



Weekly Newsletter
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School



Week ending 15th May 2026

Dear All

Well, it has been a busy week with KS2 SATs, but the Y6 children were so focused and blew me away with their calm approach to these tests. I can't wait to see how they do! The rest of the children in the school were so respectful and made sure our oldest children had the silence they needed.

Thank you so much for all the flowers that have been coming in for the month of Mary; they look so beautiful surrounding the altar and really help to make this a special time.

The weather has been so changeable recently with rain, sunshine and hailstone in the same hour! However, we have seen many children coming into school without coats. Could you please be sure to check if there is any chance of weather requiring a coat, so they bring one in when necessary.

Our Parent Portal on Arbor is now up and running, which should make it easier for you to view information about attendance and update contact details. There is also the option to report if your child is absent, so I would encourage this method moving forward.

On the night of Jesus' arrest, He lifted His eyes in prayer, fully focused on God the Father's will. In this time of Eastertide, Children are invited to lift up their eyes and turn to God in prayer, just as Jesus did, to help them to stay focused on God's way.

At that time: Jesus lifted up His eyes to Heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given Him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given Him."

John 17:1-2

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Rainbow

"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"

Fair Dojo Winners:

F faith

A appreciate and articulate

I independence and initiative

R respect and resilience

Raeya in Reception for always showing respect to her friends, her teachers and her classroom.

Teddy in Year 1 showing fantastic learning behaviour across all areas of the curriculum. Well done!

Cillian in Year 2 for being really resilient in his writing and improving his handwriting.

Sheerin in Year 3 for demonstrating good initiative by working on her presentation across all subjects.

Beau in Year 4 for showing resilience and determination in developing his handwriting, never giving up even when it felt challenging.

Amiyah in Year 5 for providing clear responses in English and for working independently—Well done Amiyah!

All of Year 6 for being absolute super stars and demonstrating every single one of our Fair values this week during their SATS tests



The Week That Was - KS1

EYFS: This week Reception have been learning about how Jesus' friends set up the early Church and spread the good news after he went back to Heaven. We decided what good news we would like to share about Jesus and created pictures showing parts of Jesus' life and work. In Literacy, we have been using the *Pantasaurus* book to help us in our learning. We designed and made our own pants for *Pantasaurus* by exploring paper craft and used our Fred talk to write labels for the pants we created. In Maths we have been practising sharing and halving with a Numberblock adventure, where we had to share the gems equally to pass to the next level.

Year 1: This week in RE, the children have been learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. They reflected on previously studied scriptures, discussing how the Holy Spirit may have been present within them and in our own lives. The class has also been practicing the *Glory Be* prayer. In English, we have been focusing on diary writing. The children have worked hard to include key features such as sequencing events and writing in first person, while using their phonics knowledge to support spelling. In Maths, we have been exploring sharing and grouping. The children have been practicing how to create equal groups and developing their understanding of accuracy when doing so. In Computing, the class has been building confidence using the keyboard and learning basic word processing skills. It has been another very busy and purposeful week—well done everyone!

Year 2: Year 2 have been looking at the fruits of the Holy Spirit and how we can live these out in our lives. The children then made lovely posters to show these fruits. In English we have been writing up our big writes and the children have been really good with making sure they are presenting their work nicely and writing with their best handwriting. In Maths we have been doing time and the children have found it a little tricky especially with how many hours are in a day but they have been trying their best. In Science we have been looking at what objects would be like if they didn't have the properties they do. The children have also been starting to practice our class assembly and we are so excited for you to see it next week. They have worked so hard this week, well done Year 2! Keep up the great work.

The Week That Was - KS2

Year 3: We've had such a lively and joy-filled week in Year 3, diving into learning that kept us curious and excited every single day. In RE, we explored 1 Corinthians and reflected on how Paul's letters helped shape the early Church, linking beautifully to how we celebrate Mass today; we also thought about Mary and the disciples gathering in prayer, their unity and devotion inspiring us to live our faith with the same compassion. Maths brought plenty of fun as we began our topic on Time, starting with Roman numerals—spotting them in movie titles and on clocks—before practising analogue time using our hand-clocks, eagerly testing our partners and cheering each other on. In Science, we became soil investigators, collecting samples from around the school and using our observational skills to identify particle types and plant matter in each petri dish. And in Art, we continued our ancient Egyptian journey, moving from crayon sketches to painted versions in our sketchbooks, before enlarging our final designs onto a new surface and taking creative liberties across all three mediums. It's been a wonderful, energetic week, and we're already excited for what comes next.

Year 4: In RE, we learned about the Apostles' Creed and how it is a summary of Christian beliefs, listened to it carefully, and reflected on its meaning. We also discussed why the Pope is described as the Servant of the Servants of God, making links between the way he serves the Church and the way Jesus lived out His ministry. We then thought about how Bishops and Priests continue the work of the Apostles today by following Jesus' example. In English, we began the week with a lively debate about whether zoos should be banned, which introduced our new unit on discussion texts. We story mapped the model text and explored the key features of this genre. In Maths, we started learning about money, including writing amounts using decimal points, converting between pounds and pence, and comparing different values. In Computing, we experimented with the cloning tool to duplicate images, and in Art we continued developing techniques to enhance our imagery. Finally, in Science we became Scientific Explorers, heading out into the school grounds to observe and identify living things in their natural environment. We also worked hard on strengthening our multiplication facts to build confidence and accuracy.

The Week That Was - KS2

Year 5: This week, the class have been looking more closely at the gifts of the Holy Spirit and used these to work out what to do in certain scenarios. They used playdough to make symbols to represent the different gifts and had to be articulate in explaining their choices. In English, the class have been working together to write a guided write newspaper report. This has been based on the events of an astronaut in space. In Maths, the class learnt about grid references and coordinates. They remembered the rhyme 'along the corridor and up the stairs' to help them locate grid references. Science was fun this week and required battling with the elements as the class were measuring shadows to record the movement of the earth. RSE brought a lovely lesson based on using the Catholic Social teaching principles to help them understand how to help in the community more fully.

Year 6: Year 6 has shown incredible determination and resilience during SATs week, and we are exceptionally proud of each and every one of them. They approached the tests with maturity, confidence and a positive attitude, demonstrating all the hard work and commitment they have shown throughout the year. Well done, Year 6—you truly were fantastic! In RE, the children have been deepening their understanding of Saints. They have researched how Saints acted as witnesses to their faith, exploring the ways in which their actions inspired and influenced others. The children have reflected thoughtfully on how these role models demonstrated courage, kindness and devotion, and how we can follow their example in our own lives. It has been a week filled with both challenge and reflection, and Year 6 should be incredibly proud of all they have achieved.

Arbor Parent Portal



We are pleased to confirm that we are now going to start using **Arbor Parent Portal**.

Below we've outlined some of the benefits that you will receive as a result of the move to Arbor. The next step will be an automated email from Arbor with instructions on how to login to the parent portal. Please keep a look out in your inbox (junk mailbox) over the coming days.

The app is free to download on both the AppStore (iOS) and Google PlayStore (Android). We are not moving over to the payment system straight away to ensure that we are rolling each facet of the application out carefully. Therefore, you will still need Tucasi/ ScoPay for the time being for school trip payments, house t-shirts payments, etc.

Arbor will allow you, as parents, to be able to do the following, all from the same app:

- Receive & reply to messages from school (free of charge)
- Add or edit information for yourself and your child- phone number(s), address etc.
- Give consent for medication, trips, photos etc.
- Access key data - such as attendance

Once you are in the app please use this as an opportunity to carefully check that your contact details are correct. Please also make sure that we have at least 3, ideally 4 or more emergency contacts for your child, this can be another parent from school or family member/friend who can help get a message to the primary guardians in an emergency.

Arbor Parent Portal

Please also see below some useful links to help you navigate Arbor:

- **An overview of the Arbor App:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFCuC1NyH5U>

- **Parent Portal and the Arbor App FAQs:**

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/sections/4409013168273-Parent-Portal-and-the-Arbor-App-FAQs>

- **Using Parent Portal and the Arbor App:**

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/sections/201716749-Parent-Portal-and-the-Arbor-App-as-a-parent>

If you have any issues logging in please do not hesitate to contact us via the usual channels (info@stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk or 01784 434128) and we will do our best to help you as soon as possible.

Please bear with us during this transition, we hope this will make things easier for both school staff and parents, however, as with all changes this will require some getting used to for all of us.

Diary Dates—Summer Term 1

Choral Afternoon at St Dunstan's— Choristers only	Wednesday, 20th May 2026
Year 2 Class Assembly	9.00am, Thursday, 21st May 2026 (parents warmly invited to join)
Marion Procession (in school, children only)	Friday, 22 May 2026
Half Term	Monday, 25th—Friday, 29th May 2026
INSET Day	Monday 1st June 2026 (school closed to all pupils)
Sports Day	Tuesday, 9th June 2026 (see Sports Day page for timings)



Summer Term 2 diary dates will be published next week

Updated Term Dates 2026 –2027

Following a recent amendment by Xavier to the 2027-2028 term dates (not yet published), please note there has been a change to the end of year date for 2027.

St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School

Head of School: Mrs A Rainbow



Term Dates Sept 2026 – July 2027

Autumn Term

Term Starts	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Half Term	Friday 23 rd October – Monday 2 nd November 2026
Term Ends	Friday 18 th December 2026 (1:15pm)
Inset Days	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 Friday 2 nd October 2026 Monday 30 th November 2026 (St Francis Xavier Day)

Spring Term

Term Starts	Tuesday 5 th January 2027
Half Term	Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th February 2027
Term Ends	Thursday 25 th March 2027 (1:15pm)
Inset Days	Monday 4 th January 2027 Friday 12 th March 2027

Summer Term

Term Starts	Monday 12 th April 2027
Half Term	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2027
Term Ends	Friday 16 th July 2027 (1:15pm)
Inset Days	Wednesday 19 th May 2027

Please remember that holidays cannot be authorised in term time and the Local Authority may impose fines for unauthorised absences.

Finish times: half term = 3:20pm, end of full term = 1:15pm

Month of May—Celebrating Our Lady



The Month of May celebrates our Lady, Mary. To recognise Mary as an important person in Jesus' life, we have several traditions that we uphold;

- Rosary prayers. We pray the Rosary every day and children are invited to bring in their own Rosary beads. We do, however, have full class sets and provide these in class. We ask that Rosary beads brought in are labelled and with anything brought into school you understand the risk of it being lost, broken and stolen.
- Break time prayers. Our prayer leaders lead the Rosary group every Friday in the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. The leaders attend formation training so they are well equipped to be able to confidently lead on these important prayers.
- Flower donations. Each week, different classes bring in flowers for adorn our altar. This brings so much joy and colour to the hall. These can be fresh flowers, potted plants or your Holy Souls bulb that was given out in November. It would be wonderful to see as many spring time bulbs as possible to complete the cycle of new life - the message that was given out with the Holy Souls bulbs.

Please see the rota below for when to bring flowers in.

w/c: Tuesday 4th May	EYFS and Year 6	Y3
w/c: Monday 11th May	Y1	Y4
w/c: Monday 18th May	Y2	Y5

Parish of Weybridge



Download the latest newsletter here:

<https://poegham.wordpress.com/category/newsletters/>

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY – PARISH NEWS ...

We continue to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and encourage all families to join us (or their nearest church) for the weekend Masses, during this joyful season.

This weekend in the parish we look forward to welcoming the First Holy Communion Children and their families to any of the three Masses to look at their next theme and celebrate “Good Shepherd Sunday”. All Masses will be child friendly.

Monday May 4th is a bank-holiday and the **Feast of the English Martyrs** who gave their lives for us. Pope Leo has asked all faith communities to set aside a special time of **prayer for “peace in our world”**. We have a special Mass at **10am in the Assumption of our Lady** and encourage all families to attend if they are free.

Ascension Thursday is on May 14th. We will hold a special Vigil Mass at 6pm for all families and parishioners. That will be **May 13th – 6pm – Assumption of our Lady**. We hope to be joined by many of our families at this Mass.

I pray for all from the school who will be receiving their **First Holy Communion** this year (**6th and 7th June**). I am greatly looking forward to celebrating with you and will say more about this when I see you this weekend.

This is an exciting term and one when many prepare for their transition to secondary school. I will keep you all in prayer; and ask you to pray for me - especially as “Good Shepherd Sunday” is traditionally a time to pray for vocations and for our priests!

With my continued good wishes and prayers.

Canon Chris

The Catholic Diocese of Arundel & Brighton |
01784 434280 |
chris.spain@abdiocese.org.uk | www.abdiocese.org.uk

Sports Mark Bronze Award 2025/2026

This year, in recognition of all the hard work put into sports at St. Cuthbert's, we are pleased to announce that the school has been awarded the Bronze Sports Mark Award.



St. Cuthbert's Primary School

has achieved the Bronze School Games Mark
award for their commitment, engagement
in the School Games for 2025/26.



School Sports Day - Tuesday, 9th June 2026

This year, school Sports Day will be held on Tuesday, 9th June 2026 (weather permitting).

Sports Day Timetable

Time	Events	Details
10.45am - 12pm	EYFS and KS1 running races	EYFS and KS1 families are invited to watch
12pm - 1pm	Picnic lunch on the field	All families invited. Children who have a hot school dinner will have this in a takeaway container to enjoy on the field.
1.10pm - 3.10pm	KS2 races	All KS2 families invited to watch

The children should wear their **coloured house t-shirt**, with their **PE shorts and PE trainers**.

Please ensure your child is wearing **sun cream** and has a **sunhat** with them. Children should bring **water bottles** to school as normal.

Some important reminders for the day:

- Please enter via the field gate
- Please bring your own fold up chairs and picnic rugs
- Strictly **no phones** to be used on the school premises
- Strictly **no photographs or videos** to be taken
- We are a totally smoke & vape free premises
- No alcohol permitted on site
- During the picnic lunch, please only share food with your child. We have children with severe food allergies, so it is vitally important food is not shared
- St Cuthbert's is a totally nut & sesame free school, please ensure you do not bring any foods containing these items on to the school premises
- As always, we want to ensure our children receive a healthy balanced lunch, so we ask that no sweets or high sugar items are given to the children during the picnic



Sports Day is an event that we all look forward to, especially the children, so can we please remind all adults to be respectful of any decisions made by staff.

Sporting News

Year Six Footballers smashed their season and were recently crowned league winners!

They played a tough match against the winners of group B - Thorpe CofE. This was to be played at a neutral ground so the team travelled to Manorcroft F.C where they played well as a team and secured a victory!

Amazing result boys, you should be very proud of yourselves.



PTA-Events



Ice Lolly Sales after school:

Friday 15th May – Year 5

Friday 22nd May – Year 4

Friday 5th June - Year 3

Friday 12th June – year2

Friday 19th June – Year 1

Friday 26th June – Reception

Friday 3rd July – Volunteers needed

Friday 10th July – Volunteers needed



Englefield Green village fair – 20th June



Wake Up Wednesday

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

School avoidance refers to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. In 2022–23, more than one in five children in England were found to be absent from school over 10% of the time. This guide focuses on school avoidance with an emotional basis, offering expert mental health advice. However, it's important to remember that school avoidance is a hugely subjective experience which requires a tailored, individual approach.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include tummy aches, headaches, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

MANAGE OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

Acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss coping strategies together to help them manage difficulties. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk. This helps them understand that you are working together towards a common goal, and that these strategies can be used when bigger feelings arise.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and spent away from screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

RECOGNISE POSITIVE STEPS

Drawing attention to a child's successes – be they big or small – can help to give them some much-needed confidence and motivation. Celebrate these daily victories – such as getting out of bed on time or completing school work – and don't hesitate to let the child know when you're impressed or proud of them. Such an approach can go a long way.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



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PTA:

Please continue
to support our
fundraising.

St Cuthbert's School Association



Tesco Blue Tokens!



Vote for Our School!

We've been chosen for the **Tesco Stronger Starts Programme!**



Help us to fundraise for the redevelopment of the **KS2 Playground**



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