



Next week will be the last of this half term and it has been another very, very busy and exciting one. As restrictions are lifted we are doing more and more of what makes our St. Cuthbert's school community so strong and so special. We will continue to bring in changes over the next half term whilst keeping everyone as safe as possible. Last week we had a big focus on both mental and physical well-being at school. This goes on throughout the year and it is great to highlight what the children and school staff do and we will be continuing this next week and talking about all the random acts of kindness that take place at school and in our community every single day.



Our whole school attendance for the week has beaten our regular target of 96% and is a brilliant achievement by everyone at school and home. Year 4 are our attendance stars for the second week in a row with an near perfect 99.3%- a fantastic effort by year 4 and everyone else for being so close to their score.



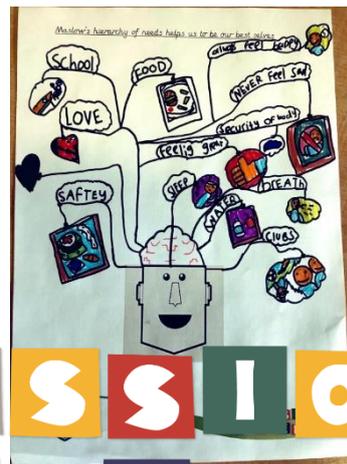
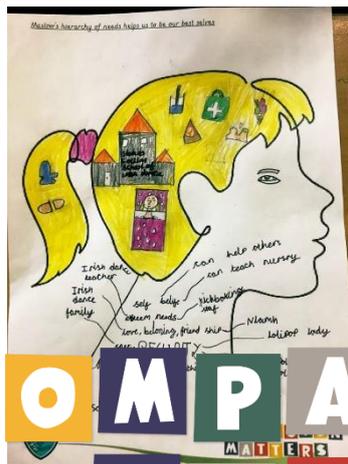
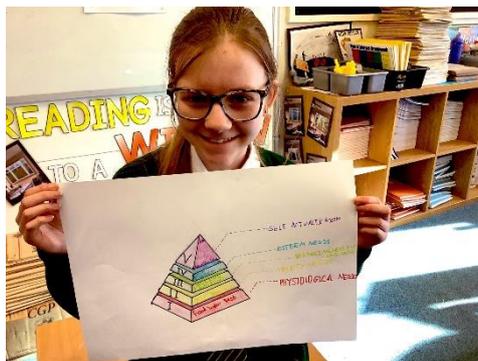
Class	%
Reception	98.4
Year 1	95.3
Year 2	94.7
Year 3	95.7
Year 4 	99.3
Year 5	96.9
Year 6	97.9
Whole school	96.8

We are making changes to the start and end of every school day when we return after half term. The staggered start and end to the day has helped us keep everyone in our school community as safe as possible in and around school during COVID restrictions, and as restrictions are lifted locally and nationally, we feel it is time to return to the arrangements we had before COVID. From Monday 28th February school gates will open at **8.45am** each morning and children should be on the playground by **8.50am** ready for the morning bell at **8.55am**, the gates will be locked by **9am** each morning so anyone arriving to school after this time should come to the school office. Both gates are closed then to allow classes to begin lessons, including the many lessons that take place outdoors every day. At the end of the school day both gates will be opened at **3.20pm** with Reception Class children handed over to families at **3.20pm** and all other classes at **3.30pm**. The gates will then be closed by **3.35pm**, allowing families time to make their way home- you can use whichever gate you like at the start and end of each day. These changes will mean an increase in traffic around school and we are asking everyone to be thoughtful and mindful of the safety of children coming in to and leaving school, of each other and of our neighbours. There has been a big increase in the number of traffic wardens around school and the patrol car has been outside school lots over the past few months. We have been told by North Tyneside Council that we should not be letting people know when there are traffic patrols in the area as we have done so in the past so please be careful and keep everyone safe, happy and fine free!



Mass times online on Facebook at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801

Last week we had a whole school focus on feeling well emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. Children in all classes from Nursery to Year 6 worked with Mrs Cottiss in Compassion Matters sessions exploring what they need to feel well and used Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Pyramid to talk about what everyone needs to thrive. The language the children use to talk about their feelings, well-being and what they can do to make sure they and everyone else is as well as possible is amazing. We see examples of caring for each other and themselves every day at school and having the language they learn from talking about Maslow makes it easier for children to talk about their feelings, self regulate and understand how other people are feeling. Our children also understand that what they do at school caring for our environment and each other is helping to make the world a better place, and therefore helping us all feel better. It has been brilliant for everyone having classes back working together again and we have been delighted to welcome visitors from other schools who love seeing what our children and staff do and how well they learn, achieve, enjoy and succeed.



COMPASSION MATTERS





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Our mission this week is to work for each other and to celebrate the special and strong community we have at St. Cuthbert's. We care for our common home every day at school and this means that we also care for each other, our Fratelli Tutti, and we do so by treating each other with kindness, compassion, care and love.

OUR MISSION

Our community is strongest when we are united. Our mission is to work together to make our world the best place it can be for everyone. We promise to treat each other with **dignity, kindness, compassion, care and love**. We are all St. Cuthbert's and we are all **Fratelli Tutti**.

Our faith in action



St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

God of love,
open our hearts to others,
that we may bring comfort to
anyone who needs it, and
share what we have with those
who are in need.
Help us to treat our world
especially our sisters and
brothers, our special community,
our **Fratelli Tutti**.
You nourish us with your
love, your light and your joy.
so that we can treat each other
with **love, kindness, compassion**
and **hope**.
Amen.

**LOVE &
COMPASSION
ARE
NECESSITIES**



On Friday we said goodbye and thank you to Mr Ingleby as he takes up the role of caretaker in his new school. We wish him and his family all the best of wishes as he takes on the new challenge and they move into their new home. We've had lots of children express an interest in becoming the caretaker at St. Cuthbert's and whilst they'd be great at many of the jobs we're not sure they'd like the early starts every day! We've told some of them that they can be part of our process of finding someone to take on the job and we'll let you know more about what is happening recruitment over the next couple of weeks.



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We will be making changes to school meals at school from Friday 1st April 2022. We will be ending our contract with North Tyneside Catering Services and working with a private catering company who specialise in primary school meals. We have been involved in a very detailed tendering process and had meetings with seven different organisations, including North Tyneside Catering Services, who want to work with us at St. Cuthbert's. More than 20 schools in North Tyneside are going through the same process at the minute and will be making similar changes on 1st April. Important points for now are that:

- Our kitchen staff will still be with us and they have known about all the changes as we worked through the process and are looking forward to working with our new catering partner.
- Our menus will improve and the company we'll be working with will plan the menu with us- they have a big emphasis on using local produce and as much fresh food as possible.
- **We will no longer be using the North Tyneside Catering Services ParentPay payment system. If your child is year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and you pay for school meals please keep an eye on how much is in your account and don't pay for any meals beyond 31st March. If you have credit in your account that goes past this date please contact Catering Services about a refund- you can find more information on the council website, <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/237/pay-school-meals>**
- If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they are entitled to infant free school meals and this will continue. If your child is in year 3,4,5 or 6 and receives free school meals this will also continue.
- We will send everyone at school more information, including about the online payment system after half term and will keep everyone fully informed of when it will be available, how to use it and what to do if you have any questions. We are going through the legal steps of changing school meals provider at the moment and once all the paperwork is complete we'll give you all information you'll need.

If you have any concerns about your child's, or another child's safety, including their online safety, or questions about behaviour we always ask that you speak to us at school. It is important that we are part of discussions that may be happening around children's behaviour and welfare. We record incidents and concerns electronically on our CPOMS system and we work very closely with Clennell Education Solutions to make sure all our staff are up to date with the best safeguarding training available and to provide leading professional advice when requested. This means that we have a broad picture of anything that is happening at school and, with your help, we can make sure any concerns are addressed quickly and do not escalate or lead to children or families falling out.



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From Monday 17th January 2022 there will be an update to point 2- **Self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19**. Our information below now includes this update.

1. PCR testing requirements

Any pupil who has symptoms of COVID-19 must not attend school. They should book a PCR test immediately and self-isolate until the result is confirmed.

Secondary school pupils should continue to undertake twice weekly asymptomatic testing with a lateral flow device (LFDs). LFDs should not be used for those who have symptoms.

From 11 January 2022 **anyone without symptoms testing positive with an LFD will no longer need to confirm this with a PCR test**. However, the LFD result must be reported as instructed to gov.uk and the person must self-isolate immediately.

2. Self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

The self-isolation advice for people with COVID-19 will change from 17 January 2022.

- The requirement to isolate for 10 days remains in legislation, however from 17 January, a person who has tested positive with COVID-19 may take an LFD test on the fifth and sixth days of their isolation period. If both these LFD test results are negative, and they do not have a high temperature, **they will be able to end their self-isolation after the second negative test result**.
- The LFD tests must be taken on consecutive days but the guidance will no longer stipulate that these tests should be taken at least 24 hours apart.
- This means that return to work or school is possible on day 6 after 5 full days of isolation.
- This will shorten the minimum possible self-isolation from the current guidance of 6 full days to 5 full days.
- If the LFD tests are positive on day 5 or day 6 daily testing should continue until there are 2 consecutive negative tests up to day 10 only.
- Testing should not continue after day 10 even if there is a positive LFD result self isolation ends.
- The Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID[1]19) infection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) will be updated on the 17th January to reflect these changes.

This guidance also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. Any pupil who is unable to test using LFDs must isolate for the full 10 days.



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3. Children and young people aged 5 to 18 years 6 months who are identified as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case

All pupils aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are no longer legally required to self-isolate. They are strongly advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their education setting as normal unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms themselves. Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation if they are identified as a close contact and do not need to take part in daily testing.

We are aware that getting hold of LFDs is difficult currently, but the advice is to keep trying as LFD stocks are released through the day.

More detailed information is also available in the updated government guidance [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If you haven't joined our school lottery yet it is really easy and gives you a chance of winning our school jackpot each week and gives you an entry to a much bigger weekly jackpot. All profits from the lottery go towards helping us make sure our children continue to have the fantastic opportunities they get every week at St. Cuthbert's. Our weekly prize currently stands at £19.80, you will also be entered into a national school lottery for £25,000 draw each week. You can sign up at

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-cuthberts-rc-primaryschool/supporter>

Thank you to everyone who has been using Tapestry, our keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk email and school phone to keep in touch with school staff. It is very important that lines of communication are kept as open and honest as possible between school and home as we work hard to keep our open-door policy and approach going by making so many ways to keep in touch available. **As highlighted in the past we don't use Facebook or WhatsApp or any other social media apart from Twitter (which we don't use to answer questions)**, and we won't be setting up accounts on either medium. If you have any questions, concerns, or need to chat to a member of staff at school please make sure you use one of three methods we have put in place:

- Message a member of staff on Tapestry with messages regarding work, arrangements for the school day for your child etc. All staff have access to Tapestry.
- Email keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk. You should email this address if you want to discuss or inform of us anything that is more confidential. Emails to this address are only read by Mrs Cottiss and Mr Dillon.
- Phone 0191 691 9876 and arrange an agreed time to chat to someone. Use the school phone number to advise us of absence from school, for questions about day to day things. **Phoning school during the school day remains the best way to get in touch.**

If you have not yet activated your Tapestry account or if you are having trouble accessing it please let us know as soon as possible. Tapestry is one of the main ways we keep in touch with families and it is important that you can receive messages and posts from it even if you don't use it lots yourself.



St. Cuthbert's School Newsletter #stcuthbertsns

Sunday 13th February 2022 www.northyorksdiocatholic.org.uk/

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Thank you to everyone who is using Easyfundraising.

We now have 88 supporters and are well past the £1000 mark, raising a fantastic £1193.79 so far! There are no catches to using the site, you don't need to share bank or payment details, just sign up and choose to support St. Cuthbert's. all you then need to do is search for your chosen store or seller on the easyfundraising site and do your online shopping as normal. If you are booking a holiday, buying any insurance, changing internet suppliers, mobile phone providers etc. online, and do so through the site they make quite big donations to school! It's really easy to get set up and running, all you need to do is:

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcuthbertsrcprimary/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to St. Cuthbert's at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we would be really grateful for your support and donations which will go towards all our children.

Thank you for your amazing continued support, stay safe and God bless,
Shaun Dillon