



**St Sebastian's
Catholic Primary School**
Holly Road
Liverpool
L7 0LH

Tel : 0151 260 9697

sebastians-ao@st-sebastians.liverpool.sch.uk



**St. Cuthbert's
Catholic Primary School**
Aviemore Road,
Liverpool,
L13 3BB

Tel : 0151 228 4137

cuthberts-ao@st-cuthberts.liverpool.sch.uk

Executive Head Teacher: Dennis Hardiman M.B.E.

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Dear Parents and children

As this is the final newsletter before the Easter/Spring Break, it is an opportunity to inform you of events that have happened and may be happening just after our return.

Easter Spring Break: School finishes today 23rd March and we return to school Monday 9th April 2018.

Attached to the class newsletters are the times of the various church events over this most sacred season of The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus.

Many congratulations: To all of our children who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation last week. This for probably all of them will be the 2nd sacrament out of the 7 available that they have received after Baptism. This is in preparation for the children making a 3rd sacrament "The Eucharist" or "Holy Communion". Many thanks to all the Parishioners who are part of this preparation and who support your child as part of the Parishes of St Sebastian's and St Oswald's.

Well Done and Thank you: To the many children who have been delighted to represent our school at a variety of different activities from Speech Choir to sporting events such as cross-country and indoor athletics. To other events such as School's Parliament, showing guests around the school, being 'Buddies' and answering the phones and greeting parents and guests to the school during their lunch hour.

Also to thank the many parents who do support the school in its aim both in and out of school to provide many different activities and opportunities to help the children grow in their personal development and responsibilities. Many of the activities we take part in are 'team' events so when one or two are not there it obviously affects the whole team. We haven't got the facility or time when choosing teams to pick and choose. If children want to represent the school we are delighted if not (although sad for all involved) we will respect this and not pick them for school team events.

Holy Week Preparation:

Stations of the Cross and The Passion Story have been carried out this week and the respect and dignity of the children has been tremendous and a credit to themselves and families. The Easter services in church start from Palm Sunday please take your child to church so they see by our example the traditions we follow.

Attendance Easter Eggs: We had 68 children with 100% this term so Mrs Turner is delighted. A child in Year 4 won the £25 for 100% attendance throughout the spring term. I would like for us to aim for 100 children with 100% attendance in the Summer term. Congratulations to Year 3 who had the most 100% attendees this term in the whole school, they won a class prize.

St Cuthbert's Ofsted Section 5: We have not quite finished with our observations of our Inspection. There were some issues on attendance (of some children) and they observed some low level behavioural issues. Please read the report it says we are a Good School with Outstanding features. Please help us to get the best grade we can by supporting us with attendance and inappropriate behaviour BUT also to be positive about our school. We had a visiting head teacher and teachers from Devon in school this week who came to look at the way we work and reach the high standards we do, they were very complimentary about your children, the staff and our school.

Congratulations: To our Speech Choir who some say were the best (that was our parents!! Unbiased of course). To the many children in their sporting activities they have taken part in and doing really well, when we are put our BEST team out. To our Year 6 girls who achieved 3rd place and bronze medals for the Liverpool Small Schools Cross-Country. To our girls Netball who progressed in the cup by a 10-0 victory!!! Our Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics City Champions of Liverpool and 4th in Merseyside. Year 3/4 3rd place in City Championships. Football teams both boys and girls are having a good season that will continue next term. There are Cross-Country events the final 2 on Thursday 12 April and the following Monday 16 April.

Charity work and collections: Many thanks to all our children and families for their generosity in helping others.
An Hour For Others fundraising events all term £825.70
Nugent Care Bingo Yr6 fundraising in excess of £600.00

Evacuation of school: As we know the email we received with the threat of a bomb was a HOAX. Investigations across the country (if affected hundreds of schools we are told) on how it managed to pass our Firewalls to protect us is ongoing. Once we were aware of the threat we actioned our evacuation plan which all schools need. Everything stops with priority to get our children safe. The aim is to leave the school area between 3-4 minutes. This the staff and children successfully did. We then walked up to the top of Church Road to assembly at the far end of Halfords huge carpark. As we had 2 year olds and it was cold we sought to get inside with over 200 children. I pass on mine and our families thanks to the manager of Chiquito's restaurant who invited us all in with open arms. The hoax was apparently a disgruntled teenager who did it because he could. Our families were sent text messages with an explanation of what had happened when we had the all clear from the police to return. The manager of Chiquito's complimented the staff and said our children were fantastic. I do find it a little mystifying how the Liverpool Echo had a screen shot of a text sent to afternoon foundation 1 parents. This sadly caused panic for some parents as unfounded rumours began. It did seem that some parents seem to know more than others.

Our New School: At the beginning of the new term there will be an opportunity on a number of occasions to see the proposed plans and to ask the Architect and school about this wonderful opportunity we have to build a new St Cuthbert's. It just remains for me to thank all the staff for their selfless and tireless work on behalf of you and the school. Also to wish you a wonderful Spring break with your families.