



WELCOME BACK

A big welcome back to all our children after their Easter break. We are in the final term of this school year and it is always a busy term! We will update you with details of key events in the summer term (sports day etc) on the next school newsletter when these dates are set.

We value the opinions and comments of you as parents/carers of children at St Cuthbert's, and your child will be bringing home our annual questionnaire. I would be grateful if you could fill this in and return it to school by Monday 30th April. Thank you.

UNIFORM

I have been impressed with how smart many of the children are looking. May I remind you that summer uniform states:

- **Girls may wear a light blue checked summer dress and boys can wear grey/black shorts.**
- **Black shoes/trainers (brightly coloured shoes/trainers are not allowed). This applies to girls and boys.**
- **Jewellery should not be worn other than a wrist watch or stud earrings.**
- **No nail varnish or make up should be worn for school.**

As you will appreciate, it is vital that your child's name should be on all uniform, PE kits etc.

PE Kits:

There are many pupils who do not have any or the correct PE kit. Could you please ensure that pupils have both an indoor and outdoor kit – this is especially important for KS2 pupils as in the summer term, almost all of our PE/games activities take place on the school field. This should include plimsolls, school shorts and school t-shirt, which can be bought from JD Fashions in Seaham Harbour, as well as trainers for outdoor PE because plimsolls can be slippery on the field. Please note that children need to have a change of footwear and top – they will not be able to wear the shoes and polo shirt they wear during the school day. You might also wish to include a hoodie and tracksuit bottoms for cold weather.

Jewellery

I know that many schools have banned the wearing of earrings due to health and safety concerns. Our policy has been to allow children to wear studs only for school BUT they must remove earrings to take part in PE. I have already noticed that some children are not keeping to this policy and I would ask for your support in this. We must take every precaution to minimise the risk of injury to the children.



We are having a Ceilidh on Friday 11th May (7-10pm). This is a family event and would love your support. Refreshments such as hotdogs and juice will be sold.

Prices for the tickets are £3 for a single ticket or £10 for a family of four. The children recently had a session with Chris from the Ceilidh band and had lots of fun. Please send the money for tickets to your child's class in a named envelope, not the school office. Thank you for your support.



School Photographer

School photographs are on the morning of **Tuesday 24th April**. All children will have a single (and family photograph taken if they have siblings in school). Reception and Year 6 will have a group photograph taken. If you would like a preschool child to be included on the family photo, please come to the school hall at **8.30am**.

Can we remind parents that scooters and bikes are not allowed to be used in the school yard? When children arrive in school, please dismount the bike or scooter and walk with it through the school gates. The same applies for leaving school. I am grateful to the children who do adhere to this school rule.

Also, we would be grateful if parents/grandparents could keep their children off walls, trees and plants in the school and treat the school environment with respect. Many thanks.

We do lots of exciting things in school. Please don't forget to check our school website and like our Facebook page for information and photographs of these events.
www.stcuthbertsprimary.com

TEXT MESSAGING

You may have recently noticed a change in the number that you receive text messages from school. Teachers2Parents have introduced an additional security verification to ensure parents know that the messages they receive are from school. You will continue to receive messages with the school ID now in the body of the message, accompanied with a link at the beginning of the message to click through to a Teachers2Parents verification page, confirming the sender of the message is genuine.

All messages will be sent from a secure phone number and this will vary with each text sent.



Parents/Grandparents are invited to join us for coffee/tea from 9am.

Parents are invited to come along.	
Year 3 Assembly	Friday 27th April 9.10am
Year 1 Assembly	Friday 11th May 9.10am
Year 4 Assembly	Friday 25th May 9.10am
Year 2 Assembly	Friday 8th June 9.10am
Year 5 Assembly	Friday 6th July 9.10am
Reception Class Assembly	Thursday 12th July (2pm)
End of Term Mass	To be confirmed
Year 6 Leaving Assembly	Friday 20th July 9.10am

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Thank you to those parents who try and keep medical appointments outside of school time. We know at times appointments in school time can't be helped, but please keep appointments to as close to 9am or 3pm as possible. If an appointment is in the middle of the day, children should be in school before/after the appointment. Evidence of a medical appointment should be taken to the office.

SUN CREAM

Please can you send a hat into school for your child and put sun cream on your child before school. They can bring some sun cream with them to top themselves up during the day if you wish but teachers can not put sun cream on your child.

LOST PROPERTY

We have A LOT of lost property in school. Please can you take a moment to check your child has claimed all of their belongings (jumpers, PE equipment, shoes and even one boot!). Anything remaining will be disposed of by the end of next week.

Attendance

The government has set a target of at least 96% attendance. If a child has less than 90% attendance then they are considered to be persistently absent. The Local Authority has brought out a new attendance management procedure to try and improve attendance and punctuality. Part of this is to ensure that parents are informed of any concerns regarding attendance. Letters were sent just after Christmas to those children who fell below 95% and further letters will be sent this week to anybody that the County may be concerned about below 95%.

Absence

The school has a messaging service on our school telephone number (5813090) for parents to record their child's absence. This should be done as soon as possible at the start of the school day on the first day of absence. Any absence that is not notified by 9.30am will be deemed absent without permission.

Thank you to all who attend regularly and on time. If you have any questions please contact me.

Lateness

Can we remind parents that school begins at 8.55am and children should be on the yard by this time.

Lateness can cause serious disruption to the learning of all children in school. There can be NO excuse for children being late on a regular basis. The new Durham County guidelines state that lateness will be recorded on your child's school details throughout their school life. **Children arriving after the close of registration (9.15am) will be deemed absent without permission.** County guidelines state that penalty notices can now be applied to persistent late comers.