



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

NEWSLETTER

January 2020

Inside this issue:

News

School Fund

Reading

Reading continued

Attendance

Nursery applications

Mr Gallagher

Dates for the diary

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 and although we are three weeks into January, a very happy new year to you all. For those of you I haven't seen I hope that you had a lovely festive season and enjoyed the break from term.

1 We are now officially into the Spring term; so what is there to look forward to this term? Well alongside the weekly masses, assemblies and prayer services, we will be entering the season of lent and preparing for Easter—this means our annual sponsored walk and Lenten activities which our children love! Year 4 are swimming this half term, with Year 3 going next half term. Year 3 will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the second half of the term there will be cricket sessions for some classes; we have the Year 2 class assembly, a trip for Reception and we will celebrate World Book Day! We are also planning to hold a disco and raise some money for school. Exciting times!

2 School Fund

2 I like to keep you up to date with how we are spending the school fund that you have so generously helped to support.

2 This term we are looking at building on our reading books for Early Readers and those who find reading a challenge. We are buying Reception and Year 1 a class set of phonics books and EYFS and KS1 are having a completely new scheme of books to support the learning of phonics; and the letters and sounds programme we follow.

We are also investing in resources for children with challenges in reading, spelling and speaking and language. We will use the school fund to support some of this spending, which we total £2,000.

We do appreciate any support you are able to give us in school fund because these days we rely on it more and more.

Reading

As you can see from the money we are spending we are really looking at how we can support your children on their reading journey. I love to read; I find it a real escape from life and my husband will often find me curled up on a sofa with a good book.

The skill of reading is absolutely fundamental to your children and we have decided to really emphasise this over the next term. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will all be visiting the local library in the summer term; Year 3 will go and visit Central Library in town, also in the summer term. We are going to celebrate World Book Day and we are arranging for the children to visit our school library more and during the summer term our library will be open after school on a Monday and Friday for you and your children to visit. 3:30pm—4:00pm.

Please encourage your child with their reading and hear them and talk to them about their books as often as you can.

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

Year 6— 3 stars

Year 5— 1 star

Year 4— 3 stars

Year 3— 4 stars

Year 2— 2 stars

Year 1—7 stars

Congratulations Year 1—you are miles ahead!

Thank you to Mrs Hodson and Mrs Parkes who took our 100% attendance winners to the cinema before Christmas. They had a lovely time.

When the carols have
been stilled,
When the star-
topped tree is taken
down,
When family and
friends are gone
home,
When we are back to
our schedules
The work of Christ-
mas begins:
To welcome the
refugee,
To heal a broken
planet,
To feed the hungry,
To build bridges of
trust, not walls of
fear,
To share our gifts,
To seek justice and
peace for all people,
To bring Christ's
light to the world.

Reading continued

Another idea that we have had to support reading is to collect teddy bears for each child in Nursery and Reception to choose from so that they have a 'friend' to read to every night. If you do have any teddies that you no longer need then please send them into us.

Attendance and Punctuality

Our attendance since September—excluding Reception is 96.04%

We really need to keep this up; as part of our school review that is completed by the Department for Education each year attendance was mentioned as an area we need to keep an eye on.

Please take note of the attendance statistics below—low attendance has an impact on your child's education

| Attendance over the year | Equals number of days | Approximately | Approximately |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 95% | 9 days | 2 weeks | 50 lessons |
| 90% | 19 days | 4 weeks | 100 lessons |
| 85% | 29 days | 6 weeks | 150 lessons |
| 80% | 38 days | 8 weeks | 200 lessons |

Reception spaces and Nursery 2020

We still have a couple of spaces available in our Reception class—so do please spread the word. I'd like to think that our small, family based school appeals to the families in our community.

Also if you have a child who is 3 before September 2020, or you know someone who has a child that age, then please consider sending them to our Nursery. You just need to fill in an application form which can be picked up from the office.

Mr Gallagher

I am very pleased to welcome back Mr Gallagher; we have all missed him and are very pleased that he is back with us. Thank you to the children and families of Year 5 who have been so good and understanding during this time.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 21st January—Year 4 Swimming

Wednesday 22nd January—Prayer Group trip to Oscott College

Friday 24th January—Year 4 Mass

Tuesday 28th January—Year 4 Swimming

Tuesday 28th January—Mobile Planetarium in school Year 1, 3 and 5

Friday 31st January—Year 3 Mass

Tuesday 4th February—Year 2 Inspire

Tuesday 4th February—Year 4 Swimming

Friday 7th February—KS1 Mass

We are running the Incredible Years Parenting Programme in school with our local Children's Centre. This programme is open for anyone with children from 0-8; the programme is from 9:15am to 11:15 am on Wednesday in the school library. Please come on Wednesday if you are interested.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs S Hobbs and all the staff