St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary





It is lovely to have everyone back for a new school year!

The staff have been delighted to see everyone and the children have been happy to see their friends. Children have settled into the routines of their new classes very well so far. We look forward to seeing our Reception Class make new friendships with each other, while children in other classes develop their relationships with each other and their new teachers. Throughout the school, children are excited, about new topics. We have an exciting term ahead and we are looking forward to seeing some great work over the coming weeks!



Thank you all for your support on our return to school and we look forward to working with you all this year.

Curriculum Information evening

A huge thank you to those parents who were able to come to our curriculum information evening last week. It is a great opportunity for parents to find out what your child will be learning, routines, logins and how you can work with school to support your child. If you were unable to attend, the curriculum information slides are on the website on the relevant class pages, along with a long term overview which shows what your child will be learning about each term.



School Office

All schools receive extra funding for those families on a low income and who are entitled to free school meals. In addition to free school meals, school also provides free milk for these children and we can support families with clubs, music lessons (violin and guitar), residentials and events in school. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals, please call at the office with your name, date of birth and NI number. Thank you.

If you have a new mobile number or you have changes such as addresses, home numbers etc. please let the school office know.

Welcome...

We are delighted to welcome Father Charles to our school and parish community. Fr Charles has already celebrated our first. whole school Mass!

Uniform

Many thanks to you all for following our uniform policy! Just a little reminder that zipped hoodies are not included in our uniform policy and children must not wear plastic retainers for PE. If your child cannot remove their plastic retainers, then they need to be removed before school. Retainers cannot be covered with plasters.

Music Lessons

Years 4, 5 & 6 Guitar lessons - Monday Years 4, 5 and 6 Violin lessons - Thursday

As part of their music curriculum, school pays for Year 3 to have First Access violin lessons from Durham music service. This happens every Thursday afternoon and violins are kept in school, not sent home like private music lessons. Watch out for some fantastic concerts through the year!



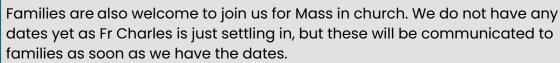


Come and pray with us...

Please see the calendar of events for the whole list of class Celebrations of the Word and Masses.

Our first celebration is next week with a special assembly by Year 6 to welcome our new reception class.

Friday 26th September at 2pm - families of reception class and Year 6 are welcome to join us.



We love as many people as possible to join us at Mass and participate, however, please do respect that it is a prayerful space. Please do not bring refreshments to church (tea/coffee) and please do not use mobile phones at all. Thank you for your understanding.

Reading Workshop

ollowing the Celebration of the word for Reception Class and Year 6 on Friday 26th September, there is a meeting for parents of children in Reception class where Mrs Wilkinson will talk to you about how your child will learn to read at school and how you can support them at home.

Safeguarding

Information about safeguarding our pupils is on our website. There is a code of conduct for parents from our Trust to safeguard our staff.

We have a child friendly safeguarding policy that we share at school and you are welcome to share at home. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please see Mrs Noble, Mrs Parlett, Miss Huntley or Mrs Lambert.



Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027?

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2026.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/primaryschoolplaces where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. The easiest way to apply is online. If you are unable to apply online, paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school, or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to apply for a place for year 3 in a junior school if you wish your child to attend there.

Applications open 1 September 2025 and close midnight 15 January 2026.

For more information please contact

School Places and Admissions Team @ www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions **** 03000 265896





St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School School Holidays 2025-2026

Re-opening Date Tuesday 2nd September 2025 Holiday Closing Date Summer (6 weeks, 1 day)
Autumn Half Term (1 week, 1 day)
Christmas (2 weeks)
Spring Half Term (1 week) Thursday 17th July 2025 (1.30p Friday 24th October 2025 Monday 3rd November 2025 Friday 19th December 2025 (1.30pm Friday 20th February 2026 Tuesday 6th January 2026 Monday 2nd March 2026 Easter (2 weeks) May Day Bank Holiday (1 day) Thursday 2nd April 2026 [1.30pr Friday 1st May 2026 Monday 20th April 2026 Tuesday 5th May 2026 Monday 1st June 2026 Summer Half Term (1 week, 1 day) Friday 22nd May 2026 Friday 17th July 2026 (1.30p)

ote that School will be closed for three Professional Development days in 2025/2026. These are

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 3rd July 2026

Children will finish school at the usual time, unless stated otherwise above

Year 6 SATS will take place week beginning Monday 11th May 2026 Year 2 assessments will take place throughout May 2026 Year 4 Multiplication Tables check will take place from Monday 1st June to Friday 12th June 2026 Year 1 Phonics screening will take place from Monday 8th June to Friday 19th June 2026

SCHOOL CANNOT AUTHORISE ANY HOLIDAYS WITHIN TERM TIME

Holidays and Absence

We do understand that many of our families take holidays during term time due to individual circumstances. Unfortunately, school guidelines are that we cannot authorise holidays - these are recorded as unauthorised absences. Fines are issued by the local authority for unauthorised absence above 5 days (10 sessions). Please complete a holiday form if you are going away - if you ring in sick or attach a sickness to a 4 day holiday to avoid a fine, we are required to follow this up. If pupils are 20 minutes late on a morning, this will also be recorded as an unauthorised absence.