

St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

Autumn Newsletter No 2



*"We are a Catholic community, living and learning in faith.
Through the Gospel values of faith, hope, trust and love,
we aim to recognise individuality and enable each other to fulfil our potential"*

15th September 2023

Dear All

Well, it is like we have never been away!! The children have adjusted so well into their routines and lessons and seem happy and content. It has been a delight to see them follow out the mission I asked them to on the first day back, which was to make a positive start to their school year.

We have already set up our intervention room and colleagues have been analysing the children's data to work out how best to support children in closing any gaps in their learning. Therefore, a wide range of intervention groups will be taking place from phonics to number fluency. These sessions will respond to the needs of our pupils on a daily basis and will be fluid. We do not inform parents when children take part in these groups as they may change regularly but teachers can discuss such support at the upcoming 'settling in' parents evening before half term.

Year 3 enjoyed a Stone Age Day on Thursday with an exciting workshop. There were a range of cave boys and girls around the school dressed ready to fully involve themselves in the activities - what a great way to kick off this topic!

We are taking part in National Teddy Bear Day (although a little late) next Friday to promote reading. The children will be invited to bring their favourite book and teddy bear into school and the staff will be reading from their favourites texts too!

We are working hard to develop our After School Club after some settling in time in the summer. Starting with the introduction of Spanish sessions, we want to ensure the children have a range of different, more structured, activities available during the time they spend at the club. We are lucky enough to have the use of our mini kitchen for food-based activities and also have gardening and arts and craft activities planned. The aim is to provide a timetable for these activities so that children and parents can see what is planned for the week.

It was lovely to present the children with their badges of responsibility at our celebration assembly today. We have new house and vice captains, spiritual council members, school counsellors and eco-warriors and our sports captains and sports crew. Some of these positions have been chosen by staff and others were voted for by the children. I am grateful for these pupils' dedication to St Cuthbert's and know they will all do a fantastic job!

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Mrs Rainbow

Notice Board

Pick up time

Please remember, the school day finishes at 3.20pm and children should to be picked up outside their classrooms (in KS2 on the playground) by 3.25pm. After this they will be taken to the office and any children not picked up by 3.30pm will be sent to the After School Club and may incur a charge if it happens regularly.

Snacks

If you send your child in with a snack for the morning break, we ask you to only send in **fresh** fruit or vegetables. Friday's PTA tuck shop will remain the treat day for those who sign up for it.

Contact details

It is important that we have up-to-date details for all parents / carers. If you have moved or changed your phone number and/or email address, please email the office with an update on info@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk

Earrings

As per the School's uniform policy and for Health and Safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear earrings in school (not even taped up). Clear spacers are allowed until they are no longer needed.

Backpacks

St Cuthbert's branded rucksacks are available at School Uniform Direct. If you chose to buy a different backpack, this needs to be non-branded and of a dark colour (eg black or navy blue) as per the school's uniform policy.

Email messages to school

Please could we ask that any messages about your children or for their teachers are emailed to the school office on our info@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk email address. This is the only email account that is guaranteed to be monitored during office hours and therefore we can ensure nothing slips through the net and timely action is taken by the right person.

Any requests for After School Club and Breakfast Clubs should be emailed to wraparoundcare@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk . For any last minute on-the day bookings, please call the school office.

Absences

Please see page 5 for information on Leave of absence requests. All absences need to be reported to the school office either by phone 01784 434128 or email info@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk

Newsletter

The newsletter is our main channel to inform parents and carers of what has been happening and what we are planning. All important dates are also on the calendar on the school website [Calendar | St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School \(stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk\)](#) and we will update this regularly.

Important dates for next week

Curriculum Mornings/Afternoons:

Monday 18th September	@ 9am	Year 1
Monday 18th September	@ 2.45pm	Year 3 and Year 4
Tuesday 19th September	@ 9am	Year 5
Tuesday 19th September	@ 2.45pm	Year 2
Wednesday 20th September	@ 9am	Year 6

Spanish After school club starts at 3.20pm:

Tuesday 19th for year 4
Wednesday 20th for years 5/6

Thank you to all who have sent in the booking form—all spaces are confirmed. We can also accommodate more applications if received by Monday.

International Teddy Bear Day

Next **Friday 22nd September**, St Cuthbert's will be celebrating 'International Teddy Bear Day'. We thought this would also be a great opportunity to promote our love of reading at St Cuthbert's and to share our favourite books with our friends. On this day, we would like the children to bring in a teddy bear of their choice (small enough to fit in their backpack), as well as a favourite book to share with their class. During the day, the children will also be taking part in some shared reading with another year group and listening to the teachers read a selection of their favourite stories. We look forward to hearing all of the children's recommended reads!

Mr Taylor's Notices

There will be **NO** girls football on Tuesday 19th September

Open Mornings / Afternoons

We will be holding open events for prospective parents for the next academic year on the following dates; please do share them with anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2024

19th October	Open Morning starting at 10am
8th November	Open Afternoon starting at 1.30pm
15th November	Open Evening starting at 6.30pm

Flu Immunisation

Please remember to complete your consent for the flu immunisations. The booking portal will close at 4pm on Wednesday 27th September 2023.

The Week That Was

Year R:

This week, Reception have been very busy settling into life at St Cuthbert's. On Monday we went to our first whole-school collective worship and all tried really hard to join in with the songs and the words. We have been learning the sign of the cross and the words to our three daily prayers. We started our daily class phonics sessions and learnt the sounds 'm,a,s,d and t'. We have enjoyed making the most of the sunshine and spent lots of time outside with our friends exploring the sand and the water.



Year 1:

We have had another very successful week in Year 1. RE this week revolved around the 7 days of Creation, the children made lovely posters illustrating what God made for us on each day. In Science, the children made rain gauges so we can measure the difference in weather between seasons. In History, we had a mysterious visitor - "Granny Miss Murtagh" told children what life in the 50's and 60's was like. The children are all adjusting very well.

Year 2:

In Year Two the children have continued their learning in RE about beginnings with looking at Psalm 139. They have started their phonics and Guided Reading. This is off to a great start and the teachers are really impressed with what the children have remembered from before the Summer. In English we continued writing shape poems, as well as learning about nouns. We started our new units in Geography - all about the weather, Art; sketching and in Science; learning about materials.

Year 3:

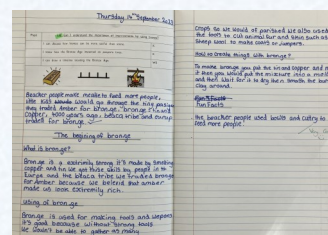
Year 3 have been exploring how parents and children can show love and respect towards one another by learning from the Holy Family. On Thursday we stepped back in time into prehistoric Britain and learnt about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. What an amazing start to our history topic!

Year 4:

We have had a great week in Year Four! The children have been really interested in learning about The Americas and about Jesus's family tree! The particularly enjoyed the song about Abraham's many sons. Well done for all your hard work and great learning this week!

Year 5:

In RE this week we have been learning about ourselves and what makes us unique, comparing our qualities to how God wants us to act. We have had a fun week in year 5 learning about our new topics. In History we have been discussing The Bronze Age and how bronze had a massive impact on peoples lives during that time. We created a newspaper article all about our learning.



Year 6:

This week we continued our work on Genesis 2, look at the imagery used by the poet to explain truths about God and our relationship with Him.

We started our Science topic on Changing circuits this week. The children worked in pairs to build circuits. We then discussed the possible reasons why a circuit might not work and what we might do to fix it. In Art we discussed the work of David Hockney and how he used colour, shape and positioning of the objects in his work to portray emotion.



Attendance Policy—Absence Requests

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request for your child's absence, please let the school have full details. A copy of the Absence Request form can be found on the school website (parent section). Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Inclusion Officers (formerly Education Welfare Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England)(Amendment) Regulations 2013, which became law on 01 September 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Headteacher is also required to determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In such cases the Headteacher/Governing Body must decide whether there are exceptional circumstances. They may request that the Local Authority issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 7 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 6 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Inclusion Officer.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the **first five days of each exclusion**. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice

The amount payable for a Penalty Notice issued in any of the above circumstances is currently £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the Notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days.

If the Penalty Notice is not paid, the local Authority must consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court for the offence for which the Notice was originally issued.

Please be aware that each parent is liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absences, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one Penalty Notice.

If there are two parents, and two children incur unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two Penalty Notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21 days.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Advice and support is available from an Inclusion Officer by contacting your local Education Office as follows :-

North West	-	Tel: 01483 518130	South West	-	Tel: 01483 517179
North East	-	Tel: 01372 833588	South East	-	Tel: 01737 737777

PTA

The PTA has prepared a video showcasing achievements last year; please follow the links below.

There is a direct YouTube link to the video <https://youtu.be/XSddMYLDnME?feature=shared> and it is also on the PTA newsletter page <https://www.stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk/pta-newsletters/>

The AGM will be on **27th September at 7pm**

Wrap Around Care—Recruitment

We are still actively recruiting to increase our staff numbers for our wrap around care.

Should you or anyone you know be interested in working at either our Breakfast or After School Club, please do get in contact.

Mondays to Fridays,

7.30am to 8.40am for Breakfast Club

3pm onwards for After School Club

Term time only – 38 wks pa.

Salary: Surrey S3.1 - FTE £19,313 p.a., £2,623 pro rata, £10.29 per hour

St. Cuthbert's is a happy and caring school with wonderful children and a great staff team. We are seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Extended Schools Assistant, able to start work with us as soon as possible – initially mornings only but with possibility of more hours.

We are looking for applicants who:

- Are supportive of our Catholic ethos
- Are patient and care for children
- Are team players who are flexible and personable
- Are positive and resilient in their approach with children



Previous experience of working with children and young people is desirable, but not essential.

Please email office@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk for an application form or call Mrs Turner for further details.



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Open Morning

Saturday 7th October 2023 9am and 11.30am

Sixth Form Open Evening

Tuesday 10th October 2023 6pm-8pm

Visitor Mornings

Thursday 9th November 2023 9am-11am

Tuesday 14th November 2023 9am-11am

Book your place now at www.hallifordschool.co.uk

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