



St Cuthbert's RC Primary School

The Cuthbert Chronicle- Issue 4— November 2015

Acting Headteacher: Mr D Miller

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Miss S Patterson Chair of Governors: Mr B Barnes

Telephone: 0191 2675956

Email: admin@stcuthbertsw.newcastle.sch.uk

Website: www.stcuthbertsw.newcastle.sch.uk

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It's very nearly December and the season to be jolly. There has been lots of exciting things happening in school over the past month and even more planned for the final month of 2015!

Parents Evenings



Parents evenings will be taking place on **Monday 30th November** and **Tuesday 1st December**. Interim reports will be sent home today updating you on progress made throughout the Autumn term. Thankyou to all who have already booked appointments; the teachers are looking forward to meeting you all and sharing the learning experiences thus far. There may still be some appointments left so if you haven't yet made an appointment please contact Mrs Denham.

Christmas Fayre



Christmas Fayre

Please add the **4th December** to your diary and come and sample the festivity at St Cuthbert's Christmas Fayre. As usual this will be taking place in the school hall and will be open from **3:10pm** until **5pm**. There will a wide variety of stalls catering for the old and the young, with a great range of prizes available to be won. The Friends of the School have worked very hard to organise this wonderful fundraising event and so I offer a massive 'thankyou'. It would be truly wonderful to see as many families as possible at this event. I'm already looking forward to sharing a mince pie with you all.

Christmas Cards



Some of the children are keen to start sharing their festive messages with their friends and have starting bringing Christmas cards into school. To help ease the 'mail logistics' we will putting our Christmas post box at the front of school from **Tuesday 1st December**. Can we please encourage all children to use the box and not hand them out individually in class. This will not only minimise disruption in class but also allow for a special time each day when cards are received. It is a wonderful time of the day watching the children opening their cards from their friends; the generosity of spirit from families within this school is amazing!

Sickness



Unfortunately this is the season when colds, bugs and sickness takes a grip on many of our children. Can I please take this opportunity to highlight school policy: if a child has been sick, no matter how severe, they must remain off school for a **48 hour period**. I appreciate that this can cause inconvenience but due to the risk of infection the school can make no allowances in this matter. Thank you for understanding and continued support.

Attendance



Our attendance target for the year is to be above 97%

Our whole school attendance is currently running at: **96.6%**

It is really important that children attend school as one missed day is 5 hours of lost learning! Equally being 10 minutes late each day is the same as only having 4 English lessons that week instead of 5. My door is always open to listen to any concerns parents or carers may have concerning attendance problems; I'm sure we can help each other. We all share the same dream - wanting each child to fulfil their unique potential.

Parking



Thank you to all concerned for the continued success of the morning drop off facility. The children are entering the school safely and promptly! Can I please remind parents that local pub, the '**Original Masons**' have offered use of their car park to help alleviate congestion around school for afternoon collection. For safety reasons parents are urged are not to park inconsiderately around the school at this exceptionally busy time. Again this plea is to ensure all children are kept safe. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Mass in school



Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Mass held in school—it was wonderful to see so many supporting the Catholic Life of the school. An extra special thank-you is extended to Fr Smith who has opened up this Friday Mass to the school community and the Parish community. The next school based Mass will take place on **Friday 4th December at 10:00am**. It would be wonderful to see as many as possible celebrating Mass, and receiving the sacrament in school. For this Mass our Year 4/5 Class will be attending and supporting.

Christmas Baubles



As we are entering the last few days of November thoughts will be turning to when to dust down and erect the Christmas tree. Friends of school have spent 2 days working with the children decorating an extra special bauble to have pride of place on your tree. On behalf of all the children, staff and parents I offer a well deserved '**THANKYOU!**' - the work you do makes St Cuthbert's a happier and more magical school. This year we received over 200 orders which added **£167**, after all costs were removed, to the school fund. This is an amazing total!

Footballs



Sorry boys I love playing football too, and prefer playing with my favourite case football, but I must remind you that **case footballs are not allowed in school**. This decision is not to spoil playtime fun but to keep those safe who may be hit in the face by a 'stray shot.' To minimise the risk to those not playing the school will be providing footballs for the children to play with at break times. We would therefore ask that footballs are not sent into school anymore. Thank you for your understanding and continued support with this matter.



Diary dates

Date	Event	Time
30th November	KS1 and KS2 Parents Evening	3:30pm—5:50pm
1st December	KS1 and KS2 Parents Evening	3:30pm—5:50pm
1st December	Reception Christmas trip—Whitehouse farm	All day
4th December	Mass in School	10:00am
4th December	School Christmas Fayre	3:10pm—5:00pm
8th December	Christmas Dinner	Lunchtime
9th December	Christmas Productions	KS1 1:30pm KS2 9:30am
10th December	Christmas Productions	KS1 9:30am KS2 1:30pm
11th December	KS1 and KS2 PANTO trip	12:30pm—5:00pm
15th December	Year 6 Carol service—Grange, Throckley	11:00am—12:30pm
16th December	KS1 Christmas Party	PM
17th December	KS2 Christmas Party	PM
18th December	Christmas jumper day	All day
18th December	Christmas Mass	9:30am

Christmas Productions



By now you will have received a letter from your child's class teacher explaining their part and costume requirements for the upcoming Christmas productions. If you have not received your letter please speak to the class teacher who will be more than happy to explain what is needed. If we could ask for all costumes to start making their way into school that would be greatly appreciated. Rehearsals are already underway and a full dress rehearsal is planned for **Monday 7th December**. We have a great many Oscar contenders this year! Well Done to all the children for their hard work—they all have so many wonderful talents. Tickets are still available from the school office for the productions and cost **£1.50**. Please bring your ticket with you on the day of the production as a special raffle draw will be taking place. I look forward to seeing a packed hall and especially watching the children perform. Thank you for your continued support.

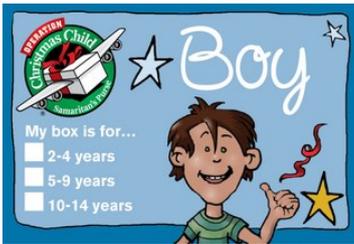
Website



Don't forget all key school information is constantly uploaded to our website. Please take some time to check out the action shots of the children and their learning during the Autumn term so far.



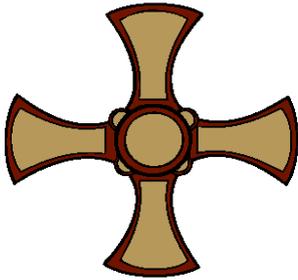
Operation shoe box



A big thank-you goes out to everyone who supported the school by donating a shoe box. I'm pleased to say that a record **27 boxes** have been sent to Swaziland. It is humbling to think that such a small gesture can make the world of difference to someone's life.

As always the generosity of spirit and humanity shown from this school community is overwhelming!

Deacon Munro



After many years of dedicated service to our local community Deacon Munro has decided to retire. His influence has extended to so many lives inside St Cuthbert's over the years; he has been instrumental in providing spiritual guidance to all. The children have enjoyed working with him in so many wonderful ways and will be saying a special thankyou and goodbye to Deacon Munro in school soon.

Thankyou seems to an understatement here but from all concerned a genuine and heartfelt thanks—you will forever be in our hearts!

Children in need 2015

This year St Cuthbert's raised **£167** for this wonderful charity. The children looked amazing in their superhero costumes; it was like watching a live audition for the Avengers Assemble in some classes!

Pictures were featured in The Journal, The Evening chronicle, and on-line showcasing our wonderful children. We even received a special tweet back from the Children in Need team!

Many thanks for your continued support!



Head teacher message

There has been so much which has happened since the last newsletter it's unbelievable. The children have been working so hard and have made so much progress since September. It is great to see so many smiling faces in class, children playing nicely on the yard and such enthusiasm for learning. The last few weeks have proved what we all know already - St Cuthbert's is an **Outstanding** school and one that we can all be proud of! Many thanks for your continued support in all aspects of school life; your help is instrumental in all which we achieve.