

St. CUTHBERT'S Catholic Primary School (NC)



Headteacher : Mrs S Hobbs

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Friday 18th September 2020

Good afternoon to you all,

Firstly my apologies - I did have to laugh at myself last Friday evening when it was pointed out that on last week's newsletter I said a flow chart would be attached, and it wasn't, and that one of our training days was the 38th May... clearly the stress of coronavirus has got to me. Obviously the training day is 28th May! As for the flow chart, it was updated this week by the local authority, therefore it was probably a good thing that I didn't send it out last Friday. It should be attached to this letter!

Pupils

Your children have been a joy - it is so special to be able to walk around the school and see the children in their class groups, working and playing together. St Cuthbert's is a happy place, and long may that continue.

We welcomed our final new starters on Monday:

Nursery - Olivia, Tyler, Zainab and Javeria

Reception - Mariam, Zain, Deen, Maya, Leo, Mohammad, Conor, David, Falak, Haroon, Daniel and Owais.

The children have been wonderful and it is the highlight of my day to pop into Nursery and Reception and see all those lovely little faces!

We also welcomed Elijah back into Year 1 and a new pupil Zach, also into Year 1. They have settled in well already, it is good to have you both, boys.

We still have two spaces in Year 1 and some Nursery places - so keep putting the word out! All other classes are full.

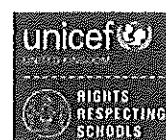
Mass

It was absolutely fantastic yesterday to be able to share in the celebration of Mass with the Year 6 class. Father Andrew and his brother priests have been incredibly supportive in working with the school to ensure that our Catholic and Spiritual life continue to be met in some form. Although we cannot invite anyone to Mass, we do keep you all in our prayers. Year 5, Year 4, Year 3 and Year 2 will all have the opportunity to take part in a class Mass this half term.

Thank-you

I hear a lot of things about other schools and I always reflect on how lucky I am to be serving this community - because you have been great.

Healthy Snacks have been a triumph - even I am eating apples and oranges at break time - we really appreciate your support with this.





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Black shoes - again the children have returned to school very smartly and the majority have been in black shoes; the teachers feel they are saving a lot of time by not changing into pumps throughout the day and the new routine with keeping shoes on is working well.

Mornings and Afternoons - you have been fantastic and we are all finding the drop off and pick up very calm. Most days I am on a gate, so if you need to find me I am around; I do try to move up the road and make sure I see as many of you as I can.

Generally I just want to thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate through this confusing and challenging time. It is a credit to us all that our school is fully open, safe and the children are happy.

Eco-school

Mrs McKenna wanted to thank all of the families who sent in plastic bottle tops last year. We hope to make a mural out of these bottle tops this year. Our eco-cadets have sorted, counted and cleaned all the bottle tops and are now running a little competition.

They would like the children to guess how many bottle tops we have collected. The winning guess will get a prize. Teachers will collect the children's guesses next week and then the eco-cadets will announce the winner!

House Captains, Councillors, Eco-Cadets and Liturgy Leaders

These may not be 'normal' times but when faced with challenges we don't give up - we simply find a different way of working. All our schools groups will be elected or chosen in the next couple of weeks. We will then be working with these groups remotely! I can't wait to have a Microsoft Teams meeting with the school councillors from Year 1 - Year 6 - that would be worth a live streaming event!

We will announce our new school leaders over the next week!

Cotterills Estate

I know many of you feel, as I do, that the Cotterills Estate is facing lots of challenges and it has been hard to watch as fly tipping, rubbish, crime and anti-social behaviour have risen. However I am not one to simply moan and feel disappointed.

Last Friday I had a meeting with our Local MP -Mr Liam Byrne, our Local Councillors, Councillor Cotton and Councillor Biddle, a member of the local police team, the estates manager, the housing manager and various other members of Birmingham City Council.

We are going to work together to try and improve the local area; and I would like us, as a school community, to be part of that. At present we are putting together an action plan of things to do in the next year.



