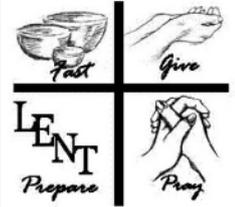




St. Cuthbert's RC Primary School

You are unique, talented and loved by God.

During the church's year we get several opportunities to take a moment and reflect on our lives. Lent, which began last Wednesday, is one of those occasions. We often hear about what people are going to give up for Lent, but sometimes we don't really understand the reason why. Sometimes it is because we want to do something to change our lifestyle such as giving up chocolate or crisps. Sometimes it is to do something for other people, such as the Lenten promises we heard from class 3 in our liturgy today. In the end our reasons are personal. Perhaps this Lent our promise could be to think about others and try to follow Jesus' commands and example more fully.



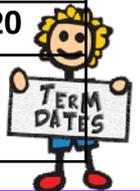
Throughout Lent it is our custom to collect **Lenten Aims**. Each class has a small box where children can put in small change on a daily basis. This year it will be sent to send to our charity which is CAFOD this year.



Please send in a donation if you are able.

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-opening Date
Easter	Friday 3rd April 2020	Monday 20th April 2020
May Day Bank Holiday	Thursday 7th May 2020	Monday 11th May 2020
Summer Half term	Friday 22nd May 2020	Monday 1st June 2020
Summer	Friday 17th July 2020	Tuesday 1st September 2020

Please note that School will be closed for two further Professional Development days this school year:
Friday 19th June 2020 and Monday 20th July 2020



Y2 and Y6 Parents

Y6 SATs week is Monday 13th-Thursday 16th May.
Y2 assessments will be ongoing through May. We would like to invite parents to a meeting to find out more about the assessments on **Wednesday 18th March in school.**
Year 2 - 3.30-4pm
Year 6 - 4.15-4.45pm

POSTPONED - new date to be confirmed

Can you help us out?

We warmly welcome volunteers to help us in school and are grateful of any support you can give us! We have many talented mams, dads and grandparents and you do not have to volunteer in your child's class. Any support is welcomed - you may be able to help listen to readers or help out with some art/ sewing/gardening. Please ring the school office if you can help in any way **after the Easter holidays**. Thank you.

Mini Vinnies

"Food and thought for others during Lent"

During Lent, the Mini Vinnies have been busy making Lenten bags filled with symbols of Lent to help people on their journey through Lent. These are available from church.

The Mini Vinnies are also collecting food for the local food bank during Lent. Donations can be brought in and put in the basket at the school office.

Easter Raffle

We are holding an Easter raffle in school. Tickets will be 10p each and will be sold each day in your child's class (please don't send money to the school office). Children can buy as many tickets as they like and tickets will go on sale on Monday. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 3rd April.



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.

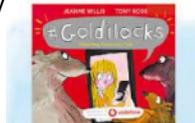
If an appointment is in the middle of the day, children are expected to be in school before/after the appointment or this may result in unauthorised absence.

Evidence of a medical appointment should be taken to the office.

IMPORTANT - Attendance

If your child is absent from school - a phone call **MUST** be made to school **AND A REASON GIVEN** for your child's absence. If no reason is given on more than two occasions we are required to ask for medical evidence for further absences. If no reason is given your child's absence will be unauthorised and unauthorised absences may result in a warning or a fine from the Attendance Improvement Team (AIT) at Durham County Council.

#GOLDILOCKS - A fairy-tale for the digital age! Research suggests children are using social media before parents/school have spoken to them about how to use it responsibly, with 48% being exposed to it by age seven. The book is a modern twist on the classic fairy tale and offers a fun and accessible way for parents to discuss responsible social media use with their younger children. Vodafone UK and Andersen Press have teamed up with award-winning author Jeanne Willis and illustrator Tony Ross to produce a co-branded digital edition of #Goldilocks. The book shows #Goldilocks in trouble with the three bears over her use of social media. It aims to help educate children about the potential consequences of being unkind, getting carried away with selfies or oversharing images in a lighthearted way. Download the book free of charge at <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/parenting/goldilocks> there is also an activity sheet available.



Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

13

Twitter Facebook Instagram Pinterest
Google + Tumblr Reddit Snapchat Path

16

WhatsApp
LinkedIn

17

Vine

18

Tinder



18

or 13 with parent's permission

Youtube Keek Foursquare WeChat Kik Flickr

Important message: We are currently increasing precautions to ensure we are effectively safeguarding our pupils and staff. As a result we will be keeping visitors in school to a minimum. This means that class assemblies are cancelled and if you usually come in to read/volunteer, please don't come in for the remainder of the term. Please also, wherever possible, telephone or email school staff rather than popping into the school office. We will continue our hygiene measures in school and ensure children are washing their hands thoroughly and we will monitor this carefully.

Many thanks for your co-operation.