



Weekly Newsletter
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School



Week ending 9th January 2026

Dear All

It was wonderful to welcome all the children back this week after the Christmas break! It is such a lovely feeling to start a fresh new year and they came in smiling and ready to learn.

The children were very excited at the sight of snow this week and enjoyed the small amount that fell. It was good to see them coming in wrapped up well as the temperatures were so low!

We celebrated Epiphany with a lovely mass today and then the Year 6 children helped to bury our time capsule. We wanted to close the Jubilee Year of Hope in a special way by gathering items and capturing memories in a time capsule which will be buried in our prayer garden.

Author Steve Williams will be visiting to talk to the children next Thursday. We are entering the year of reading and this is a great opportunity to further promote this theme across the school. Reading is such an important focus and we continue to encourage the children to develop a love for it.

Congratulations to St Bernadette's house who scored the highest number of dojos last term and will be able to wear mufti next Thursday (15th) as a reward.

Jesus' Baptism was a beautiful event that made a bold statement - He is God's Son! This coming week, children will understand that we are invited to follow Jesus' example of baptism and make a bold statement for God in how we live our lives.

And when Jesus was baptised, immediately He went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on Him; and behold, a voice from Heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17

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

Ophelia in Reception - for being respectful at carpet time and trying hard with her listening.

Ivy in Year 1 for developing her independence when approaching new tasks. Well done Ivy!

Maxi in Year 2 for being able to articulate ideas in the classroom and by respecting other ideas.

Sebastian T in Year 3 for a positive first week back, beginning to show real independence in his learning and starting to push himself to take on new challenges.

Anna in Year 4 for taking responsibility for her learning and showing initiative, enthusiasm and determination in everything she does.

Annabel in Year 5. Thank you for being so respectful during guided reading. Annabel actively listened to her classmates and stayed focused throughout the lesson. Well done Annabel!

Charlie in Year 6 for being a kind and generous table partner.



The Week That Was—KS1

Year R: This week Reception have been learning about the journey the 3 wise men took to see Jesus. We thought about the star they followed to Bethlehem and how explorers use stars to help them find their way. We looked at different star constellations to spot the patterns in them and then made star pictures ourselves. The children were also very excited to learn that the gingerbread man had been to visit our class in the holiday. We watched the "security cameras" to see what he had been up to and made wanted posters for him to warn the other teachers and children to look out for him. We then iced and decorated our own biscuits, like the little old lady in the story.

Year 1: Year 1 had a brilliant first week back. In RE, we begun our new topic, Galilee to Jerusalem. This will cover Jesus' childhood up until he was called for his mission. The children read the scripture of The Presentation this week, we examined artwork and then created our own. We have also started a new topic in art, called Paper Play. The children created beautiful, colourful sculptures called tube towers. They practised skills like rolling paper and gluing; they also had to consider the design aspect of the sculpture. Well done Year 1 for building upon the skills you acquired last term!

Year 2: Year 2 have been looking at the story of John the Baptist and why he is called that. We have done this through role play and reading from the Bible. The children have done really well at remembering he is a Prophet amongst others we have already learnt about. They have done really well this week at transitioning back into the school routines and subjects. We have been looking at money in Maths this week which the children have found a bit tricky, but they have worked so hard and really worked as a team to try and get everyone to understand. In Art we have been quite the artists, we have been experimenting mixing our primary colours to see what colour we get. In English we have been learning about adventure stories which the children have been really enjoying. On the whole it has been a great first week back and it is so nice to see their smiley faces again! Well done Year 2 for the fantastic work and getting back into the learning!

The Week That Was—KS2

Year 3: We've had a really positive start to the New Year and have enjoyed diving into our new topics for this half-term. In RE, we began our *Galilee to Jerusalem* unit by exploring the meaning of Epiphany and retelling the story of the Magi from Matthew 2:1–12, thinking carefully about how St Matthew describes their long journey and the purpose behind their visit to the birthplace of Jesus. In Maths, we moved on to the next part of our Multiplication and Division unit, using our knowledge of multiples of 10 and related facts to tackle a range of problem-solving activities. In Science, we launched our *Movement and Feeding* topic by creating our own balanced plates and sorting different foods into their correct food groups, discussing why our bodies need a variety of nutrients. In Geography, we explored world maps to identify countries close to the equator, as well as those in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and began thinking about how location can affect climate.

Year 4: Happy New Year! Year 4 have had a wonderfully rich and varied week of learning. In RE, we began our new branch of study, Galilee to Jerusalem, where the children were introduced to key figures for this branch including John the Baptist, Jesus and Peter. After exploring an image of John the Baptist pointing towards the coming Messiah, the class took part in a lively Magic Camera freeze-frame drama activity, imagining the thoughts, feelings and conversations of the crowd witnessing this moment. In English, we launched our new unit on playscripts. The children identified key features, acted out a short scene, and discussed how playscripts differ from other forms of writing. Our maths lessons focused on factor pairs and multiplying and dividing by 10, helping pupils deepen their number fluency and reasoning. During RSE and Citizenship, we explored similarities and differences between people and reflected on how God created and loves each one of us uniquely. In Guided Reading, we began our exciting new text, *Thief* by Malorie Blackman, sparking lots of curiosity and prediction. Finally, in Art, the children experimented with tints and shades, learning how to apply paint to create depth and variation in colour.

Year 5: Y5 have had an excellent start back to the Spring Term. In RE, the class have started on their Galilee to Jerusalem unit and have been studying the Beatitudes. This is formed from the scripture, the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew 5-7. In Maths the class have been multiplying numbers up to 4 digits by using the area method and long multiplication. In English, the children are learning how to write a biography. They have used a model text about Mary Seacole to gain understanding of how a biography is written. In Science, the class enjoyed an experiment to see how many droplets of water would be needed to dissolve a solute - in this case, three different types of sugar. Computing has been interesting this week with the introduction of Crumble Kits. This is a type of circuit where the code is written on a computer. Please do remind your children to complete their reading records and to bring these in on a Monday to be checked.

The Week That Was—KS2

Year 6: Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the new term and have impressed me with their positive attitude and determination. The children have been working hard in all lessons and should be very proud of their efforts.

In RE, we are focusing on the Gospel of John and exploring who John tells us Jesus is. The children have shown great curiosity and thoughtfulness during discussions. In writing, we are developing our skills by planning and writing balanced arguments, carefully considering different viewpoints and supporting ideas with reasons.

Maths lessons have seen us begin work on ratio and proportion, where we are learning how to compare quantities and solve real-life problems. In Science, our new topic is evolution and inheritance, and the class has been fascinated by how living things change over time. In Geography, we have been discussing climate change and asking important questions about whether we are doing enough to protect our environment. A brilliant start all round!

Parish Newsletter

The Parish of St Cuthbert, Egham
One Parish Family, Embracing Change

Please follow the below link to our Parish newsletter for Mass timings, events and other information.

[The Parish of St Cuthbert, Egham | One Parish Family, Embracing Change](#)



Canon Chris Spain Contact Details

Please kindly phone Canon Chris on 01784 434280 before emailing
(egham@abdiocese.org.uk)

Prayer and Liturgy: Loving Jesus - Ten Ten Resources

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

January 2026

January often feels like a fresh page: a new year, a new term and a chance for new beginnings. Many families use this time to think about hopes for the year ahead – perhaps to grow in kindness, gratitude or faith.

Through our January resources, children will be reminded that God is with them at the start of this new year, and that Jesus is the light that guides them each day.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout January, and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

BOLD STATEMENT

In the week beginning 12th January, the assembly points to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 3:13-17). Performed as a short Gospel drama, children will hear of Jesus' Baptism in the River Jordan, where God the Father declared from Heaven that Jesus is His beloved Son.

Through this, children will understand that Jesus' Baptism was a bold statement about who He is – God's Son – and that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit were all present at this significant event. Children are given the opportunity to reflect on how the sacrament of Baptism welcomes people into God's family and invites them to make a bold statement for God in their own lives, knowing that they too are God's beloved child.

With your child/ren, you may also like to...

- *Look at photos or keepsakes from your child's Baptism, and talk about what it means to be "God's beloved child".*
- *Encourage your child to make a simple "bold statement for God", e.g. "Today I will include someone who is left out."*
- *Trace a small cross on your child's forehead at bedtime and quietly say, "You are God's beloved child".*

BORN TO FISH, CALLED TO FOLLOW

In the week beginning 26th January, the assembly focuses on the calling of the first disciples (Matthew 4:12-23), who left their boats immediately when Jesus said, "Follow me."

A quickfire quiz highlights why the disciples were able to say such a confident "yes" to Jesus. Children will be invited to think about their own gifts and talents, and how Jesus calls them to use these for good. Through simple prayer actions, children will be given time to reflect on listening to Jesus' voice and trusting Him with their "yes".

Prayer and Liturgy: Loving Jesus - Ten Ten Resources

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

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With your child/ren, you may also like to...

- *Talk about your family's gifts and how each person can use them to help others at home, school or in the parish.*
- *Choose one simple "yes to Jesus" action your family can take this week, for example, visiting someone who is lonely or making extra time to pray together.*

JESUS IS THE LIGHT

Throughout January, the daily classroom prayers will allow children to reflect on Jesus, the Light of the World. In the first week, they will pray with words from the Gospel of John (John 1:1-18) and from St John Henry Newman, asking Jesus to be the true light of life, who lights their path.

Children will be encouraged to shine Jesus' light by helping others to see His love, kindness and goodness through what they say and do.

You might like to use this prayer as a family at home:

**Jesus,
You are the true light.
The light of life,
The light on my path,
The light of glory!**

**May your light shine brightly
through my words and actions each day.
Amen**

Diary Dates Spring Term 1

St Bernadette House – Mufti Day (prize for winning most House Points in Autumn Term)	Thursday, 15th January 2026
Wild West Themed Lunch with Innovate - orders to be placed on the app	Thursday, 15th January 2026
Author Visit (Stephen Williams)	Thursday, 15th January 2026
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday, 22nd January 2026
Careers Week	Monday, 26th – Friday, 30th January 2026
Panathlon (Invited children only)	Monday, 26th January 2026
EYFS & Year 1 Parent Workshop—Phonics	Wednesday, 28th January 2026
Careers Week—Children Dress Up	Friday, 30th January 2026
Year 6 Bikeability	w/c Monday, 2nd February 2026
Year 3 Trip to Eton	Monday, 2nd February 2026
Parents Evening (Face to Face)	Thursday, 5th February 2026
NSPCC Number Day	Friday, 6th February 2026
PTA K-Pop Disco (Times TBC)	Friday, 6th February 2026
Year 4 Class Assembly	Thursday, 12th February 2026
Children’s Mental Week	w/c Monday, 9th February 2026

Diary Dates Spring Term 1

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday, 10th February 2026

Half Term

Monday, 16th—Friday 20th February 2026



Reception Applications for September 2026

The closing date for Reception and Junior applications for September 2026 entry is
15 January 2026.

We recommend online applications via <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app>. If there is a valid reason why parents cannot apply online, they can obtain a paper application by calling us on 0300 200 1004. Completed paper application forms must be emailed to schooladmissions@surreycc.gov.uk or posted to the team with a postmark no later than 14 January 2026. We strongly recommend that parents send postal applications by recorded delivery as we are unable to confirm receipt.

Parents can also call 0300 200 1004 for impartial help in completing an application. Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

Applications received after the closing date without good reason will be treated as late and will not be considered until all on time applications have been processed. This may jeopardise the chance of a parent being offered one of their preferred schools for their child. We will only consider an application as on time if it has been made late if there is a genuine reason why the application could not reasonably have been made before the closing date.

If the child lives in another local authority, the parent must apply to that authority, ie their home local authority, even if they wish to name Surrey schools. If they know they will be moving in the future, they should still apply by 15 January to their home local authority at that time and then notify that authority of the move.

Year 5/6 Girls Football

ST CUTHBERTS YEAR 5/6
GIRLS FOOTBALL

MATCH SCHEDULE

Monday 12th January | 3:40 PM

ST CUTH VS LYNE & LONGCROSS

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 3.40PM

ST CUTH VS MANORCROFT

Year 5/6 Boys Football



Year 6 Netball

WEDNESDAY 28TH JANUARY

YEAR 6 NETBALL

ST CUTHBERTS



ST CHARLES

DETAILS EMAILED TO PARENTS

SCHOOL



NETBALL



Wake Up Wednesday:

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine at least a few days before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education as easy as possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-return-to-routine>

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Flyers:

HALF TERM CRASH COURSE

16TH - 20TH FEBRUARY

**NEED AN EXTRA BOOST OR WANT TO TRY TO LEARN TO
SWIM IN 5 DAYS?
JOIN OUR CRASH COURSE AT OUR TW19 VENUE**

9AM , 9.30AM, 10AM & 10.30AM SLOTS

**GROUPS OF 4, SIBLINGS LESSONS & PRIVATE LESSONS
AVAILABLE**



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Flyers:

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**NEW Pre-Primary/Primary class for 4-6 year olds on
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