



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

This week we celebrated our third Advent Service which was led beautifully by year 4 who lit the candle of peace, next week year 3 will light our candle of love. Preparations for Christmas continue across school and children are all getting very excited about their parties next week!

Year 4 are our attendance of the week stars with an score of 94.3%. Classes across school have been once again been impacted by positive COVID tests and we now have to record attendance so that children off school due to COVID are now recorded as absent following government guidance. This has had a massive impact on every school in the country and has led to attendance nationally dropping to 90.1%.

Class	%
Reception	80.8
Year 1	90.7
Year 2	88.7
Year 3	80.6
Year 4 🏆	94.3
Year 5	88.1
Year 6	83.2
Whole school	87.0

Our third Advent Service of the year was led beautifully by year 4 who lit the candle of joy and read St. John's Gospel where John the Baptist tells us to prepare for Jesus who will baptise us with fire. Each week the focal point of collective worship changes slightly and each week the light builds as we light more candles on our wreath. You can watch year 4's service on our YouTube channel by following this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QewBwfxpJ6A&t=3s> Next week year 3 will lead us all and light the candle of love.





Next week is Christmas party week at St. Cuthbert's and the days and times of each class party is on the dates section of this newsletter. Children can wear their party clothes, Christmas jumpers or whatever they want on their party day. Lots of children blinged up their jumpers and hoodies last Friday in support of Save The Children and it was brilliant as always to see the creativity across school. Children need to bring their own party food on a plate, wrapped in tin foil or clingfilm and with their name on it. We ask that there are no nuts in any of their food and we will provide all the juice for the children as well as lots and lots of music and games!



Children from all classes, including children who have moved on to high school, gathered together with their families in Northumberland Square yesterday to sing for the visitors at North Shields Christmas Market. The children were absolutely fantastic and drew a massive crowd to the bandstand. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the children and to our fantastic school staff for organising and leading everything.

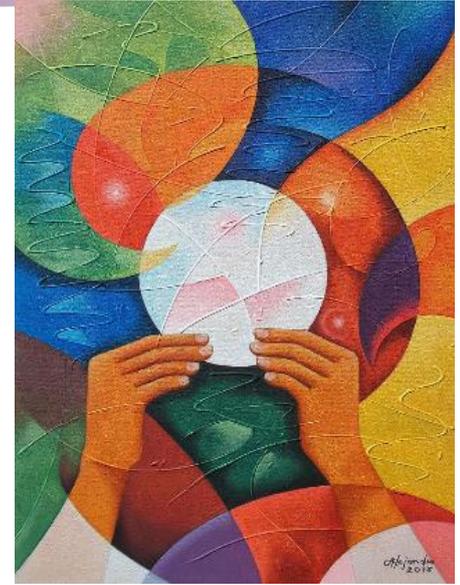


Year 4 managed to miss the storms and made it to Newcastle Discovery Museum for their class trip last week. Our class of future engineers and urban planners had a brilliant time looking at the course of the River Tyne and exploring the bridges that cross it and why they are there.





Thank you to everyone who has replied to the ParentMail message about First Holy Communion preparations this year. If you haven't yet let us know, and would like your child to make their First Holy Communion can you please complete and submit the form by tomorrow. Once the dates and times are finalised we will let all families know so that you can make any arrangements you need to make. We are once again sending the invitation to express an interest to families in years 4, 5 and 6.



Thank you once again for your support in our request to not send gifts to staff or other children for Christmas. We have begun our reverse Advent Calendar and children have begun bringing donations to school through the week. Tins and packets of food are always very welcome, especially brown rice and pasta, as are toiletries. All your donations will be sent to Nite bite and help support vulnerable people in our community over the Christmas season.



COMPASSION MATTERS

Our Mission this week is to continue to prepare for the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ. We do this best by treating ourselves and each other with kindness, compassion, care and love and we demonstrate these qualities in how we speak to each other and what we do.

OUR MISSION
 Our mission is to do our bit to prepare a way for the infant *Jesus*. To do this we are all called to treat each other with *dignity, kindness, compassion, care and love*. We are all St. Cuthbert's and we are all *Fratelli Tutti*.

Generous God, we give you thanks for all the special things that you give us, the things that make our lives magic, that nourish our souls. Inspire us to share who we are, to be part of our community. Lead us to be the positive difference to the lives of others around the world. as caring, loving, compassionate and tolerant as we can be. Amen.

LOVE & COMPASSION ARE NECESSITIES

Our faith in action

St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School



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Sunday 12th December 2021 www.northyntesidecatholic.org.uk/

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We have a very busy and exciting few weeks ahead of us as we prepare for Christmas at school. We continue to hold our weekly Advent Service each Friday and share the service with you through our YouTube channel each weekend. All our dates have been planned and we remain totally flexible to any changes that might come along due to COVID restrictions. The children and staff are working very hard at the minute rehearsing and videoing their Nativities and we hope to have the big premier for everyone to watch live on our YouTube channel- we'll confirm the date of the premier closer to the time when we are sure it is all ready to broadcast 😊 The rest of the main dates are as follows:

Date	Time	Event
Monday 13 th December	Morning	Nursery & Reception Class Christmas party
Tuesday 14 th December	Afternoon	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas party
Wednesday 15 th December	Morning	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party
Wednesday 15 th December	Afternoon	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party
Thursday 16 th December	Lunchtime	Whole school Christmas lunch
Friday 17 th December	3.30pm	School breaks up for Christmas holidays
Tuesday 4 th January	8.30am	Return to school

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.



Thank you to everyone who has kept us informed of any lateral flow or PCR testing that has been happening at home- we always want to know how everyone is doing and to help where we can. Test and trace are responsible for contacting anyone who they believe should isolate if they have been in contact with anyone testing positive for COVID. They haven't contacted us yet to suggest isolation for any children or staff and if they do we will contact anyone we need to immediately.



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At St. Cuthbert's everyone has worked fantastically well together to keep everyone as safe as possible throughout the current, ongoing pandemic. We have taken, and continue to take, advice from Public Health, North Tyneside Council and Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust and the national government on what we need to do at school. We will keep everyone as up to date as possible with any changes to our school day and all communications will be through ParentMail to everyone concerned in the first instance.

If your child is at school, becomes unwell and shows symptoms of Coronavirus

If your child becomes unwell at school and develops one of the three main symptoms of Coronavirus;

- a high temperature,
- a new, continuous cough,
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of smell or taste,

they will be sent home immediately. They will be isolated within school and supervised, as necessary, until they can be collected. Any member of staff supervising a child will be wearing appropriate PPE, including a visor, disposable apron and disposable gloves. Windows in the room will be open and the door will be closed, the door has a clear pane of glass allowing other members of staff to check both the child and member of staff are OK. Once your child has been collected the room will be deep cleaned. We will contact you via **telephone** as soon as possible should your child need to go home. You must ensure all your contact numbers are up to date and that you answer your phone as soon as possible when we phone. Our school phone number is **0191 691 9876**, if you have missed a call from this number please phone us as soon as possible. If we do not have your up-to-date contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible to notify us of any changes. **If a child has a runny nose or sore throat they can come to school if well enough.**

The advice below has been given to us by Public Health England and reflects the change in approach to isolation due to positive cases of COVID. A full class no longer has to isolate due to a child or member of staff testing positive for COVID and school are no longer responsible for any track and tracing. If any child or member of staff does test positive we will still follow all guidance given to us by Public Health England and we will let you know if we need to act as soon as possible.

Who needs to isolate?

1. Anyone with COVID-19 [symptoms](#) or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible. This still applies even if you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine.
2. Identified close contacts including household contacts are not required to self-isolate if any of the following apply:
 - they are fully vaccinated
 - they are below the age of 18 years 6 months



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- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

They should be encouraged to seek a PCR test **but they DO NOT need to isolate while the await the test or the result.**

3. Close contacts who do not meet the above criteria must self-isolate for 10 days even if their PCR test is negative.

Individuals should not arrange to have a PCR test if they have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless they develop any new symptoms of COVID-19.

We follow Public Health England's advice and will inform families of any actions that may need to be taken if any member of staff or child tests positive for COVID-19. So far this term no child or member of staff who would be in contact with a child has tested positive and we had no contact advising us to take any action from Public Health England or any other authority. If you have any questions at all about what to do please keep your child off school and get in touch with us and we will help you as much as we can.

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



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families and it is important that you can receive messages and posts from it even if you don't use it lots yourself.

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