



St. Cuthbert's RC Primary School

You are unique, talented and loved by God.

Many thanks to you all for generously supporting us with sponsored events and fundraising this school year so far. Any money that is raised for the school by parents and families goes towards educational and enrichment opportunities for your children.

Our sponsored run raised just over £1200. This has been spent on valuable geography resources which we desperately needed to upgrade. The parent support group have continued to raise money at school discos and £2021 has been spent on reading books to supplement our current scheme.

The children have been enjoying getting back into the swing of things after half term with several classes enjoying trips out of school and groups of pupils representing us at sporting events. Well one to the girls' football team and the Y6 tag rugby team who have taken part in competitions so far this term. There are still some upcoming sporting events this term. We have lots of exciting things planned as we approach Christmas. A list of dates is attached.

Our Christmas Fair is to be held on **Wednesday 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 from Wednesday 4th December as we have limited space for storage. Please find attached x3 strips of raffle tickets. £1 a strip. Please return monies and tickets or any unwanted tickets to school as soon as possible.



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 12.12.19)



Christmas dinner will be served on **Thursday 19th December**, if your child does not normally stay for dinner you will need to let the office know no later than Friday 6th December so that 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 (£2.05). Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not pay.

Non Uniform day - Thursday 28th November

In exchange for children wearing their own clothes, we are asking Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to bring a box of sweets/chocolates and Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 to bring a bottle (of anything) to contribute to the stalls/hampers for our school Fayre. Please support us.

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.

Music Concert

Since September, Year 3 have been learning to play the violin on a Friday with Mrs Sellars. Year 3 and our other violinists in school will be playing a short concert for their parents/families on Monday 9th December at 10am.

(Sorry for the odd time, but we have to fit in with Mrs Sellars other teaching). We are unable to confirm **at the moment** if guitars will be playing at this concert.

School Admissions:

If you know anyone who has a child eligible to start school in September 2020, the deadline for applications is January 15th 2020.

Winter Bugs

Just a reminder that it's that time of year when the sickness bugs are around! We adhere to Durham County guidelines - your child can return to school 48hrs after the last bout of sickness. If they are only sick once it is 24 hours. Your child does not need to stay off school for a cold - often children can manage to get through the day.

CHRISTMAS DATES



Non uniform day (see page 1)	Thursday 28th November
INSET day: school closed to children	Friday 29th November
Violin music concert	Monday 9th December, 10am
Reception Class Nativity play	Tuesday 10th December, 2pm in school
Christmas Fayre	Wednesday 11th December, 1.30pm
End of Term Mass	Thursday 12th December, 9.30am in church
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 13th December
Pantomime in school; Aladdin (am)	Friday 13th December
Changing Lives collection (info to follow)	Friday 13th December
Concert for children by Durham Music Service	Monday 16th December
Carol Service	Tuesday 17th December, 10am in church
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party	Tuesday 17th December (afternoon)
Reception Class and Year 1 at Beamish (further info to follow)	Wednesday 18th December
Choir invited to sing at St Bede's (further info to follow)	Wednesday 18th December (evening)
Christmas Lunch	Thursday 19th December
House Group Exchange	Thursday 19th December
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party	Thursday 19th December (afternoon)
Break up for Christmas	Friday 20th December at 1:30pm



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

All parents/ families are invited to Mass and the Carol service.
Families of Reception class are invited to their Nativity play.

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-opening Date
Christmas	Friday 20th December 2019 (1.30pm)	Tuesday 7th January 2020
Spring Half Term	Friday 14th February 2020	Monday 24th February 2020
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 (1.30pm)	To be determined

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

Friday 29th November 2019, Monday 6th January 2020 and Friday 19th June 2020