



*Love to learn, learn to love*

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It is nearly the end of another term. The children and staff have worked extremely hard and I am very proud of everything they have achieved so far. Thank you for the support you have given to us over this time.

This week, is assessment week when we review all the work that has been completed in order to celebrate our childrens' achievements and begin to plan for the summer term.

### **Catholic Life of the School**

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your overwhelming generosity in support of our Ukraine appeal. We managed to fill two vans and, with the help of some of our parents, get your contributions to the Polish Centre on time.

### **'Love Your Neighbour -Canny Friday'**

We continue to run our project to support those in need of food. If you are able, please send, a tinned item of food, pasta or cereal into school on any Friday, and we will make sure it is delivered to the Sisters to continue their great work.

### **Wednesday Word**

The link to the Wednesday Word can be found in the home learning section of the school website and you can also use the link below to access the materials:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&v=4.4>

### **St Cuthbert's Day**

Thank you to Father Martin for giving up his time to celebrate Mass with us. The children were, as always, on their best behaviour and those taking part read beautifully. It was also lovely to welcome back parents and parishioners to our school.

## **Easter 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 next week (COVID numbers permitting). The Liturgies will take place in the school hall on the following days:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April Year 1 and Year 2- Palm Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April Year 3 and Year 4 - Garden of Gethsemane 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April Year 5 and Year 6- The Crucifixion 9:15 a.m.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April Reception- Growing 9:15 a.m.

**Please be advised that we are limiting numbers to one parent per child.**

## **Learn to read, read to learn**

Thank you to those who attended or Mother's day reading session, I hope you enjoyed coming back into school and spending the time reading with your child.

## **Reading café and workshop for Reception parents**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2 p.m., we would like to invite our Reception Class parents/carers to join us for a reading workshop where we will share lots of practical tips on how to support your child to develop their reading skills and love of reading. Afterwards, your child will join you for some fun reading activities. The aim is for it to be a relaxed practical session where you can ask for advice on reading if needed. The session will take place in the school hall, we look forward to seeing you then.

## **Well done Year 5**

Our Year 5 children recently took part in the TIMMs study which saw them complete mathematics and science tests on line. I was delighted to receive an email from the administrator praising and thanking our staff and IT consultant for their support, as well as his praise of our children. Please see his quote below:

"The students who took part were super and contributed massively to the session being smoothly and successfully effected. It is very easy to criticise young people so let me take this opportunity to offer due praise. They showcased themselves and the school in a really positive way. Behaviour was exemplary and they worked hard to address each and every question fully. This reflected so positively on their own quality and the clear quality of the teaching. These were some of the easiest TIMSS sessions I have administered. I was delighted to have witnessed it and to have shared such a good experience. The day has been a real pleasure for me. I am so encouraged by all of the fine work being achieved and, perhaps more importantly, the development of such fine young people."

## Attendance 2021 -2022

We are trying to ensure that children have the best attendance at school, as this leads to improved learning (knowing more, remembering more and doing more). We understand that sometimes this isn't possible; if your child is ill and too unwell to come to school or has to follow guidelines with regards to COVID or other illnesses that can be easily spread in 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 7/9/2021</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>90.7%</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>92.3%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>95.3%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>91.8%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>94.9%</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>92.1%</b>
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>93%</b>

Congratulations to Year 2 and Year 5 for achieving the highest attendance last week (100%)  
Each week the class with the highest attendance gets a treat of their choice as well as the attendance trophy.

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

### **Uniform for 2021-22**

At St Cuthbert's, we aim for high standards in all aspects of school life, which includes uniform. Our uniform is smart and hardwearing. It also gives a sense of belonging to our school family and promotes a sense of pride in our school. I ask that all parents support our commitment to excellence and inclusion by making sure your child wears the correct school uniform, including black school shoes. We ask children to wear their polo t-shirt tucked into their skirts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance. Thank you for taking part in the consultation on school uniform, all information is being collated and will be presented to our Local Governing Committee at our next meeting.

### **Safety and school policy reminders**

For safety reasons children are **not** permitted to wear earrings in school. All earrings must be removed prior to coming into school.

Extreme hairstyles, dyed hair, hair gel, holiday braids etc. are not permitted. Long hair must be tied back for safety and hygiene reasons.

**Every child needs to bring their school book bag containing their reading book to school each day. Back packs are not permitted.**

#### **Parking**

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have helped us to keep the traffic moving safely in the morning, by parking away from school or using the quick drop off in the turning circle.

As part of the travel tracker, every day children record how they have travelled to school and will receive a badge at the end of the month for having at least three active trips per week.

#### **The Friends of St Cuthbert's**

Thank you to our three parents and two staff members who attended the meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30 p.m. We have started to form a plan for events as we move forward for the rest of the academic year. However, unless we have more parent volunteers we **will not** be able to hold all the events we have in the past. The funds raised by 'The Friends of St Cuthbert's' have helped school to purchase new furniture for some classes, additional books for your children to read and helped fund the events that take place. The money raised has made a huge difference to our school community.

Parent, Teacher and Friend Associations are an important part of school life for schools across the country. Many thousands of parents' volunteer to join in with activities at their child's school, giving their time and energy to fundraising and working in partnership with the school. If you would like to be a part of the Friends of St Cuthbert's, then please contact the school office.

**We look forward to our first event (Easter Movie night) which takes place on Friday.**

#### **Diary dates**

Date	Event	Time	Class
01.04.22	Reading café and workshop	2 p.m.	Reception Class
01.04.22	Friends of St Cuthbert's Movie Night	3:10p.m- 5:00 p.m.	Ticket holders only
04.04.22	Year 1 and Year 2- Palm Sunday	9:15 a.m	Year 1 and 2
05.04.22	Year 3 and Year 4 - Garden of Gethsemane	9:15 a.m	Year 3 and 4

06.04.22	Year 5 and Year 6- The Crucifixion	9:15 a.m	Year 5 and 6
07.04.22	Easter competition entries to be returned to school – cost of entry 50p all proceeds go to the Friends of St Cuthbert’s.	All day	All
08.04.22	Reception- Growing	9:15 a.m	Reception
08.04.22	Easter competition prizes given out – donated by the Friends of St Cuthbert’s.	a.m.	All
08.04.22	<b>School closes for the Easter Holidays</b>	3:10 p.m.	All
25.04.22	<b>Teacher Training Day</b>	All day	All
26.04.22	<b>School re-opens to pupils for the summer term</b>	8:40 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.

