

# St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

## The Cuthbert Chronicle- Issue 1— September 2022



*Love to learn, learn to love*

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Dear Families and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year. As the official mourning period has ended for HM Queen Elizabeth II, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all our new families to our school community. The children have settled in well and it is lovely to see them in their new uniforms, making new friends and enjoying learning.

### **Catholic Life of the school**

We are delighted that Father Martin will be celebrating our Welcome Mass on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30 a.m. in the school hall. Parents and parishioners are welcome to join us. He will also celebrate our Harvest Mass on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30 a.m. in the school hall.

Next week, we will be talking to the children in Years 3 to 6 who may wish to become part of the Mini Vinnies group in school. This group of children are not ordinary children. Through the simple formula of 'see, think, do', they learn to spot others in need and discover how they can best help them. They will meet weekly to pray, talk and more importantly, act to help others in need. This group is open to children of all faiths or none. We never turn anyone away from making the world a better place for all.

The Mini Vinnies are part the youngest members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) and they receive full support of the International SSVP when they act in support of those in need. If your child is interested in becoming a Mini Vinnie, please ask them to contact Mrs Nardini.

### **McMillan Coffee Morning**

As part of our ongoing charity work we will be hosting a Coffee morning for parents and grandparents on behalf of McMillan on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 9:30a.m. in the school hall. Please could you send donations of cakes into school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> or first thing on Friday 30<sup>th</sup>.

We also ask that children bring a donation to purchase a cake later in the morning.

**As we are a nut free school, please do not send any cakes that contain nuts.**

We will be joined by Julian from GEM Education who will give you some expert advice on how to keep your child safe online.

## Democracy at work

While Downing Street were busy with the election of the New Prime Minister, we have been busy electing our new Head Boy and Head Girl, our School Council and Eco Council representatives, as well as House Captains. Children have also volunteered to be library monitors and science ambassadors. A huge congratulations to all our winners and volunteers, we look forward to working with you this year to make our school a happy, healthy and welcoming environment for all.

## Welcome to the New Year group meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended the meetings to meet your child's class teacher and find out about the curriculum your child will follow. We will be hosting our final meeting for Reception Class children on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you.

## Safeguarding

The designated persons for safeguarding and child protection in school are:

		
Mrs Barrett – Headteacher	Mrs Walsh – Deputy Headteacher	Miss Brown – Year 6 Teacher

Please contact the school office if you need to discuss any concerns.

**Attendance is safeguarding** – it is vital that children attend school and that we know where they are. If your child is too unwell to attend school, please ensure that you contact the school office before 9:30 a.m. on the first day, giving details of their illness. Our new attendance policy will shortly be agreed by our Local Governing Committee and then posted on the school website.

Our family support worker/ attendance officer Jan Gurkin visits school every Thursday afternoon if you need to discuss any concerns.

Jan has prepared an attendance booklet which will be sent home today.



Jan Gurkin

Thank you to parents who have returned the most up to date contact details, this is vital in case of an emergency at school. If you have not yet returned the forms please do so immediately. If you need help or guidance with completing the forms please contact the school office, as we are always happy to help. We need to have a minimum of three contacts for each child.

## Attendance 2022 -2023

Having the best attendance at school is vitally important, as this leads to improved learning for your child (knowing more, remembering more and doing more).

If your child's attendance has dropped below 90% you will shortly be receiving a letter from school.

As you are aware, holidays during term time **cannot be authorised**. The table below shows the impact that time out has on learning. Please note, the Local Authority may issue a Penalty notice to each parent of each child who is withdrawn from school during term time.

<b>100% Attendance</b>	<b>0 weeks of missed learning</b>	<b>Best chance of success. Fantastic!</b>
<b>95% Attendance</b>	<b>1 week, 4 days of missed learning</b>	<b>Chance of success. Well Done!</b>
<b>90% Attendance</b>	<b>3 weeks, 4 days of missed learning</b>	<b>Persistent Absentee. Worrying- At risk of legal action from the Local Authority.</b>
<b>85% Attendance</b>	<b>5 weeks, 3 days of missed learning</b>	<b>Poor Attendance. Very worrying.</b>
<b>80% Attendance</b>	<b>7 weeks, 3 days of missed learning</b>	<b>Very Poor Attendance Very concerning.</b>

If you feel there is an exceptional circumstance where your child needs to have a leave of absence from school, then please complete the 'Exceptional Circumstances form' and return to school at least 14 days in advance of any request for absence. The form can be obtained from the school office and from the school website under parent information—attendance/absence. An appointment with a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be arranged to discuss your request.

Please see below details of attendance recorded in school from the start of the autumn term. Pupil attendance at school has been mandatory since September and the usual rules on attendance apply, including:

- Parents duty to ensure that all children attend at all times
- Schools responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- The ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities codes of conduct.

Please remember to contact school before 9:30 a.m. if your child will be absent from school.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Attendance since 06/09/2022</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>96.1%</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>97.4%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>93.7%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>95.1%</b>

<b>4</b>	<b>96.1%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>92.6%</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>94.7%</b>
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>95%</b>

Jan Gurkin, our family support/attendance worker continues to monitor pupil attendance and will contact families to discuss any concerns.

### **Parking and Travel Tracker**

Parents are reminded that the turning circle is for a quick drop off only, children get out of the car and walk into school watched by their parent or carer before driving off. If you walk your child into school, you must park away from school. The Engine Public House are happy for parents to use their car park.

Living Streets' WOW – the walk to school challenge is back to help encourage as many children as possible to experience the benefits of walking to school. As you know, WOW is a pupil-led behaviour-change initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least three times a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge.

Remember, you can Park and Stride to help your child earn their WOW badge. Park or hop off public transport at least five minutes away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

There are 11 new WOW badges to be earned, one for every month of the school year. Each badge has been designed by a pupil from across the UK as part of our annual WOW Badge Design Competition. Pupils will be taking part in a Walk Through Time, earning badges while learning about key historic moments ranging from prehistoric creatures, to ancient societies, to important moments and great journeys that changed the world. The badges are made in Cornwall from recycled plastic material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts.

### **Health and Safety**

A reminder that children should not use the outdoor equipment before or after school. Thank you for your cooperation in advance with this.

### **Flu Immunisation**

The NHS Immunisations team will be in school on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October to deliver the immunisations across all year groups. All parents who would like their child to receive this must complete the online consent form that has been sent home via email. All information and contacts are provided in this email and the attached letter. Please contact school if you have not received this email.

### **Cauliflower Cards**

This year, the children will be creating their own Christmas picture that will be available to purchase on Christmas cards or other items through Cauliflower Cards. Artwork will be sent home with your child before half term, along with details for placing an order online. Please ensure all artwork is returned by 1<sup>st</sup> November.

<b>September 2022</b>		
29.09.22	Donations of cakes to school	All year groups
29.09.22 3:30 p.m.	Reception Class Welcome Meeting Held in Reception Class	
30.09.22 9:30 a.m.	McMillan Coffee Morning and Gem Education advice	All parents/grandparents are welcome
<b>October 2022</b>		
06.10.22	Y5 and Y6 school trip to the Laing Gallery. Make sure you have returned your permission slip.	Y5 and Y6
07.10.22	Flu Immunisation	All year groups
10-13 <sup>th</sup> October	Book Fair in School- details to follow	All year groups
13.10.2022 9:30 a.m.	Welcome Mass in the school hall	All year groups
17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> October	Cauliflower cards sent home – more details to follow	All year groups
18.10.22 20.10.22 3:30-5:50 p.m.	Parents Evening Consultations – details of how to book an appointment will be sent nearer the time	All year groups
21.10.22 3:10 p.m.	School closes for half term	All year groups
<b>w/c 24.10.22</b>	<b>Half term break</b>	
<b>31.10.22</b>	<b>School re-opens for Autumn term 2</b>	
<b>November 2022</b>		