



# St. Cuthbert's RC Primary School

You are unique, talented and loved by God.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

We are rapidly moving towards Christmas! Things continue to be very busy in school and the children and staff are working very hard and classes have been on some exciting visits. We have lots of exciting things happening in school this term and Christmas festivities will soon be upon us! The children have taken part in lots of sporting events this term: tag rugby, sports hall athletics and we are looking forward to the key steps gymnastics festival. A big thank you and well done to Mrs Parlett - St Cuthbert's have won the award for 'Primary School Contribution to Sport' for East Durham and Sedgfield and we are being put forward to the County award.

Please find attached a new Photographic consent form. We are constantly updating the ways in which we communicate and share information with parents and need to ask all parents to return an updated form to ensure our records are correct. Thank you for your support.



Parents are invited to come along.

Thurs 30th November  
(9.10am) in school

Andrew House  
Group

Wear your Christmas Jumper on **Friday 15th December** in aid of TEXT SANTA charities! Suggested £1 donation please.



Christmas dinner will be served on **Wednesday 20th December**, if your

child does not normally stay for dinner you will need to let the office know no later than **Monday 4th December** so that Jan the cook can order the food in.

There is no extra charge for Christmas dinner - the cost is the same as a normal school meal (£2). Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not pay.

**An important message from our Parish:** Once again I am asking children and staff to help. This year we are working with Sister Mary Michael at the convent (Dene House Road) to support the charity 'Changing Lives'. This organisation does some amazing work rescuing homeless men and women off the streets, helping them to find accommodation, furnishing flats, hostels and houses and turning lives around. We would appreciate your help with unwrapped gifts for men and women (toiletries, chocolates, biscuits, hats, scarves and gloves). We would particularly be grateful for men's shaving sets, aftershave and hair care. The majority of the homeless tends to be men, although of course, there are women also in need. Your generous donations last year exceeded expectations and I will deliver any donations that you give to 'Changing Lives'. God bless you all. (Send to school by 12.12.17)

Our Christmas Fair is to be held on **Monday 11th December** in the school hall at **1:30pm**. We are appealing for good quality, age appropriate items:



Toys in good condition  
Books & DVD's (not more than 12 rating)  
Raffle prizes  
Food for a hamper  
Bottles for bottle stall

**Cakes (to be brought in on the morning of the fair in labelled containers)**

Please send donations on the week beginning **Monday 4th December** as we have limited space for storage.

Please find attached x2 strips of raffle tickets. £1 a strip. Please return monies and tickets or any unwanted tickets to school as soon as possible.

## Food Bank

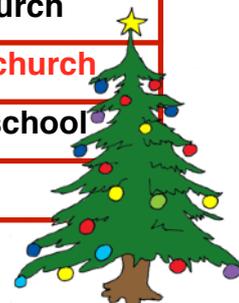
Our Mini Vinnies are collecting food for our local food bank in Seaham. Dry and tinned food with a decent shelf life would be ideal.

Donations can be sent in with your child. It would be lovely if we could send some Christmas products too (mince pies, Christmas puddings etc). Thank you.

# CHRISTMAS DATES



Christmas Fair	Monday 11th December at 1:30pm
Reception Class Nativity Play	Wednesday 13th December at 2pm
Reception Class farm visit	Thursday 14th December
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 15th December
Pantomime <u>in school</u> - Dick Whittington	Monday 18th December (am)
Rec, Y1, Y2 Christmas Party	Monday 18th December (pm)
Year 3/4/5/6 Christmas Party	Tuesday 19th December (pm)
House Group Exchange	Wednesday 20th December (am)
Christmas lunch	Wednesday 20th December
Carol service	Wednesday 20th December pm in church
Christmas Mass	Thursday 21st December, 9.30am in church
Y1/2 Carols around the tree	Thursday 21st December 2.15pm in school
Break up for Christmas	Friday 22nd December at 1:30pm



Please note: Children can come to school wearing their party clothes on the day of their party, no change of clothes is necessary.

**Further details will follow about events closer to the time.**

All parents/ families are invited to Mass and the Carol service.

Families of Reception class are invited to their Nativity play.

Families of Y1/2 children are invited to Carols around the Tree.

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-opening Date
Christmas	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017 (1.30pm)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Spring Half Term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
Easter	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
May Day Bank Holiday	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Summer Half term	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Summer	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	To be determined

Please note that School will be closed for three further Professional Development days this school year:

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

## House Group Gift Exchange

During Advent we ask children to pray for a child in their house group and buy them a small gift (approx £1-£1.50). Names are chosen at random and further details will be sent in a couple of weeks.

## 234 CLUB

The half yearly draw is fast approaching, are you paid up?  
234 Contributions can be paid in school or at St Cuthbert's Vigil Mass on Saturdays at 4.30pm