



School News

JANUARY EDITION

This is our first newsletter of 2026! Thank you for sharing our Christmas celebrations with us. A huge well done to all the children for their hard work and sharing their talents in the run up to the end of term. The nativity was fantastic, our choir has represented our school brilliantly in our school Mass and at Christmas eve Mass and we were so proud of Year 5 for leading us so beautifully in our carol service. Thank you to the staff for their hard work too.

The staff and I would also like to thank you for the cards and gifts that were sent into school before the holidays. Your kindness is much appreciated. Many thanks for your kind donations to the Mini Vinnies' Love Amelia appeal and the Foodbank. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of our parents and families.

Attendance/Appointments

Please do not be offended if you have received an attendance letter from us. It is our duty to track attendance and keep you informed. Government departments track attendance figures and it is considered that attendance of 90% or below is persistent absence which should be closely monitored by school staff. We want to work with you to avoid your child's attendance becoming any lower.

Likewise it is really important that we work together to ensure children are in school on time. Arriving late is unsettling for children and learning begins promptly at 8.50am. The first lesson of the day is maths so regularly arriving late means your child is missing out on vital education. The school bell now works again so the gates will be shut at 8.50am prompt. Anyone later than this should be brought to reception by an adult. Being 10 minutes late every day is the equivalent of 7 whole days over a year! Every second counts!

We also have an increasing number of children going out of school for routine appointments. In many cases these children are missing an entire afternoon of school. Please do try and keep appointments outside of school as much as possible and we must see confirmation of the appointment (letter/email/text) - this should be emailed to the school office.

Wraparound Care

Thank you to those parents who have helped us with establishing Wraparound Care at the end of the school day.

We are in the process of making arrangements to implement this after February half term and additional information about this will be sent in a separate letter.

Payments

***Important reminder from the office
Please ensure payments for trips, lunches and breakfast club are paid as soon as possible via ParentPay.***

We adhere to a no debt policy and follow the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust debt recovery programme. All trips should be paid in full before the visit.

Many thanks in advance.

Uniform reminders...

Children are allowed to wear black trainers as part of their school uniform, but they should be all black; not white soles or colourful stripes.

Children are not allowed to wear earrings for school and if they have to wear plastic retainers, these are not allowed for PE.

Children with long hair should have their hair tied up in line with the school uniform policy and children should not have tram lines cut into their hair or their hair dyed.

If you choose not to wear school branded PE kit, then all hoodies and tracksuit bottoms/leggings should be unbranded (e.g. not Nike/Adidas). PE bottoms should be NAVY not black and zipped hoodies or tops are not allowed.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Rights Respecting Award

St Cuthbert's have been awarded the UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting Status for the second time.

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Gold is the highest accolade given by UNICEF UK and shows a deep and thorough commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life. A huge well done and thanks to our fantastic school ambassadors in helping us gain this award.



ICECATS Safety Training

Children across school have loved taking part in ICECATS training this week! Jo made every session fun, engaging and accessible, and we all learned lots about keeping ourselves safe and knowing what to do in an emergency. Thanks to the parents who were able to attend our information session - we hope you found it useful.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health & Wellbeing Afternoon – March 30th, 2:30pm

We're looking forward to welcoming families to our Wellbeing Afternoon on March 30th at 2:30pm. Visitors from our Local Authority will be joining us to support all things linked to pupil and parent wellbeing, and there'll be plenty of lovely activities to enjoy with your children. And of course—there's always time for cake and a cuppa!

Stay Connected

Don't forget to follow both our school and our Friends of St Cuthbert's group on Facebook and Instagram for updates, celebrations and upcoming events. We love sharing what's happening in school!



Picture News Assemblies

Each week, pupils take part in our Picture News assembly. So far this year, we've explored the Year of Reading 2026, Mr Beast's mission for 1 Billion Acts of Kindness, and the brand-new Jane Goodall Earth Award. It's wonderful to hear pupils link these stories to ideas and actions they can take in school.