**Tutor Group of the Week:** 8A1

Well done to all of you – an excellent achievement! Keep being the best versions of yourselves.

## Celebrating Student Achievements

Congratulations to Ruby Williamson 11H1 who has been part of a six-show production of Les Miserables with West End Prep. This has been a fabulous opportunity for Ruby and she has been really committed to the performance. Well done, Ruby!



Further congratulations to Ava Heslop 8C1. Ava has won an 18 and under tennis competition last weekend. Well done, Ava!



Please continue to send your children's achievements to [celebrate@st-wilfrids.org](mailto:celebrate@st-wilfrids.org) so we can congratulate them.

## Year 11

This week all Year 11 students received an updated **Homework Planner** this week which will prescribe three 30-minute daily homework tasks in the lead up to the external examinations beginning in May. These homework tasks have been carefully designed by subject leads and class teachers to prepare your child for their final examinations. Please speak to your child about the homework they have been set and remind them that **Supported Study** is available at lunch time if they wish to use them.

**STEP** resumed this week in DT, Music and Health and Social Care. Further subjects will be added to the cycle from next week, so it is vital that all students check the updated lists with their tutor via PREP on Monday. It is an expectation that all students attend their allocated sessions. We also have a number of **Voluntary Revision** sessions that are available to Year 11 at lunch time which will be shared with students via PREP.

**R(ev)ise and Shine**, our morning revision sessions for Year 11 continue next week.

The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday: English – English Literature Paper 2: An Inspector Calls
- Wednesday: RE – Judaism Practices.
- Thursday: Maths – Exam question practice.
- Friday: Chemistry – Acids Core Practical.

All sessions are 8-8.30am and students attending can receive a free breakfast.

Students who attend regularly in the lead up to the external examinations will be in with the chance of winning a prize! Look out for daily reminders on our social media platforms.

## Year 9 Options

Thank you to all parents and carers who attend our information event regarding Year 9 options. If you were unable to attend, you can find the presentation and other information on our school website under the curriculum page.

[Y9 Options 2024 - St. Wilfrid's R.C. College \(st-wilfrids.org\)](https://www.st-wilfrids.org)

Students will attend an assembly on Monday to outline the options process and explain next steps. They will also be given an information booklet containing course information for their pathway.

Options forms will be sent out via Group Call on Monday. Mrs Maxwell and Mr Given will be available during Year 9 parents' evening if you have any questions around the options process or Sunderland College pathways.

## Support:

### FAB AWARDS 2024 – Winners!



We are delighted to receive two FAB awards from the South Tyneside Young People's Parliament. FAB stands for Friends Against Bullying and the awards recognise the hard work undertaken by students and staff to promote anti-bullying and continue to develop our zero-tolerance approach to bullying. Our awards celebrated our Mental Health Ambassadors and our Safe Space group.

## Wellbeing Wednesday: Street Crime: Graffiti

This week, we returned to exploring street crime that can have a negative impact on many people in our local community. Like vandalism, graffiti is also a form of criminal damage. That can surprise students. It is confusing because graffiti can also be a respected art form. Our sessions helped students explore some of the myths and realities about graffiti. They learned to distinguish between criminal and artistic graffiti, to appreciate some of the financial and community costs of graffiti and to explore how graffiti can be used positively.

## Kindness Awards:

We have been delighted to give out a selection of kindness awards to students that have been nominated this week – we've given prizes to a student that heard that their teacher's young child loved the dragon Zog so went home and drew a picture of the character for the little boy and to another student that cheered her friend up with a compliment. Students and staff will continue to nominate during Lent, and we will pick students out of the kindness box to receive a token of appreciation for their kind deeds.

### **Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust:**

The Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust is a charity close to our hearts. The Trust supports young people to follow their dreams in sports or performance to help create a lasting legacy for Chloe and Liam. You can nominate the Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust to receive a grant so that they can support even more young people by clicking here: [Vote for Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust to share in £300,000 in grants from MyGivingCircle](#)

### **Safeguarding - County Lines:**

Years 7-10 are being visited by Northumbria Police next week to be warned about the danger of the criminal exploitation known as County Lines. For more information, see below:

# County Lines

Information for parents and carers of children aged 11+



**NORTHUMBRIA  
POLICE**

## What is County Lines?

County Lines is a form of criminal exploitation involving the transport and sale of drugs. It can involve moving drugs and money from one street to the next, or from one end of the country to the other, and the people who do the 'running' are often children who have been targeted and groomed into doing so by criminal gangs. Drugs are advertised by text message on dedicated 'deal lines' and on social media. Some of the platforms used are lesser known: Signal and Kick are two examples.

## How do criminals exploit children?

### TARGET

Criminals will watch an area - e.g. children coming and going from school or hanging around a park - to see if they can spot a particularly vulnerable child. They will then strike up a friendship and get to know them before moving to the 'test' stage.

### TEST

The criminal will offer gifts such as money, expensive trainers, a phone, and will aim to make the child feel special and part of the gang. They will then test the child's loyalty by asking them to run small errands or hold onto items for them, whilst rewarding this loyalty with more gifts.

### TRAP

The criminal will now control the child by isolating them from their friends and family, making threats against them if the child tells anyone about what the gang does. They will demand payback for all the gifts previously given, which could include moving and selling drugs, and sexual exploitation. The child will now feel indebted and trapped.

[This video illustrates the process.](#)

## How do I protect my child, and what are the signs that a child could be being criminally exploited?

Be curious about their friendship groups and where they are when they're not at school or at home. Make sure they know they can come to you if they are approached by new 'friends' when they are out and about, especially older people. Remind them about [Childline](#) as a source of support, too. If you have concerns, share them with family members and the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at your child's school.

Signs could include changes in behaviour, being particularly active on and defensive about their phone, staying up late, and acquiring new clothes and jewellery; there are many more. Visit this [NSPCC weblink](#) for more information.

### Report

You can report any information to the police: 999 in an emergency, or otherwise via 101 or [our website](#).

Visit [Crimestoppers](#) for advice on how to report County Lines-related information anonymously.

[Fearless](#) (part of Crimestoppers) is available for young people to make anonymous reports.

**CrimeStoppers.**



### Support

#### [Unseen's County Lines campaign](#)

- Request an information guide to learn more about County Lines.

Unseen also runs a [free helpline](#) offering advice and support.

#### [SafeCall - Missing People](#)

- A free and confidential anonymous helpline for children and their families affected by County Lines.

#### [NSPCC Helpline](#)

- Help and advice if you have concerns about a child's welfare.



## **Safeguarding – Operation Capio:**

Northumbria Police, the local council and the traffic police will be visiting Years 10-13 next week to present an assembly about the uses, dangers and consequences of off road and electric motorbikes. Since the launch of Operation Capio in December, Northumbria Police have seized over 50 vehicles – lots of these have been off young people. They have found that these youths simply don't know some of the risks and consequences of riding off road and unregistered bikes.

## **School Meals**

Please see below for price information from 15 April:



# CHADWICK'S KITCHEN



## School Meals Prices from **15 April 2024**



As you know we are committed to keeping our school meal prices as low as we can, however as food costs continue to rise we have made the difficult decision to make a slight increase to our school meal costs for our pupils and staff.

The increase will allow us to continue to use the **same quality products** and ingredients, offer the **same number of choices** and **keep our portion sizes the same**. It will also bring our meal costs more in line with those of the Local Authorities.

Primary School Meal will be £2.50  
Secondary School Meal will be £2.60

This covers the cost of a main meal and a dessert, with water available in all our schools.

Don't forget currently all Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2) pupils are entitled to a Free School Meal. Speak to your school office for more information.

We have a Trust Family Support Fund which may be able to support any families that are struggling. Please contact your Headteacher to find out more.

Don't forget you may be eligible to access FREE school meals which also unlocks additional funding for school - visit your local council website for details:

- [Link to Durham council](#)
- [Link to Sunderland council](#)
- [Link to South Tyneside council](#)





## Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

### National Careers Week 2024 - #NCW2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March

All next week, the school will be participating in National Careers week. We will have speakers coming into school to talk to students, key information on our daily PREP pupil bulletin, and careers-based activities posted on year group Teams chats.



National Careers Week provides a focus for careers guidance, at an important time in the academic year, helping support young people by bringing together students, employers and advisers through careers events and free resources.

National Careers Week is a great opportunity for parents to get familiar with routes their child can take into the workplace, no matter how their child learns best.

**The Parents' Guide to National Careers Week** is a free guide outlining vocational options after GCSE and sixth form, how your child can find great opportunities and where they might lead.

[theparentsguideto.co.uk](http://theparentsguideto.co.uk)

### North East Apprenticeship vacancies:

Please follow the link below to view the most recent apprenticeship vacancy report for South Tyneside.

<https://www.st-wilfrids.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Vacancy-Report-29.2.24.xlsx>

This has been generated from [Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) and is one of the many platforms highlighting apprenticeship opportunities. We also encourage a broader search including reviewing training provider and employer websites plus the many online job's boards.

### Siemens Apprenticeships


**Join Siemens for Live Virtual Career Events**

**05th March - 18.30-19.30 Parents and Students**

5-11 FEBRUARY 2024 #NAIW2024  
IT'S NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

**SIEMENS**

Siemens  
Apprenticeships.  
Great minds think differently.






FIND OUT MORE

This National Apprenticeship Week, what better time to consider your future? We have two very exciting events coming soon for students, parents and influencers to explore apprenticeships at Siemens and how to apply.

**Why Siemens? Why Apprenticeships?**  
A live event for parents and influencers  
Tuesday 5th March | 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
[Register](#)

**Early careers with Siemens & how to apply**  
A career breakfast for students  
Tuesday 11th June | 8.45am - 9.15am  
[Register](#)

Ready to create your own journey?  
[APPLY NOW](#)

## Key dates / upcoming events:

- **4 – 9 March:** National Careers Week
- **5 March:** Operation Capio Northumbria Police assemblies – Y10-13
- **6 March:** Y9 Parents' Evening. School closes at 2.15pm for all pupils.
- **7 March:** County Lines Northumbria Police assemblies – Y7-10

## Sixth Form:

### PSHE

Year 12 – Careers Carousel

Year 13 – Student Finance - Independent Research

Responsible

-

Resilient

-

Respectful



Proud to be part of  
**Bishop Chadwick**  
Catholic Education Trust

