

Durham Blue Coat C. E. Aided Junior School

Langley Road

Durham

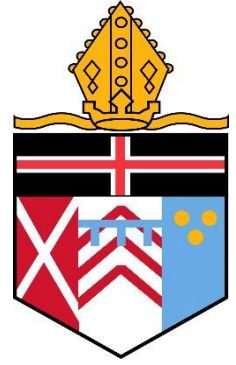
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Head Teacher: Mrs L Grieve



18th September 2026

Important Information: Weekly PSHE 'Connect Us' Show and Tell Activity

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our Jigsaw PSHE curriculum, every lesson begins with a short initial activity called 'Connect Us'.

The main purpose of the 'Connect Us' phase is to foster a sense of belonging, build positive relationships, and create an inclusive classroom environment where every child feels valued, safe, and heard. It provides a structured moment for pupils to connect with their peers, transition into the mindset for personal and social reflection, and develop essential social skills such as active listening, empathy, and cooperation.

During our recent PSHE lesson, the children put into practice what they have been learning about the fundamental British value of Democracy. They took part in a democratic vote—exercising their voice and respecting the democratic process—to select our ongoing 'Connect Us' activity. The votes were counted, and the children overwhelmingly voted to hold a 'Show and Tell' session at the start of every PSHE lesson.

This regular activity provides a wonderful opportunity for the children to put both our learning on Democracy into action and live out our core school values in the classroom:

- Joy: Sharing special interests, hobbies, and talents to bring happiness and celebration to our class community each week.
- Courage: Speaking in front of peers, expressing personal identity, and listening attentively to others.
- Wisdom: Making sensible, responsible choices about what to bring and how to look after their belongings throughout the school day.

To ensure this activity runs smoothly and safely for everyone, we have discussed the following expectations with the children, and we would appreciate your support with them at home:

- Appropriate Items: Whatever your child chooses to share should be suitable for school and age-appropriate.
- Precious/Valuable Belongings: Showing Wisdom, we strongly advise that children do not bring items that are too precious, fragile, or expensive. The item remains your child's responsibility throughout the day.



- Alternative Options (Photos): If your child would prefer not to bring a physical object into school—or if the item is too special or delicate—they are very welcome to bring in a printed photograph or send a photo to me via Class Dojo.
- Storage During the School Day: Items may only be brought out during our dedicated PSHE lesson. For the rest of the school day, including break times and lunchtimes, items must remain safely inside their cubbies and not be played with.

We are really looking forward to seeing democracy in action and experiencing the Joy this will bring to our classroom as the children show Courage in sharing a piece of their world with us each week!

Thank you as always for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards

K Kipling

Mrs K Kipling

Teacher of PSHE

