



# St. Cuthbert's School Newsletter

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

[www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk](http://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk) [www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk/](http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk/)

#stcuthbertsns

Mass times at St. Cuthbert's or St. Joseph's are: Saturday Vigil St Cuthbert's 5.30p.m. Sunday Mass at St Joseph's 11a.m. Fr. Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801

Welcome back! It was brilliant as always to see everyone back at school on Monday morning and it is always fantastic to see so many children, families and staff smiling, laughing, chatting and catching up with everyone after the summer holidays. Year 6 joined Fr. Chris and the parish for Mass on Friday and we will have one class going to Mass every week as always this year. We finished our 2017/ 2018 school year with a beautiful whole school Mass together on the school field and we would like to invite everyone to join us for our new school year Mass on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am at St. Cuthbert's Church. If you would like to walk with us to and from Church please let a member of staff know. We are delighted to welcome Miss Martin to our school staff this term, she has made a great start with her Nursery Class and I am sure you will all get to know her over the coming weeks.



Our whole school attendance for the first week of the new school year is 97.9% and our Nursery children have had an amazing 100% attendance for the week. As everyone knows school attendance is very important and has a massive impact on how well children enjoy, succeed and achieve at school. We monitor attendance very closely throughout the school year and we work with families to make sure children are in school as often as possible. We celebrate great attendance in lots of different ways, last year children from year 5 and 6 had a surprise trip to Wimbledon! If your child is absent from school for any reason at all please contact school and let us know straight away. Our target whole school attendance for this year is 97% and we expect all our children to have at least 97% attendance as well.

Weekly Attendance	
Nursery AM	100% 
Nursery PM	100% 
Reception	97.3%
Year 1	96.2%
Year 2	95.5%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	99.7%
Year 5	99.1%
Year 6	98.1%
Whole School	<b>97.9%</b>

Thank you for all your generous donations of shoes on the last day of the last school year. We collected the shoes as part of UNICEF and Clarks ShoeShare and the staff at Whitley Bay Clarks were delighted with the donation from St. Cuthbert's! Thank you also for the very welcome and generous donations of food which we sent to Nite Bite. This is the first summer we have collected for Nite Bite and the food will have helped some of the most vulnerable families and residents of North Shields during the holidays.





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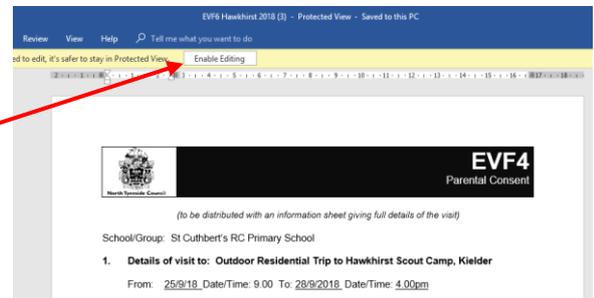
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If you think you could be entitled to free school meals and milk for your child it's really easy to apply via the council's website <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/238/free-school-meals>. You may be entitled if you are in receipt of income support/job seekers allowance/support under the immigration and asylum act/Universal credit/child tax credit without working tax credit. Even if you are unsure it is worth applying to make sure you are not missing out.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free meals at school but you must make an application for this. It's really easy to do via the council website <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/238/free-school-meals>

It is very important that all our children are signed up for Universal Free School Meals, even if your child prefers a packed lunch. If you have any questions about school meals at all please call into the school office.

The excitement is building in years 5 and 6 as we get closer to their big residential trip to Hawkthirst at the end of the month. The programme of activities is in place and everyone was sent a packing list and EV4: Parental Consent Form via ParentMail, (if you would like paper copies of either please call into the school office). The Parental Consent Form is a Word document and you can complete it and email it back to school or send in a paper copy if you like. To complete the form electronically you need to make sure you click the **enable editing** button at the top of the page and save the completed form on your computer before sending it to us. If your child needs



to take any medication on the trip can you please make sure you call into school at **9am or 3pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September** and bring any medication needed so that we can make sure it is in date, is prescribed with your child's name on it and we are following your medication instructions properly. If you have any questions at all about the trip please have a chat with Mr Dillon or Mrs Cottiss.



We will be holding our new school year meetings for all families on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm, 4pm and 4.30pm. The meetings are an opportunity for you to find out what your child will be doing at school this year and to hear about the exciting things lined up for them. It is also a chance for you to ask any general questions you might have. The meeting will last about fifteen minutes and you only need to come to one.



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Information about applying for places in our Reception Class, or High School next September 2019 will be coming out next week and you will be able to make your applications from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September. It is very important that you make sure your application is completed before the deadlines set out, these will all be very clear on the information sheet. If you have any questions or would like any support with your application please come into the school office and we will be able to help you. We have a number of places available in our current Reception Class, if you know anyone who is looking for a Reception Class place now please let them know.

Year 3 begin their intensive four week block of swimming lessons on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Our swimming lessons during the four week block have been an amazing success over the past two years and there are lots of other primary schools in North Tyneside now following the same approach. Please could you make sure your child has their full swimming kit plus a spare one every day, along with a raincoat as they will be using the Metro to get to and from the pool.

It's been very busy at St. Cuthbert's over the summer and we now have a newly refurbished front entrance which includes disabled access and a new disabled toilet. Work will be continuing next week on resurfacing the EYFS playground; it is going to look amazing and be fantastic fun when it is all ready. The children are going to love watching the surface being put into place!

North Tyneside Council have recently introduced changes to the telephone system that most schools in the Local Authority use, including St. Cuthbert's. This means that when we phone anyone from school the recipient will see the number 0191 643 2655 rather than 'no caller ID' or 'unknown caller' as has been the case in the past. If you see this number come up when your phone rings it is most likely school phoning you, but if you want to contact us our number is still 0191 2005620.

Can I please ask that all families write children's names in their school uniforms again this year as a lot of jumpers, cardigans and coats get handed into school at the end of each day and if they have names on the labels it is really easy to return them. Lots of people use uniform labels which are brilliant, pen works well too- if you use a pen can you please make sure it is a permanent one so the name doesn't wash away.

We have another busy term lined up at St. Cuthbert's and we will send key dates home with our newsletter next week. Dates are also added to the calendar on our school website, [www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk](http://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk).



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Well done to all our runners who took part in the Mini and Junior Great North Runs yesterday; and to all the adult runners who ran with them! It was another fantastic event and watching our children make it across the finishing line in such style was brilliant. We will be running a brand new club this term, our Couch to 5K club is for children and adults and will take place every Tuesday and Thursday after school and last about 30 minutes. The club will be following the popular [NHS Couch to 5K](#) programme which eases everyone into running with the aim of being able to jog for about 30 minutes or for 5K.



Thank you for your continued support,  
Shaun Dillon