



Love to learn, learn to love

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Dear Families,

Catholic Life of the School

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to the children in Year 4 who have recently made their Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Cuthbert's RC Church.

We will continue to run our '**Love Your Neighbour -Canny Friday**' project to support those in need of food. We ask you to send, if you can, 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.

Christmas Mass in School

Father Martin will be delivering Christmas Mass in school on Thursday 16th December. Unfortunately, due to the increase number of cases of COVID it will not be possible for parents/carers to attend.

Christmas Mass Times at St Cuthbert's Church

	St John Vianney West Denton	St Cuthbert Throckley	St. Francis Xavier Cheeseburn Grange
Friday 24 th December	Vigil Mass 5:30pm	Vigil Mass 7:30pm	
Christmas Day	11:00am		8:30am

Tickets will be necessary for both Masses at St. John Vianney and are now available.

Christmas Jumper Day



Well done, and thank you, for all of your donations to Save the Children. We are pleased to have raised money for this special charity.

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>

Travelling Crib



As we prepare to welcome the gift of Jesus during our Christmas Season, all families will have received a simplified version of our Travelling Crib to enjoy at home this year. Please send any pictures of the Travelling Crib in your home via email to school.



Christmas Nativities

As we have been unable to welcome families into school this year to enjoy the usual Christmas performances, we have uploaded videos to our school YouTube channel. A link to the videos will be emailed shortly.

Christmas Parties

All children will be having a Christmas party with their class in the final week of term. Children will be allowed to wear their own clothes on Christmas Party Day, please ensure that children are wearing suitable footwear and have a warm coat for going outside.

13.12.21	Year 3 and Year 5 (separate times in the hall)
14.12.21	Year 4 and Year 6 Christmas parties (separate times in the hall)
15.12.21	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas parties in the hall (separate times in the hall)
16.12.21	Reception Christmas Party.

Christmas Pantomime – Cinderella

This year we have purchased an online Pantomime for the children to enjoy. All children will watch this Pantomime in the last week of school.

Thank You to Little Ollie's Garden Centre

We would like to say a big thank you to Little Ollie's Garden Centre in Newburn for donating our beautiful Christmas tree and decorations.

Goodbye and Good Luck

At the end of this term we will say goodbye to Miss Lamb. Miss Lamb has worked at St Cuthbert's since September 2017 and is leaving to take up a new position. We thank her for her hard work and commitment during this time and wish her every success in her new role.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

As part of keeping children safe; our children learn how to keep themselves and others safe. With this in mind, we have added our child friendly policy to the safeguarding part of the school website. If you haven't already, please can you share with your child the part that relates to their age range so that you can be part of their learning.

Attendance 2021 -2022

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
- 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

As you are aware, holidays during term time **cannot be authorised**. Children who have an attendance of 90% or below are classed as persistent absentees. Our attendance target is 97% or above.

Year	Attendance since 7/9/2021
Reception	90.8%
1	92%
2	95.6%
3	94.2%
4	93.5%
5	96.5%
6	94.2%
Whole school	93.7%

Congratulations to Year 5 for achieving over 100% attendance last week. 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 contact families to discuss any concerns.

Parking

We have received a number of complaints from the public about parking in and around our school. We understand that it can be busy but please park considerately, taking the opportunity to walk or “park and stride” wherever possible. Please do not park in the turning circle, on the zig-zag lines or outside the entrance to the school car park. If you have a younger child (Reception and Year 1) you will have to park away from the site and walk the child/children in. The Engine Public House on the main road are happy for you to park there. If you have older children, and use the turning circle, please let your child out of the car on the pavement side, as we do not want our children to be injured by other cars coming in or out of the area.

Uniform for 2021-22

Winter

Mid-grey (not black) skirt/pinafore or trousers (in the interests of safety, boys and girls should wear school regulation material trousers only – no joggers or leggings).

White polo shirt.

Navy Blue school sweatshirt or cardigan.

Black, navy, grey or white socks or tights.

Sensible black shoes – **no trainers**. Black boots will be allowed in winter but children must change into shoes once inside school.

P.E. kit (Y1-6 to come to school in P.E. kit on P.E. days)

Jogging pants and school sweatshirts can be worn in cold weather for outdoor activities.

House coloured t-shirt.

Black or navy shorts or jogging bottoms.

White socks.

Black or white sand shoes or lightweight trainers.

Safety and school policy reminders

For safety reasons children are **not** permitted to wear earrings in school, especially for P.E. lessons. 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.

Free School Meals

You can apply for Free School Meals by following the link below and filling out a short form online.

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/help-school-and-learning-costs/apply-free-school-meals>

Please complete the form if you think you may be eligible, even if your child is currently receiving a universal free school meal in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. You will need to make a

separate application for each child in your household.

Ordering a school lunch

Please give advance notice of any changes to your child's lunch arrangements. We are not able to accommodate children switching between school dinners and packed lunch on a day to day basis as the kitchen needs to be able to plan ahead.

We will be implementing a cashless payment system in the Spring Term and will share details once this is up and running, until then please continue to pay in cash for school meals. The cost is £11 per week.

Diary dates

Date	Event	Time	Class
13.12.21	Year 3 and Year 5 Christmas parties (separate times in the hall)	p.m.	Year 3 and 5
14.12.21	Year 4 and Year 6 Christmas parties (separate times in the hall)	p.m.	Year 4 and 6
15.12.21	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas parties in the hall (separate times in the hall)	p.m.	Year 1 and 2
16.12.21	Reception Class Christmas party	p.m.	Reception
16.12.21	Advent Mass Year 4, 5 and 6 in the hall (other year groups via Teams) Father Martin, children, staff and Church servers only	9:30 a.m.	
17.12.21	Last day of the Autumn term	School closes at 3:10 p.m.	All
05.01.22	School opens for the Spring term	8:40 a.m.	All
06.01.22	Swimming lessons resume for Year 4 & 5	a.m.	Year 4 and 5
03.02.22 04.02.22 10.02.22 11.02.22	Balance Bikes Training for Reception	All day	Reception
29.03.22	Y4 Bikeability	All day	Year 4

05.05.22	Tempest Photography – Class photographs	a.m.	All
05.05.22 06.05.22	Y5 Bikeability	All day	Year 5

The staff and governors at St. Cuthbert's would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and safe Christmas holiday and we look forward to seeing you again in 2022

