

## The Cuthbert Chronicle– Issue 3 December 2024



*Love to learn, learn to love*

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Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Catholic Life and Mission**

Thank you for your very generous donations for the harvest which we have shared with the Missionaries of Charity Sisters. Our head boy and girl helped to deliver the food parcels for which the sisters were incredibly grateful.

### **Y6 Faith in Action**

Thank you for your contributions to the class boxes for the Operation Christmas Child Appeal. The boxes will be collected on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Well done to Year 6 for organising this event.

### **Celebration of the Word**

Advent begins on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: it is a time when we get ready for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. As we journey through Advent, you are invited to join us for our weekly 'Whole School Celebration of the Word' from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 2:40 p.m. in the school hall.

**Advent/ Christmas Mass** - you are invited to join us on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9:30 a.m. to celebrate Mass with our school community.

### **Travelling Crib**

During the Advent season, all families will have the opportunity to enjoy having a Travelling Crib in their home. Please send any photographs of you sharing the Travelling Crib at home via email to school. Remember to put all items back in the bag and return to school the next day so another family can enjoy the crib.

### **Bambinelli Sunday**

The beautiful Advent Tradition of Bambinelli Sunday was instituted by Saint John Paul II during his Papacy. The tradition follows that on the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) children and adults bring Baby Jesus figures from their homes to St Peter's Square where they are blessed by the Pope. Pupils will be making their own Bambinelli in school which will be blessed by Father Damian and Father Paul in church on the third Sunday of Advent. We will then send them home in the final week.

### **Christmas Nativities**

**We will be holding two performances of 'Miracle in Town' by Reception, Year 1, and Year 2.**

**Performances will take place on:**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 2 p.m.**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 9:15 a.m.**

**Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) have 123 children across all year groups. Therefore, we will be holding three performances of 'One Bright Star' which will take place on:**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 9:15 a.m.**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 10:45 a.m.**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 2 p.m.**

**A letter with additional information on how to purchase tickets will be with you by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 24. Please check your child's school bag.**

### **Quality of Education**

Year 6 will hold their annual, Christmas Ukulele Concert for their parents on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm in the school hall. This is an opportunity to celebrate all they have learned over the three years of teaching. A Special thank you to Mr Collins, our Music teacher for organising the event.

### **Happy retirement**

Mrs Eschle, one of our Lunchtime Supervisor's will be retiring at the end of December. She has been a great servant to the school, and we would like to thank her for her commitment and hard work over the years. We are not fully saying goodbye as she has offered her services as a volunteer to hear our children read.

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

A big thank you to the 'Friends of St Cuthbert's,' our Staff and Volunteers for helping to run our annual Christmas Fair. We raised £1148.00 on the day, and we still have cakes left to sell.

The Friends are currently raising funds to help school buy new dining room tables and benches; therefore, every penny counts.

They are also looking for new parents to join them, so if you can give up some of your time, then please get in touch, and we will pass you details on to them.

### **Christmas Baubles**

The Friends of St Cuthbert's will be providing the opportunity for your child to personalise a Christmas bauble on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024. A letter explaining what to do has already been sent out.

### **Wider Strategies**

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 we are holding our Christmas Jumper Day and will serve Christmas Lunch too. All children who receive a school lunch will automatically be included in the school lunch numbers. If your child brings a packed lunch from home and they would like to have a Christmas lunch, then please complete the letter sent out to Years 3 to 6 and return to school no later than Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Food orders must be placed with our suppliers on this date.

## Safeguarding

School opens at **8:35 a.m.** to allow children to enter ready for the **official start time of 8:45 a.m.** when registration will be taken. If your child is not in the class for this time they will be marked late.

If you arrive with your child at 8:45 a.m. or later, you are required to bring them into the school building and sign the late book. Lessons begin at 8:50 a.m. **The school day ends at 3:15 p.m.** **Children not collected on time will be brought back into school, placed in the after-school club and you will incur a charge.** Lunchtime for pupils from Year 1 to 6 is 12 noon to 1 p.m.

### Attendance for October 2024 (Attendance is part of Safeguarding young people)

Reception	91.2%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	94.5%
Year 3	91.4%
Year 4	94.7%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	95.4%

## Urgent – Contact information and agreements

You will shortly be receiving our annual paperwork to complete with all contact details and key information about your child. It is vital that we hold the most up to date information in case of an emergency.

### Other news

#### Nut Free School- Important Information

**Our school is a nut free environment, please ensure all snacks sent in packed lunches do not contain nuts. This is to safeguard pupils within our school community who have a nut allergy.**

### School places for 2025-26

#### Application for Reception Class 2025-26

Applications are now open, the closing date to apply online at Newcastle City Council is 15.01.25 and national offer day is 16.04.25.

### Building Works

Thank you for your patience over the period of our building work, I am delighted that we have hot dinners back up and running.

### St Cuthbert's Key dates for your diary

November 2024		
Date	Activity	Year groups etc
w/c 25.11.24	Assessment Week	Years 1 to 6
26.11.24	Tempest Photography in school for <b>Individual Photographs – school hall</b>	Whole School
26.11.24	Small School Competition	Y5 and 6 Football Team
28.11.24	Duffy League	Y5 and 6 Football Team
29.11.24	Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes pick-up	Y6 Faith in Action
December 2024		
01.12.24	Advent begins	
03.12.24	First Holy Communion Session 2	Children taking part in the programme from Y4
06.12.24	Christmas baubles – Friends of St Cuthbert’s	As requested by parents
10.12.24	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day	Whole School
12.12.24 and 13.12.24	<b>Christmas Nativity-Miracle in Town Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 2 p.m. Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Reception, Year 1, and Year 2</b>
12.12.24 and 13.12.24	<b>Christmas Performance-One Bright Star Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 9.15a.m. Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 10.45a.m. Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 24 at 2.00p.m.</b>	<b>Year 3 to Year 6</b>
16.12.24	Christmas Party p.m.- party/own clothes day	Reception, Year 1, and Year 2
17.12.24	Christmas Party p.m. - party/own clothes day	Year 3 to 6
19.12.24	<b>Advent/Christmas Mass at 9:30 a.m. In the school hall</b>	Whole school
19.12.24	Y6 Ukulele Concert Y6 parents are invited to join Y6 in the school hall at 1.45pm	Y6 only
19.12.24	School Closes at 3:15 p.m. for the Christmas Holiday	
Tuesday 07.01.2025		
School re-opens for the Spring Term at 8:35 a.m.		



From the Staff and Governors of St Cuthbert's.