



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 first whole school Advent Service in almost two years as we begin our preparations for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The children have been amazing as always and they have been producing wonderful artwork and poetry for advent as well as singing with joy and enthusiasm throughout the week.

Year 2 have are our attendance of the week stars with an attendance score of 98.7% this week. Our whole school attendance for the week is a 94.4% and we're sure it will be nice and high for the rest of the term as we enter the season of Advent and all our preparations and celebrations.

Class	%
Reception	94.3
Year 1	94.0
Year 2 	98.7
Year 3	97.0
Year 4	90.1
Year 5	91.3
Year 6	96.2
Whole school	94.4

Our first Advent Service of 2021 was a very, very special service- our first whole school Advent Service in nearly two years and the first for almost all of our younger children. Year 6 led the whole school in our service of Hope and they lit the first candle on our wreath. It was fantastic being gathered together again for our service and there was a genuine feeling of awe and wonder throughout the hall from children and adults. You can watch a recording of the service, and hear the children's beautiful reading and singing, on our YouTube channel by clicking this link- <https://youtu.be/LlIBi6eCMmk> . Next week year 5 will be leading us all as we continue to wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus and light the next candle on our Advent wreath.





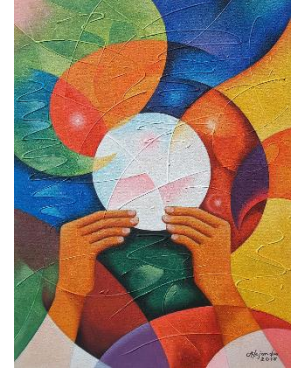
St. Cuthbert's School Newsletter

#stcuthbertsns



Sunday 28th November 2021 www.northyntesidecatholic.org.uk/

Mass times online on Facebook at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801. Fr. Chris has met with catechists and staff from St. Cuthbert's and St. Joseph's to plan arrangements for children and families wishing to be part of the First Holy Communion preparations this year. Children from years 4, 5 and 6 can take part in the programme of preparation with a view to making their First Holy Communion in June 2022. The first thing for families to do is to let Fr. Chris or school know if you are interested in your child making their First Holy Communion in June, there will be a Zoom meeting for families committing to taking part early in the new year. Once we know how many children will be taking part we can confirm dates of any meetings and for the First Communion mass. We will send out a ParentMail asking families to confirm interest next week and would like responses back by Monday 13th December.



Thank you for your support in our request to not send gifts to staff or other children for Christmas. It was brilliant to hear from newer members of our school community who fully support our policy on gifts and it has been noted that a lot of schools across the region are following the same policy also. We will be starting our reverse Advent calendar next week and we will be keeping it as simple as we possibly can. Children can bring donations to school any day of the week and there is no expectation that anyone should bring something every day- only what you want to donate. 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

Well done to our school football team who once again did themselves and St. Cuthbert's proud with their performances in the league this week. representing your school in any way at all is always a great example of how we treat each other as Fratelli Tutti and it is wonderful to see the support from families as well. Thank you also to our fantastic staff who make sure the children have the opportunities to take part in events and celebrations- we love havign St. Cuthbert's represented at as many things as possible to show everyone how brilliant our children are!





Our Mission this week is 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. We are all St. Cuthbert's and we are all Fratelli Tutti.

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**.

Our faith in action

St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

Loving God,
may your love be with us always
and bring peace and joy to
all people, our **Fratelli Tutti**,
as we wait in hope
for the coming of your Son Jesus.
Help us to prepare a way for
the baby Jesus by being
as caring, loving,
compassionate and tolerant as we
can be. We ask this through
Christ Jesus, your Son, Our Lord.
Amen.

LOVE & COMPASSION ARE NECESSITIES

Love Wins

Thank you to everyone who has been in touch to express an interest in standing for election as a parent representative on our local governing body committee. If anyone else is interested can you please either email keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk or by letting us know by phoning school or chatting on the school playground by next Friday 3rd December. It would be great to hold elections and have the position filled for our next meeting soon in the new year and there is no doubt that whoever is elected to the position will be a fantastic representative for St. Cuthbert's families.

The standard of homework coming in to school keeps rising and rising and each classroom is turning in to a gallery of children's work from home. It is fantastic to see so many children create work electronically and presenting it with PowerPoint, movie making software and through photos. If your child does create electronic homework can you please upload it on their Tapestry account. Work sent to school by email can be blocked by our firewall and extra security as can work sent in on usb drives. Tapestry works really well and if you are unsure about how to use it ask any of the class teachers and they'll help you get logged on if needed and tell you how to upload work- it's just as easy as emailing and we know we'll get it and it will work.





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We have a very busy and exciting few weeks ahead of us as we prepare for Christmas at school. We will be holding our weekly Advent Service each Friday and sharing the service with you through our YouTube channel each weekend. We also have class parties happening and our children have been invited to sing at the Victorian Market in North Shields. 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
Wed 1 st December	Morning	Year 3 at Northumberland Park
Friday 3 rd December	Morning	Year 1 meeting Fr. Chris
Tuesday 7 th December	Morning	Year 5 at Victorian Tunnel
Tuesday 7 th December	Morning	Year 6 road safety session
Saturday 11 th December	Morning	Children singing at Victorian Market
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	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

Children can come to school dressed in their party clothes of choice on their Christmas party day. We also ask that children bring a plate of party food for themselves, these should be covered in clingfilm or foil and have their name written on it. We will supply all the drinks and entertainment for the children. We would love everyone to come to school wearing Christmas jumpers, hats, t-shirts or any other festive clothing on our whole school Christmas lunch day. We'll send further information closer to the day.

We have a few different class trips coming up over the next few weeks and ParentMail messages have been sent out. Can you please make sure you return any requested information or permissions as children can't go on any planned trips unless any forms sent out are completed and returned on time. If you are unable to complete forms online please call in to the school office and we will help you get any requested forms completed.



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Thank you to everyone who has returned the necessary data collections form, media consent form and any medical consent forms that have been sent out since the start of the new school year. All these forms are essential for us at school and all need to be kept as up to date as possible. If you have not so yet can you please complete and return any forms as soon as possible. You can do this through ParentMail or, if you prefer to complete a paper copy please ask for one from the school office.

Last week we contacted families about attendance as part of our regular monitoring of all children's attendance at school. There are lots of reasons attendance may be lower than usual or expected at different times of the year and we always help families as much as possible to keep children's attendance as high as it can be.

There are lots of reasons that good attendance makes a massive positive difference to a child's well-being and education and we know that all children have much more opportunity to thrive by being in school as much as possible and by being in school on time. If a child regularly misses one day per week their attendance quickly falls to around 80% and this is significantly below our target of 96% for all children and means they will miss the equivalent of one full half term per year. If you have any questions about attendance or would like to have a chat about your own child's attendance please get in touch. We are here to support families and children and to help everyone get the best from being part of St. Cuthbert's.



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 during half term- this is very important to us at St. Cuthbert's as 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



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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



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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
- 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 they 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.



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- 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.

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