



St. Cuthbert's School Newsletter

#stcuthbertsns



Sunday 11th May 2025 www.northyntesidecatholic.org.uk/

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

It was lovely to see everyone taking their learning out and about in the sunshine last week. Learning outdoors, children across classes working with each other, staff working together to give our children the best experiences and learning we can give them and making the most of our ever-developing outdoor area are at the core of who we are and what we do at St. Cuthbert's. We go out in most weather but it's great when the sun shines! Thank you everyone for making sure your children are wearing sunblock. the highest factor waterproof ones should mean that children are well covered for the school day ahead.



Our attendance of the week winners this week are Year 5 once again with a score of 98.2% Can we remind all families that we ask you to contact us at school when your child is absent from school for any reason at all. There is information about the impact of attendance and punctuality on your child's education available on our school website, you can find it on the [Attendance and Term Dates](#) page.



| Class | % |
|--------------|------|
| Reception | 97.4 |
| Year 1 | 95.3 |
| Year 2 | 88.4 |
| Year 3 | 94.8 |
| Year 4 | 97.9 |
| Year 5 🤗 | 98.3 |
| Year 6 | 97.5 |
| Whole school | 95.6 |

Year 6 SATs Year 6 will sit their end of Key Stage 2 tests, SATs, during next week beginning tomorrow, Monday 12th May. We ask that everyone keeps our Year 6 children in your prayers as they take their test. We know every child will do their very best and we know they are well prepared and ready for the tests, which all children in Year 6 in England will be doing at the same time.

Key dates for the rest of the school year can be found at the end of this newsletter, including dates for our May Procession, end-of-year dance show at the Saville Exchange and leavers' events at the end of the school year.



We have a lot of lost property in school and Mr Smart has been leaving it on the picnic benches on the playground every morning for everyone. He will continue to do so next week and after that, anything which is unclaimed will be added to our uniform rail in the school hall. Anyone can use the uniform rail; it is totally free and is added to all the time. Can we ask that everyone makes sure all items of clothing have your child's name clearly written on the labels? When you write their names, can you also make sure you use a ballpoint pen or permanent pen/ marker as children often do not recognise their own uniform and without clear names, staff can't work out who owns what.





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The teachings of Pope Francis, particularly through Laudato Si- Caring For Our Common Home and Fratelli Tutti- Sisters and Brothers All, are at the heart of what we do and who we are at St. Cuthbert's. Last week we watched as the conclave of cardinals began the voting process to elect our new Pope and we discovered on Thursday evening that our newly elected Pope is Pope Leo XIV. His first words to the world as our new Pope were a call to peace in the world. We will keep Pope Leo in our prayers as he begins his mission and ministry and we will continue to live out the mission given to us through Laudato Si and Fratelli Tutti. Laudato Si asks us to care for our environment, beginning with the world directly around us and the greater world we all share. Fratelli Tutti calls us to treat everyone with respect, care, dignity and compassion and to look after ourselves and everyone else. Both call us to be compassionate people and we see this compassion every day at St. Cuthbert's. Last week years 2, 5 and 6 took part in workshops with the NSPCC and John from the NSPCC talked about how mature, thoughtful and caring our children are. He also said that they were all fully engaged in the workshops and that their discussion showed how much they understand being safe, staying safe and helping keep everyone safe. The work our children do throughout our curriculum helps them understand that caring for themselves and each other happens all the time. Our children know what to do if they have any worries or concerns and we encourage them to speak to the adults in school and at home when they need or want to. Our children know that St. Cuthbert's is a very special community which is strong, united and looks after everyone, a place where compassion matters and we all know that people need people.

Look with kindness and you will always find wonder



WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



COMPASSION MATTERS

Children of Crossfire
COMPASSIONATE SCHOOL AWARD

GOLD AWARD

We nurture compassionate global citizens



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We have put together a Social, Emotional and Mental Health team at St. Cuthbert's and the team introduced themselves to everyone who came to our recent Empathy activity morning. The team are made up of Ms Shepherd as SENDco, Mr Capper who has a wealth of experience leading support and inclusion at a large local high school, Mrs Cottiss, Miss Fielding and Mr Dillon who are all Senior Mental Health Leads and Mrs Lavery who is our new Family Support Worker. Our team have made connections with North Tyneside Connect Team and has begun working with a number of children and families already with more families coming forward for advice and support. In addition to the team and the partnerships created all families with children at St. Cuthbert's have been sent signup details for the [Wellbeing Hub](#), an online resource with lots of information, help and advice for families which you can access any time you need to. Families can face challenges at different times and The [Wellbeing Hub](#) is an online resource which could possibly be of help. Mrs Lavery works with us every Thursday and you can contact her by email at any time, her address is kiera.lavery@stcuthberts.email



Can we remind all families that you must let us know who is collecting a child after school if you, the person who would normally do the collection, isn't? If you need to change arrangements at the last minute, please phone the school office and let us know. This helps avoid asking the person who has come to collect the child to wait around unnecessarily and helps us ensure all our children are where they are supposed to be. If the person collecting your child is someone we don't know or haven't met often we may ask you for a word or phrase that they can repeat to us, therefore confirming who they are.

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. If you have a concern that you feel needs attention immediately, and it is outside of normal school hours, you can contact the North Tyneside Safeguarding Team's Front Door service on 0345 2000 109 during office hours or 0330 333 7475 during the evening or at weekends. We work in partnership with the team and they will inform us at school of any referrals made to them during weekends, evenings, and holidays when school is closed. You can also find out more information about safeguarding in North Tyneside on their [website](#) and our [school website](#).





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We are asking all families to make sure you pre-order your children's lunches as this is the only way to ensure they get what they want each lunchtime. All children who have a school lunch must pre-order- this includes children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 who are all entitled to free school meals through the Infant Free School meals scheme.

Thank you once again to everyone who has signed up for your Appetite account and to everyone who is using it to pre-order children's school lunches. It is very, very important that you get your account set up as it allows you to see the menu for the coming weeks, including all the dietary and nutritional information you might want to see. No child will ever be left hungry and the staff in our kitchen know all our children well. If you have any questions about the new school meals system or menu, or need help with the app or using the Appetite service online, please get in touch with us at school.

We would like to remind families that we have a no-jewellery policy for children at St. Cuthbert's, the only exceptions to this are that children can wear a watch and if they have their ears pierced they can wear a small stud- not hoops. Can you please make sure your child doesn't wear any jewellery to school, especially on their outdoor learning day when a few have started to wear chains, necklaces, or bracelets. Outdoor learning day clothes should be old clothes, suitable for the weather, that will get dirty and, most likely smell of smoke by the end of the day.

We get lots of questions at school about keeping children safe online when they are away from school. We have begun information posters from National Online Safety and these will be helpful as they provide up-to-date advice on how to manage different services and apps for children at home. The Think You Know website is also very useful for advice and information and you can find it by clicking the link below. The site is aimed at adults and the subjects are about keeping children safe online. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



Can we please remind families that for all classes from reception through to year 6 the school day has a 'soft start' meaning that the school gates and doors will open at 8.40 am and children should go straight to their class when they come on to the playground from 8.40 am. The doors and gates then close at 8.55 am when all children should be in their class- anyone who arrives at school after 8.55 am should come to school through the main office. **Children cannot wait alone on the playground or at school gates before 8.40 am as all staff are supervising gates, doors, corridors and classrooms with teachers beginning their teaching at 8.40 am.**

Can we also remind everyone that no adults should be in the school building in the morning or at the end of the school day. If you need to speak to a class teacher you can contact them through Tapestry, phone the school office to make an appointment or pass on a message or catch them at the end of the school day once all children have been passed over to their families. Our school day ends at 3.25 pm for all children. Can we also please remind families that dogs, no matter how small, are not permitted through the school gates or on the school playground. We have over 500 people on the playground at the start and end of each day and we all greatly appreciate your help and



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Thank you to everyone who is using Easyfundraising.

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 doing 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/stcuthbertsrprimary/> 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 donate to St. Cuthbert's at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

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

Thank you to everyone who has been using Tapestry, our keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrprimary.co.uk email, and school phone to keep in touch with school staff. Lines of communication must be 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, or concerns, or need to chat with 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@stcuthbertsrprimary.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. Please do not use this email for day-to-day things like questions about what is happening at school. We cannot guarantee that your question will be answered on time this will only happen by contacting the school office.
- Phone 0191 691 9876 and arrange an agreed time to chat with someone. Use the school phone number to advise us of absence from school, and 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 a lot yourself.



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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 a £25,000 draw each week. You can sign up at

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

We work continuously with all staff and children to keep children and everyone at St. Cuthbert's safe at all times. Our current Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and further information is on our school website,

<https://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk/safeguarding> and they outline our approaches and policies to safeguarding throughout school. You will also find a copy of our safeguarding policy that we share with the children. It has been written to be accessible to the children and goes alongside all the work we do with them throughout the year. We teach safeguarding and staying safe through many different subjects and you will see the weekly online safety posters we add to every newsletter that we send out. Throughout the year we also have online safety lessons with all children and these range in topic from what to do if a child feels unsafe, how to create the best usernames and passwords and how to judge if the information you are reading or watching is genuine and accurate. We also hold online safety sessions for families each year to help you keep your children safe online at home. If you have any questions about safeguarding at St. Cuthbert's please get in touch by emailing keepingintouch@stcuthberts.email or speaking to Mr Dillon or Mrs Cottiss who you can find on the school playground at the start of each day or by phoning the school office.

Thank you for your fantastic continued support, stay safe and God bless,

Shaun Dillon



Mass times online on Facebook and at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801 Our weekly E-Safety information posters now come with a link to the National Online Safety website and further resources, including podcasts and more explanations about the app or service highlighted each week. You can access the resources by clicking here [Wake Up Wednesday](#).

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than stigmatised. This acceptance empowers children to confidently express their identities and feel genuinely included, fostering a robust sense of belonging within both school and home settings.

2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Regularly communicate and actively listen to children, showing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences. Creating open communication channels helps young people feel heard and valued. This approach not only builds trust but also reinforces children's perception of themselves as a vital part of their family, school and community.

3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in classrooms, at home, or in community activities. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Including them in decisions and responsibilities enhances their self-worth, promoting a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.

4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, educators, and families. Strong, healthy relationships significantly impact a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of loneliness. Facilitate social interactions through group activities, teamwork, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.

5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES

Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming for everyone. Inclusive spaces where all children see themselves represented can dramatically improve their feelings of safety and acceptance. Consider classroom displays, books, and resources that celebrate various cultures, abilities, and backgrounds to visibly reinforce inclusivity and belonging.

6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, empathetic, and respectful behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviour, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.

7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to articulate their feelings and empathise with others. An emotionally intelligent environment cultivates mutual respect and compassion, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and interpersonal connection within groups.

8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP

Encourage peer mentorship or buddy systems within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of connectedness and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they naturally build community bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and friendship thrive.

9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY

Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's understanding that their presence and efforts are important. Celebrating individual and collective successes helps cultivate a positive environment where children feel acknowledged, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.

10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY

Quickly address any incidents of bullying. Promptly intervening demonstrates a clear commitment to an inclusive and safe environment. Creating a culture where incidents are swiftly and effectively addressed reinforces trust, security, and a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Halcyon Education Ltd and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in systemic mental health in schools, she supports educational leaders across the UK to develop inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging



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PE and Outdoor Learning Timetables 2024/2025

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day.

| PE | |
|----------|------------------------|
| Day | Class |
| Monday | Year 5 |
| Tuesday | Reception Class |
| Thursday | Year 6. Year 2, Year 3 |
| Friday | Year 1 and Year 4 |

We have a timetable for outdoor learning but classes will take learning outdoors as often as they can throughout the week. Children should wear old clothes on their outdoor learning day, PE kit on PE day and school uniform on all other days. If an outdoor learning day is the same as a PE then children should wear PE kit that is suitable for outdoors and whatever weather we are forecast to have.

| Outdoor Learning Dates | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Nursery | (Friday) |
| Reception | (Friday) |
| Year 1 | (Tuesdays) |
| Year 2 | (Tuesdays) |
| Year 3 | (Wednesdays) |
| Year 4 | (Wednesdays) |
| Year 5 | (Mondays) |
| Year 6 | (Mondays) |



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Below are some of the main dates and times for events during the rest of this school year. We will be adding more to the list each week, and if there are any changes, we will give you as much notice as possible.

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Monday 12 th May- Thursday 15 th May | | Year 6 SATS | School |
| Monday 19 th May- Wednesday 21 st May | | Year 6 Residential Trip | Great Tower, Windermere |
| 23/05/2025 | 1pm | May Procession and Mass | School and St. Cuthbert's Church |
| 23/05/2025 | 3.25pm | Half term | School |
| 24/05/2025 | Morning | Whitley Bay Carnival | Whitley Bay |
| 02/06/2025 | 8.40am | Return after half term | School |
| 21/06/2025 | 10am | First Holy Communion Mass | St. Cuthbert's Church |
| 30/06/2025 until 04/07/2025 | All week | Week of Sport | School |
| 02/07/2025 | 9am | Sports Day | School |
| 07/07/2025 | Afternoon and evening TBC | Saville Exchange Dance Show | Saville Exchange |
| 12/07/2025 | Morning | Mouth of The Tyne Festival | Tynemouth |
| 15/07/2025 | 2pm | Year 6 Leavers' Assembly | School |
| 16/07/2025 | 9.30am | End of Year whole school Mass | School |