

St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

The Cuthbert Chronicle- Issue 8— March 2023



Love to learn, learn to love

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Dear Families and Carers,

Catholic Life and Mission CAFOD - The Big Lent Walk

We are taking part in the CAFOD, 'Big Lent Walk' to raise awareness and money for global poverty. Each class aims to walk as least three laps of the running track per day. In order to support your child and donate to a very good cause, please use the link below:

<https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/St-Cuthberts-Primary-Walbottle>

Parent Lenten Liturgies (end of the day)

Thank you to those who have attended the Liturgies so far, we still have two to go which take place on Friday 17th March at 2:45 p.m. and Friday 24th March at 2:45 p.m.

Whole school Masses

We will be celebrating the life and work of our Patron Saint, St Cuthbert on 21st March with Mass in the hall at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. We will also celebrate the Holy Mass on Friday 31st March in the hall at 9:30 a.m. for the end of term.

Stations of the Cross

Year 4 will be visiting St Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday 22nd March from 1:30 p.m. to take part in Stations of the Cross with Y4 pupils from across the Catholic Primary Schools in Newcastle.

Class Liturgies

As we move through the season of Lent and prepare for the season of Easter, we would like to invite you to join your child's class in their Lenten Liturgy. The Liturgies will take place in the school hall for Reception to Year 4 and in classes for Y5 and Y6 the following days:

Monday 27th March Year 1 and Year 2- Palm Sunday 2:40 p.m.

Tuesday 28th March Year 3 and Year 4 – Last Supper 2:40 p.m.

Wednesday 29th March Year 5 - Garden of Gethsemane 2:40 p.m.

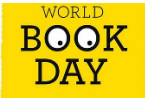
Thursday 30th March Reception – Growing 9:15 a.m.

Thursday 30th March Year 6- The Crucifixion 2:40 p.m.

Quality of Education

Learn to read, read to learn

We have some pictures from our World Book day on display on the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Education page. Please have a look!



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is due to arrive in school on Thursday 23rd March and will run until Tuesday 28th March from 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Please be advised there will be no sale on the 24th March due to the Parent Lenten Liturgy.

Science Week 10th-19th March

All year groups have been busy with science activities this week. Please ask your child what they have been doing in class and look out for photographs posted in the teacher's blog page.

Dogs Trust Assembly

We are delighted to welcome back the Dogs Trust for a whole school assembly followed by work in Year 3 and Year 5 classes on Friday 17th March.

Forest School – Muddy Monsters

On Thursday 23rd of March Reception Class and Year 2 will be participating in an amazing outdoor learning experience in our school grounds led by an outdoor learning / Forest School company -Muddy Monsters. They will be engaging in various outside activities such as den building, and exploring and engaging with the natural environment.

The activities will take place regardless of the weather. Please could the children come in to school in their PE kit and dressed for the weather. They will need a waterproof jacket, wellies or boots and we would recommend they have waterproof trousers. Also, the children will need to bring in a full set of spare clothing in a named bag. Thank you for your support with this.

Congratulations – Boys Football Team

Congratulations to our winning boys football team who took part in the Duffy League Plate Final on Monday 13th March at Walbottle Campus. A huge thank you to Mr McMaster and Miss Davidson and to all our parents who braved the weather conditions on the day.

Community Links

If you would like to speak to the Welfare Rights Officer, Lyndsay Mallen, about any help you may need with regards to entitlement to benefits or advice, please contact her on 07867 538272.

Wider Strategies

Important notice -Change to the time of the school day

Consultation on the change to the school day is now closed. Thank you for your comments. As planned, as of **Monday 17th April 2023**, the school will operate a soft opening (as now) with doors opening at **8:35 a.m.** to allow children to enter school ready for the **official start time of 8:45 a.m.** when registration will be taken. **School will end at 3:15 p.m.**

Jewellery

The wearing of Jewellery (including earrings) is not permitted in school for health and safety reasons. We still have a number of children attending school wearing jewellery, please ensure this is removed before coming to school.

Tempest Photography

Tempest Photography will be visiting school on Wednesday 22nd March from 8:30 a.m. to take family and individual photographs.

Easter competition

This Easter, instead of an Easter bonnet or egg decorating competition we will be holding an Easter Picture Competition. The drawings must be completed at home and submitted on Tuesday 28th March by 3:30 p.m. Winning entries will be drawn on Wednesday 29th March. Prizes will be given for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each year group. The cost for entering the competition will be 50p per child.

We hope your child enjoys drawing their Easter picture, which could be religious or other, and we look forward to seeing their masterpiece at the end of term.

Attendance is safeguarding

It is vital that children attend school and that we can account for their whereabouts. 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 family support worker/ attendance officer Jan Gurkin visits school every Thursday afternoon if you need to discuss any concerns.



Attendance 2022 -2023

Each week the class with the highest attendance wins the attendance trophy and a special treat.

Having the best possible 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 **93%** you will receive a letter from school.

As you are aware, holidays during term time **cannot be authorised**. The table below shows

the impact that school absence 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.

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

If you feel there are exceptional circumstances 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 or 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.

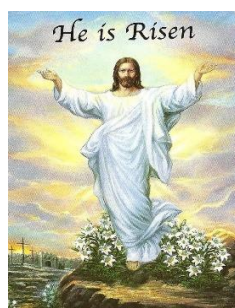
Pupil attendance at school has been mandatory since September and the usual rules on attendance apply, including:

- 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 the code of conduct from the local authority.

Dates for your diary

March 2023			
Date	Event	Time	Class
27.02.23 until 31.03.23	The Big Lent Walk continues		All
01.03.23	Parents' evening sessions		All
02.03.23	Parents' evening sessions		All
02.03.23	World Book Day		All
03.03.23	Lenten Liturgy for Parents	2:45 p.m.	
09.03.23	Lenten Liturgy for Parents	2:45 p.m.	
10.03.23 to 19.03.23	Science Week		All
17.03.23	Dog Trust Assembly and class work		All and Y3 and Y5
17.03.23	Lenten Liturgy for Parents	2:45 p.m.	
21.03.23	Mass to celebrate our Patron Saint Parents are welcome	9:30 a.m.	All
22.03.23	Tempest Photography for Individual and Family photographs		All
22.03.23	Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Cathedral (due to the number of Catholic School's attending this is for children only)		Y4 class only
23.03.23 to 28.03.23	Book Fair sale at end of school day (no book fair sale on Friday 24.03.23 due to Lenten Liturgy)	3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.	
23.03.23	Forest School – Muddy Monsters Additional clothing required		Reception and Year 2
24.03.23	Lenten Liturgy for Parents	2:45 p.m.	

27.03.23	Class Liturgy - Palm Sunday Parents of Y1 and 2 are welcome School hall	2:40 p.m.	Year 1 and Year 2
28.03.23	Class Liturgy– Last Supper Parents of Y3 and 4 are welcome School hall	2:40 p.m.	Year 3 and Year 4
28.03.23	Easter Picture Competition - closing date	3:30 p.m.	All
29.03.23	Class Liturgy - Garden of Gethsemane Parents of Y5 are welcome Y5 class	2:40 p.m.	Year 5
30.03.23	Class Liturgy – Growing 9:15 a.m. School hall	9:15 a.m.	Reception class
30.03.23	Class Liturgy- The Crucifixion Year 6 Class	2:40 p.m.	Year 6
31.03.23	End of Term Mass Parents are welcome	9:30 a.m.	All
31.03.23	School Closes for the Easter break	3:10 p.m.	All
17.04.23	Summer term begins with new opening and closing times	8:35 a.m.	All



On behalf of the Governors and staff of St Cuthbert's may I wish you peace,
love and happiness during the Easter season.