



Congratulations to Year 2 who have won our Attendance of the Week Stars trophy a score of 95.2% Can we remind all families that we ask you to contact school when your child is absent from school for any reason at all. There is information about the impact of attendance and punctuality on your child's education available on our school website, you can find it on the [Attendance and Term Dates](#) page.



Class	%
Reception	92.6
Year 1	93.1
Year 2 🏆	95.2
Year 3	94.5
Year 4	94.7
Year 5	89.0
Year 6	92.0
Whole school	93.0

Thank you everyone for helping us support the fantastic Young Minds charity by wearing yellow and lots of other beautiful and bright colours last Friday. our children have a fantastic understanding of how to look after their physical and mental well-being and days like last Friday give us yet another opportunity to highlight what they know and what they would like to know. Our Compassion Matters sessions last week focused on caring for our mental well-being and



We would love you to join us for our whole school Harvest Celebration at 9.15am in the school hall next Wednesday 23rd October. All our classes will be performing for you on the stage at the Harvest Festival and we know you will have a fantastic time. Children have been bringing donations of food to school and we would love even more- all donations will be passed on to our friends at Nite Bite who support people across North Shields every day in their time of need. Donations should be tins or packets of food which is unopened and in date and we will pass them to Nite Bite before the half-term break next Friday.



We are working with North Tyneside Connect Mental Health Support Team and they are inviting families supporting children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs to participate in a virtual support session on **Wednesday 30th October 2024, 6pm on Zoom**. The virtual session is a place for parents and carers to share their experiences, help and support each other and get information and advice to support them. October's support session will focussed on Managing and Regulating your child's emotions. This link will take you to a flyer where you can click or scan the QR Code to register your interest and to receive the Zoom invite. <https://shorturl.at/LNB1G>



St. Cuthbert's School Newsletter #stcuthbertsns

Sunday 20th October 2024 www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk/

Mass times online on Facebook and at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801

All our children took part in Compassion Matters sessions with Mrs Cottiss last week looking at caring for our physical and mental health and how the two things are so closely linked. Every year we plan what our priorities are for the year ahead and positive physical, mental, spiritual and behavioural health have been at the centre of our plans for almost 10 years-well before they have become part of the conversation about the primary school curriculum across the country. Our outdoor learning, sports, cycling, swimming, work with the parish and other community organisations, other schools, trips, Thrive, training opportunities and support for our staff, performances, activity mornings, and much, much more are all part of of determination to help our children be ready for the next stage in their education and lives. Our curriculum provides opportunitis for children to explore, develop and share their gifts and talents and to be a postivie change in our world. This half term we have also begun working with North Tyneside Connect Mental Health Support Team and they have invited families to join a Zoom meeting on October 30th, the link is on the first page of this newsletter. Giving our children a curriculum and environment which allows them to grow and thrive takes a lot of preparation and hard work from our staff, children and families. When adapting our curriculum and resources to meet the needs of all our children our staff do a lot of research, explore lots of different options and use a lot of creativity. All the approaches and hard work that happen go along with the amazing children and families we have at St. Cuthbert's to make our school and community such a strong, caring, compassionate and thriving place, a fantastic community to be part of and a wonderful place to learn together.



WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



Y C O M P A S S I O N M A T T E R S





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Mass times online on Facebook and at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801 Mrs Cottiss and I represented St. Cuthbert's at a meeting with other schools from North Tyneside and the North Tyneside coordinators of the School Of Sanctuary project. we have already begun planning what St. Cuthbert's school and wider community can do to help us become a school of sanctuary and we have also begun making plans with St. Thomas More about how we can work together on the project. Our work will begin soon and we will keep everyone in our community informed about what we are doing, how you can help and what is happening.



We send out all our letters and forms to families through ParentMail and last week a number of forms were sent out that we need you to complete and return as soon as possible please. The data form with your contact details, medical information and any other information we need is very important. You can change any of the information on it at any time, including details of named contacts, who can drop children off and pick them up from school and medical information. We use Twitter to share what is happening at school, our account is locked so you need to request access to follow us. If you want to follow our Twitter account our name is stcuthbertsns, if you don't get permission to follow let us know and we'll get you on. We use Tapestry to share more detailed information about what your child is doing at school. Tapestry is fantastic at keeping you up to date with everything and we love it when you press the 'like' button on Tapestry and Twitter- it shows us that you are getting to see what is happening and it also shows everyone at school that you appreciate what they are doing. If you have any trouble accessing any of these apps please let us know, they are important and great ways to keep up to date with everything going on at our very exciting and busy school.

If you have any concerns about your child's, or another child's safety, including their online safety, or questions about behaviour we always ask that you speak to us at school. It is important that we are part of discussions that may be happening around children's behaviour and welfare. We record incidents and concerns electronically on our CPOMS system and we work very closely with Clennell Education Solutions to make sure all our staff are up to date with the best safeguarding training available and to provide leading professional advice when requested. This means that we have a broad picture of anything that is happening at school and, with your help, we can make sure any concerns are addressed quickly and do not escalate or lead to children or families falling out. If you have a concern that you feel needs attention immediately, and it is outside of normal school hours, you can contact the North Tyneside Safeguarding Team's Front Door service on 0345 2000 109 during office hours or 0330 333 7475 during the evening or at weekends. We work in partnership with the team and they will inform us at school of any referrals made to them during weekends, evenings, and holidays when school is closed. You can also find out more information about safeguarding in North Tyneside on their [website](#) and our [school website](#).





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Mass times online on Facebook and at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801. All our clubs are free of charge and our staff give up their own time to make sure your children can have a great time taking part in activities they love. All clubs after school begin at 3.30pm finish at 4.30pm and children must be collected from the school car park at 4.30pm. **Please do not park in the school car park after school. When you are collecting children at 4.30pm you can park outside school, parking restrictions are not in place at this time.** Clubs this half term are:

Day & Time	Club	Class	Staff
Monday lunchtimes	Rockstar Maths	Year 4	Mrs Massie
Tuesday 8.10am	Mini Mini Vinnies	Rec, Y1 & Y2	Mrs Cottiss & Mrs Stephens
Tuesday 8.10am	Cycling Club		Miss Fielding, Miss Southgate, Mr Capper
Tuesday 3.30pm	Family Club (children must have an adult at the club)	Nursery & Reception	St. Cuthbert's staff
Wednesday lunchtime	Music- Winter Sing prep	Years 3,4,5 &6	Mrs Brown
Wednesday 3.30pm	Chatterbooks	Years 2 & 3	Mrs McArdle
Wednesday 3.30pm	Games Club	Year 1	Mrs Cottiss & Mr Dillon
Thursday 3.30pm	Mini Vinnies	Years 3,4,5 & 6	Mrs Cottiss, Mrs Stephens, Miss Fielding
Thursday 3.30pm	Science Club	Years 3,4,5 & 6	Mrs Allott
Thursday 3.30pm	Football Club	Year 3,4,5 & 6	Miss Collings, Mr Capper, Mr Smart, Mr Dillon
Friday 3.30pm	Campfire Club	Year 5 & siblings	Mrs Cottiss & Mr Dillon

Can we remind all families that you must let us know who is collecting a child after school if you, the person who would normally do the collection, isn't? If you need to change arrangements at the last minute please phone the school office and let us know, this helps avoid asking the person who has come to collect the child waiting around unnecessarily and helps us ensure all our children are where they are supposed to be. If the person collecting your child is someone we don't know or haven't met often we may ask you for a word or phrase that they can repeat to us, therefore confirming who they are.

Every week we publish a poster with information and advice on keeping children safe online. The posters we use come from the National Online Safety organisation and we use their resources at school when teaching our E-Safety lessons for all children. These lessons follow similar themes as the posters we share with you and the lessons at school are all taught at a level appropriate to the children. Our children know how to stay safe both online and offline and they know we have systems such as Smoothwall at school which help keep everyone safe.



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As a school St. Cuthbert's were involved in being part of the management committee that set up the PACT MumSpace group that runs in North Shields. MumSpace is a warm, welcoming, friendly group, for mothers run by mothers. MumSpace is a charity run so free to join. Within the group, mums have half an hour of "their time" whilst the amazing volunteers look after the children. This space and time can be used to have a hot cup of coffee and a chat, talk to other mums alike, or invite outside organisations in to give advice, it's the mothers' space it's up to them to decide what to do with it. The group is for pregnant mums or mums with children up to the age of 4. MumSpace is run on a Thursday morning from St Cuthbert's Church from 9.30-11am or Tuesday afternoon 12.30-2pm at St Luke's Church in Wallsend on Frank Street just off the Metro station. For more information see their Facebook page = MumSpace North Tyneside or contact Wendy McConnell at 07950426786 or wendy.mcconnell@citizensuk.org



As part of our work with PACT we are inviting families with children between the ages of 2 and 4 to join us for our Book Sharing Course which we are hosting at school with Wendy. The sessions take place at school from 2.15pm- 3.15pm. We have run these sessions in the past and they have been very successful and a brilliant way to get ideas and support in helping develop children's love of stories, books and language. Further information about the programme is near the end of this newsletter.

We are asking all families to make sure you pre-order your children's lunches as this is the only way to ensure they get what they want each lunchtime. All children who have a school lunch must pre-order- this includes children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 who are all entitled to free school meals through the Infant Free School meals scheme.

Thank you once again to everyone who has signed up for your Appetite account and to everyone who is using it to pre-order children's school lunches. It is very, very important that you get your account set up as it allows you to see the menu for the coming weeks, including all the dietary and nutritional information you might want to see. No child will ever be left hungry and the staff in our kitchen know all our children well. If you have any questions about the new school meals system or menu, or need help with the app or using the Appetite service online, please get in touch with us at school.

We get lots of questions at school about keeping children safe online when they are away from school. We have begun information posters from National Online Safety and these will be helpful as they provide up-to-date advice on how to manage different services and apps for children at home. The Think You Know website is also very useful for advice and information and you can find it by clicking the link below. The site is aimed at adults and the subjects are about keeping children safe online.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Welcome to CEOP Education

Education from the National Crime Agency

The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education team aim to help protect children and young people from online child sexual abuse. We do this through our education programme, providing training, resources and information to professionals working with children, young people and their families.

I am:

A professional working with children and young people	A parent or carer
4-7 years old	8-10 years old
	11-18 years old



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We would like to remind families that we have a no-jewellery policy for children at St. Cuthbert's, the only exceptions to this are that children can wear a watch and if they have their ears pierced they can wear a small stud- not hoops. Can you please make sure your child doesn't wear any jewellery to school, especially on their outdoor learning day when a few have started to wear chains, necklaces, or bracelets. Outdoor learning day clothes should be old clothes, suitable for the weather, that will get dirty and, most likely smell of smoke by the end of the day.

Can we please remind families that for all classes from reception through to year 6 the school day has a 'soft start' meaning that the school gates and doors will open at 8.40 am and children should go straight to their class when they come on to the playground from 8.40 am. The doors and gates then close at 8.55 am when all children should be in their class- anyone who arrives at school after 8.55 am should come to school through the main office. **Children cannot wait alone on the playground or at school gates before 8.40 am as all staff are supervising gates, doors, corridors and classrooms with teachers beginning their teaching at 8.40 am.** Can we also remind everyone that no adults should be in the school building in the morning or at the end of the school day. If you need to speak to a class teacher you can contact them through Tapestry, phone the school office to make an appointment or pass on a message or catch them at the end of the school day once all children have been passed over to their families. Our school day ends at 3.25 pm for all children. Can we also please remind families that dogs, no matter how small, are not permitted through the school gates or on the school playground. We have over 500 people on the playground at the start and end of each day and we all greatly appreciate your help and support in keeping our school as safe as possible and our school days running smoothly for everyone.

Thank you to everyone who is using Easyfundraising.

There are no catches to using the site, you don't need to share bank or payment details, just sign up and choose to support St. Cuthbert's. all you then need to do is search for your chosen store or seller on the easyfundraising site and do your online shopping as normal. If you are booking a holiday, buying any insurance, changing internet suppliers, mobile phone providers, etc. online, and doing so through the site they make quite big donations to school! It's really easy to get set up and running, all you need to do is:



1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcuthbertsrcprimary/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will donate to St. Cuthbert's at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we would be grateful for your support and donations which will go towards all our children.

Thank you to everyone who has been using Tapestry, our keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk email, and school phone to keep in touch with school staff. Lines of communication must be kept as open and honest as possible between school and home as we work hard to keep our open-door policy and approach going by making so many ways to keep in touch available. **As highlighted in the past we don't use Facebook or WhatsApp or any other social media apart from Twitter (which we don't use to answer questions)**, and we won't be setting up accounts on either medium. If you have any questions, or concerns, or need to chat with a member of staff at school please make sure you use one of three methods we have put in place:



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- Message a member of staff on Tapestry with messages regarding work, arrangements for the school day for your child, etc. All staff have access to Tapestry.
- Email keepingintouch@stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk. You should email this address if you want to discuss or inform of us anything that is more confidential. Emails to this address are only read by Mrs. Cottiss and Mr. Dillon. Please do not use this email for day-to-day things like questions about what is happening at school. We cannot guarantee that your question will be answered on time this will only happen by contacting the school office.
- Phone 0191 691 9876 and arrange an agreed time to chat with someone. Use the school phone number to advise us of absence from school, and for questions about day-to-day things. **Phoning school during the school day remains the best way to get in touch.**

If you have not yet activated your Tapestry account or if you are having trouble accessing it please let us know as soon as possible. Tapestry is one of the main ways we keep in touch with families and it is important that you can receive messages and posts from it even if you don't use it a lot yourself.

If you haven't joined our school lottery yet it is really easy and gives you a chance of winning our school jackpot each week and gives you an entry to a much bigger weekly jackpot. All profits from the lottery go towards helping us make sure our children continue to have the fantastic opportunities they get every week at St. Cuthbert's. Our weekly prize currently stands at £19.80, you will also be entered into a national school lottery for a £25,000 draw each week. You can sign up at

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-cuthberts-rc-primary>

We work continuously with all staff and children to keep children and everyone at St. Cuthbert's safe at all times. Our current Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and further information is on our school website,

<https://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk/safeguarding> and they outline our approaches and policies to safeguarding throughout school. You will also find a copy of our safeguarding policy that we share with the children. It has been written to be accessible to the children and goes alongside all the work we do with them throughout the year. We teach safeguarding and staying safe through many different subjects and you will see the weekly online safety posters we add to every newsletter that we send out. Throughout the year we also have online safety lessons with all children and these range in topic from what to do if a child feels unsafe, how to create the best usernames and passwords and how to judge if the information you are reading or watching is genuine and accurate. We also hold online safety sessions for families each year to help you keep your children safe online at home. If you have any questions about safeguarding at St. Cuthbert's please get in touch by emailing keepingintouch@stcuthberts.email or speaking to Mr Dillon or Mrs Cottiss who you can find on the school playground at the start of each day or by phoning the school office.

We already have quite a few events and activities planned for this half-term and we will send you a list of key dates next week once we have confirmed a few details. We will be celebrating our new school year whole school Mass with Fr. Chris and the parish of St. Cuthbert's soon and classes will take turns joining the parish for Mass on Wednesday mornings throughout the term. We would love everyone to join us for Mass and we would



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Mass times online on Facebook and at St. Cuthbert's each Sunday at 11am. Fr. Chris Hughes can be contacted on 257 5801 also love you all to join us for our first activity morning of 2024 which will be on the list of dates we send out. We are also planning meetings about how we teach reading and how to help your child read at home, how we teach maths and as we approach the end of the term we'll be inviting you all to join us for collective worship at school. Dates are also added to your weekly newsletter and any changes are sent out to you as soon as possible. We will be sending out information about clubs next week and you will be able to book places on ParentMail. Our clubs start the week beginning Monday 16th September and are a very big part of life at St. Cuthbert's. Our staff give up their time to make sure that all children across school have the opportunity to take part in clubs throughout the year. Family Club will be for our Nursery and Reception families and lots of our staff will be taking part in the club with families and having fun cooking, getting artistic and creative and playing games and keeping active!

Thank you for your amazing continued support, stay safe and God bless,
Shaun Dillon



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 USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover WiFi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including The New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.





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PE and Roundhouse Timetables 2024/2025

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day. All classes from Year 1- Year 6 will take part in cricket sessions every Wednesday this half term, this is in addition to their PE lessons and outdoor learning sessions. Year 3 begin four weeks of swimming sessions, every morning, on Monday 9th September.

PE	
Day	Class
Monday	Year 5
Tuesday	Reception Class
Wednesday	KS1 & KS2 Cricket
Thursday	Year 6. Year 2, Year 3
Friday	Year 1 and Year 4

We have a timetable for outdoor learning but classes will take learning outdoors as often as they can throughout the week. Children should wear old clothes on their outdoor learning day, PE kit on PE day and school uniform on all other days. If an outdoor learning day is the same as a PE or cricket day then children should wear PE kit that is suitable for outdoors and whatever weather we are forecast to have.

Roundhouse/ Outdoor Learning Dates	
Nursery	(Friday)
Reception	(Friday)
Year 1	(Tuesdays)
Year 2	(Tuesdays)
Year 3	(Wednesdays)
Year 4	(Wednesdays)
Year 5	(Mondays)
Year 6	(Mondays)