



St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (NC)
Gumbleberrys Close, Off Cotterills Lane,
Stechford, Birmingham B8 2PS

NEWSLETTER

November 2019

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School Prayer

This is our school;

Let peace live here;

Let the rooms be full of
happiness;

Let love live here.

Love of God,

Love of one another

And love of life itself.

Let us remember

That as many hands
build a house,

So many hearts make a
School.

Amen.



1 Good afternoon to you all—I have to say I thought we would all have to swim home last night, but all the flooded roads are clear and calm today so that is good.

1 Many thanks to all parents who attended our parents evening on Wednesday night, or have arranged alternative appointments with their child's class teacher. It was lovely to see you all; you were all justly proud of your children. They are a credit to you. If you haven't been able to see your child's teacher, please do make an appointment.

1 My thanks also to all the parents of our Nursery children who attended a reading meeting on Thursday morning, it was a really positive turn out and
2 with your support we can get our children learning to read from the earliest possible age!

2 **School Mass**

2 On Sunday (17th November) the children of Year 3 and Year 6 will be presenting Mass and making a commitment to receiving their sacraments this year. Apart from the actual Sacramental Masses this is the only Sunday
2 Mass we present at our parish church Corpus Christi and we rely on the support of all our children and families.

You will be aware that Father Andrew and Father Vitalis join us every Friday in our school to celebrate Mass; this weekend we are joining them in their church to celebrate Mass.

If you are new to the school and are unsure about attending because you are not Catholic or haven't been a practising Catholic for a while, please don't worry. All are welcome—it is a school celebration and we would be delighted to see you there. Mass is at 10:30am at Corpus Christi Church which is on Albert Road, Stechford.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Our wonderful school council, who very proactive suggested that we try to organise each class to provide at least two shoe boxes for the shoe box appeal.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Next week is national collection week—in the shoe boxes we can place small toys i.e. a yoyo, skipping rope, small puzzle, stationary, hair brushes and toothbrushes.

We will then wrap our shoe boxes and the school council with Mrs McKenna will deliver them to our local collection point in Acocks Green.

The charity that runs is the Samaritan Purse and they ensure, through local churches, that the shoe boxes are gifted to children all across the world who would have no presents to open at Christmas.

We are asking, if you can, to bring one small item in, a packet of colouring pencils, a toothbrush to donate. We will then fill the boxes with the children and write a note from each class to put inside.

We will be collecting all next week!

We are starting our attendance awards again. We announce a winning class each week who gain a star on the attendance board in the hall.

The winning class over the year gets a special treat at the end of the school year; often a trip to the cinema!

We also pick a child each week who has 100% attendance for the previous week and they receive a small prize.

Children with 100% get a certificate each term

Children will 100% attendance over the school year get a special prize or trip.

We've had two weeks and have already given out two stars to winning classes

Year 6— 2 stars

Year 5— 1 star

Year 4— 2 stars

Year 3— 2 stars

Year 2— none yet

Year 1—3 stars

Reception— none yet

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 19th November

Year 6 Inspire—9:00am

Tuesday 19th November

Year 5 Swimming

Wednesday 20th November

Reception Reading Meeting @ 2:15pm

Friday 22nd November

Year 4 Mass

Tuesday 26th November

Year 6 Trip—Liverpool with a 7:30am start

Tuesday 26th November

Swimming Year 5

Friday 29th November

Year 3 Mass

Monday 2nd December

Dance Club Performance at 4:00pm

Tuesday 3rd November

Year 5 Swimming

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance—100% amazing—couldn't do better!

Attendance 97%-99% incredibly good, children should be very proud of this attendance.

Attendance 95% - 96% hitting national attendance

Attendance 91% - 94% cause for concern

Attendance 90% and below is classed as persistent absence and steps will have to be made to improve attendance.

Just to confirm that all holidays will be noted as unauthorised absences from school—even if we have discussed it I am not allowed to authorise it and obviously if it takes your child's attendance for the year to below 90% then we will have to take measures to ensure improvement. Mr Wilson and I will be sending out information on the guidelines that we have to follow.

We are now following the Fast Track procedure and have started to issue warning notices and hold meetings with families whose attendance is low. There are also many children and families who have made a big effort with attendance and who improved greatly and I am delighted with this.

Eco-Cadet's School Project and Competition

We have a bug hotel in the corner of our field—and if you don't know what one of those is you have never lived. It is an amazing creation put together by Mr Whitmore and Mrs McKenna. It needs a name, as all good hotels do, so the Eco-Cadets are running a competition. All the children have to do is think of a name for the bug hotel, write it on a piece of paper with their name and put in the box outside Year 3!

The eco-cadets have also asked me to thank all those who have donated plastic bottle tops. They are still collecting; they wish to have as many clean, plastic bottle tops as possible. The collection point will be in the reception area of the school. Many thanks in advance.

Remembrance Day

Many thanks to all those children who wore a red top last Thursday and donated 50p to the British Legion Poppy Appeal. We put all the 50p's in the collection boxes and have returned those to the British Legion; they will write to us and tell us how much we raised as a school.

I would also like to compliment the children of Year 5 and Year 6 who walked up to Stechford War Memorial on Friday morning for a service of remembrance with Corpus Christi School, Stechford School and Little Leaders Nursery. It was a lovely service and I was very proud of our children who attended and who contributed to the service.

St Cuthbert's did remember.

Reception Spaces and Nursery for September 2020

We have now filled up our Year 4 space—we welcomed Hussain to school a couple of weeks ago and he has been a pleasure to welcome to St Cuthbert's.

We still have spaces in our Reception class so if you know anyone who needs a place in reception please let them know.

We are also taking applications for our Nursery in September 2020; again word of mouth is fantastic so if you know anyone who has a child who will be 3 before September 2020 let them know how wonderful our Nursery is and encourage them to put their child's name down.

You can tell the Headteacher is not too bad as well!

Just to let you know some of our playground equipment will be under repair on Monday so will be closed off to the children; and finally a reminder that school will be closed to children on Thursday 12th December for the General Election. The Reception and Year 1 Nativity will now be on Friday 13th December at 2:15pm.

Have a lovely weekend.