



St Cuthbert Mayne Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 3 Week ending 22.09.17

Believe
you can
achieve!

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at St Cuthbert Mayne we have been reminded of the importance of living life to the full and making the most of all our opportunities and God given gifts. As a Catholic school we pride ourselves on the closeness of our relationships with our pupils and their families. Our daily collective worship ensures that we maintain a strong focus on the prayer life of our school community.

Well done to Reception St David's Class for completing their first full week at school. On Monday they received a visit from the Surrey Advertiser to photograph them for the newspaper. Please look out for their photograph in next week's Surrey Advertiser. Our youngest pupils are already demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning and proudly making choices about which pieces to display in their classrooms. Today they attended their first Collective Worship with the whole school alongside their Year 6 buddies who will be supporting them throughout the year.



Continuing to work in partnership

Please read and sign this important document and return to your child's class teacher. It is important that we continue to work effectively together to support the children's learning and that we have an agreed set of expectations for what this should look like. Thank you to those who have already done this. The agreement includes sections for school staff, parents and children to sign. This consistency of approach ensures that we share the vision to ensure that our children are supported through the vital bond between home and school to achieve their best. Thank you for continuing to ensure that your children are well organized and in school. We are currently in the process of reviewing our school policies and updating them on the website for your information. We will be updating our Attendance Policy in line with statutory guidance and informing you of updates including charges for term time holiday.

Forgiveness

In our liturgies this week we have been focusing on the theme of forgiveness and how we are asked to forgive 70x7 times.



School Development Plan 2017-2018

We are currently working on our School Development Plan to make St Cuthbert Mayne School even better for our children. Through the newsletters and our school website we will aim to keep you abreast of school developments.

Our key priorities for the academic year 2017-2018 are below:

- Continue to build an effective leadership team that supports accelerated school improvement.
- To improve the quality of teaching and learning and assessment across the school to ensure that 100% of teaching is at least good and some is better.
- All pupils will be self-confident, self-assured learners with excellent attitudes to learning.
- All pupils will progress well from their different starting points and achieve or exceed age related expectation (ARE).
- Early Years Foundation stage (EYFS) outcomes will reflect a provision that is responsive to pupils' needs and national expectations.

Home learning

We have listened to feedback from parents, carers and children. The children will continue to have weekly homework in Maths and English but in addition we have introduced thematic and open ended learning opportunities. Your child will have brought home a sheet which has a range of activities to be done at home. The aim of this is to encourage the children to be more independent in their learning, providing them with choice and open ended tasks linked to their cross curricular work. Your child should complete only two of the tasks to ensure that this is manageable for them and you.

Focus on writing

On my visits to classrooms this week I have been monitoring the quality of writing. As a school we are focusing on improving the quality of writing across the school in all subjects. From Reception, children will be taught to write in a cursive handwriting style as this helps them with spelling and aids fluency. It also means that they do not have to relearn how to form letters later on. We are also developing the quality of writing across the curriculum to ensure that pupils achieve high standards across the curriculum by linking English teaching to other curriculum subjects and focusing on audience and pupils. The higher expectations of the national curriculum mean that children need to have and use a richer vocabulary, be able to make deliberate choices about punctuation and grammar, whilst spelling accurately and ensure that they are focusing on the purpose of their writing for their intended audience.

Welcome

Welcome to Mr Scott from Planet Soccer who will be delivering a PE session each week to the children as part of our development of Sport across the school and also to cover for teachers during their Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) release time. The children have shown huge enthusiasm and enjoyment during these lessons and all lessons will be delivered in line with the current National Curriculum and planned alongside class teachers.

Book for my birthday

Many parents like to celebrate their child's birthday by giving them sweets or treats to share with their class. This is very generous but once again this poses problems for children with allergies. From now on we will not give these out in school but ask parents to give these out at their child's birthday party. Instead, why not buy a book and donate it to your child's class library. The book can then be enjoyed by the class and sugary consumption in school kept to a minimum.

Open mornings

Despite having just welcomed our new Reception Class to St Cuthbert Mayne, we now need to begin the admissions process for school entry 2018. Many parents have already contacted us to ask about this process and how they can apply for our school. All information regarding admissions is on our school website.

Open mornings for prospective parents will be held on:

16th 9.30 am Open Morning for Reception 2018 intake

20th 9.30am Open Morning for Reception 2018 intake

Headlice

Please can all parents check and if found please treat their children's head for these unwelcome visitors this weekend.

FRIENDS

The FRIENDS' AGM will be held on Friday 29th September at 2.30 pm in the Parish Room.

All welcome, particularly new parents and carers joining our school community. This is an excellent way to make friends, get involved in the life of the school and fundraise for our children.

Current projects include the development of the school playground and outdoor environments. Each year group has two class representatives who share responsibility for assisting at fundraising events. There are currently two vacancies for Year 6 reps.

Grandparents' week

As a school we are encouraged to take part in Grandparents' Week (Saturday 30th September to Sunday 8th October 2017). We would like to ask grandparents to join us on Wednesday 4th October from 1.30-3.15. Grandparents are invited to arrive from 1.30 and then to visit the classes of their grandchild/ren. At 2.30 we will join together as a whole school in the church of Jesus Christ Redeemer of Mankind for a whole school liturgy. Parents may also attend the liturgy if they wish. We are blessed as a school to have some grandparents who play a very active role in our school. We would like to ask more grandparents to volunteer to hear readers or commit a small amount of time each week to help in class. Please contact your child's class teacher for further details.



Allergy aware and being a Healthy School

Please remember that we are a nut free school. Please do not send your children into school with anything in their packed lunches or after school snacks which does or may contain nuts. We have several children and adults in the school who are allergic to different types of nuts and we must ensure their safety by remaining vigilant about what we give the children to eat.

Only fruit or vegetables should be given as playtime snacks in Key Stage Two. Biscuits, crisps and processed fruit should not be given to the children to eat. Please do not send Kiwi fruit in to school, as we have a few children who are allergic to this fruit.

Diary Dates

September

18th Reception photo for Surrey Advertiser

22nd 2.45pm Reception curriculum meeting

29th 2.30pm FRIENDS' AGM Parish Room

October

2nd-6th Grandparent's week

4th 1.30 –3.15 Grandparent's afternoon

9th Year 5 to Henley Fort

13th 9.00am Parent Forum

13th School Discos (Friends' fundraising event)

17th 2.45pm Year 6 assembly to parents

23rd-27th HALF TERM BREAK

30th Pupils return for 2nd half Autumn Term

November

2nd 4.30-7.00pm Parent consultation evenings

7th 4.00-6.30pm Parent consultation evenings

16th 9.30 am Open Morning for Reception 2018 intake

20th 9.30am Open Morning for Reception 2018 intake

26th November Christmas Fayre (Friends' fundraising event)

December

7th Wreath making (Friends' fundraising event)

7th 9am Key Stage One Nativity to parents

8th 2pm Key Stage One Nativity to parents

14th 9.30am and 6.30pm Key Stage Two Nativity to parents

18th 1.45pm Advent Mass

19th End of Term



Attendance figures for w/e 22nd September

	Class	%
	Reception	N/A
School Target	Year 1	100%
96.5%		97.6%
Well done to	Year 2	97.6%
Year One	Year 3	99.3%
for having the	Year 4	96.4%
highest attendance	Year 5	97.7%
this week.	Year 6	97.3%

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Natalie McCarthy

Headteacher