



Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well.

We've had a lovely start to the New Year at St Cuthbert's. As we continue to further ease COVID-19 restrictions in and around school, St Cuthbert's is beginning to feel much more like normal. Adults in school and any visitors are still wearing face coverings and we are adhering to social distancing in communal areas as much as we feasibly can. As part of the easing process, we are introducing three changes from **Monday 7th February**:

1. We are asking our Nursery parents to use the normal drop-off and collection point for our Nursery children which is the main pedestrian gate on Balmain Road, then into the Butterfly Garden and then the Nursery classroom.
2. Children who attend Reception Class with Mrs Marley should now be dropped off at the main Reception entrance off the KS1 yard by 9am and collected at the later time of 3pm.
3. Parents/carers with children in KS2 can choose to drop off their child as they have been doing at the entrance on Stapeley View or enter and cross the yard at either gate. Parents/carers can now cross the yards at both drop-off and collection times.

We will continue to open the school gates at 8.45am and 2.45pm to prevent congestion at the gates. Please continue to walk to school whenever possible and to park away from our school gates if you do need to drive to help keep pedestrians safe.

To help us to continue to safeguard our whole school community, could all parents/carers continue to:

- drop off and collect their youngest child first;
- not gather in groups on the yards and leave the school grounds promptly;
- please not allow children to run around the yards, unsupervised.

For your information, we will be reviewing all of our current COVID-19 measures in school over the next few weeks.

School Premises

The school windows, new KS1 toilets and resurfaced yard are all now complete. As you all know, the felt lining on our school roof was blown off during the storm last weekend. We are working with the local authority and the diocese and hope to have the felt roof replaced as soon as possible.

Exciting New Projects

To develop our Physical Education and Sports curriculum further, we have used our Sports Premium Grant to buy 60 brand new bikes and safety helmets for use across the whole school. We are also having a road/cycle track whitelined onto our new yard. This will provide all of our children with the opportunity to develop or learn new cycling skills, foster a love of cycling and an understanding of cycling/road safety.



We are also refurbishing our KS2 Library using the funds raised this year by our fantastic PTFA. We are currently working with a company on a bespoke design for our library walls and have purchased some fabulous comfortable settees and chairs. We can't wait for the work to be finished so that we can get our KS2 Library back up and running again for the children to enjoy.

PTFA

A huge THANK YOU to the PTFA who have managed to raise a massive £3000 for our School Fund this year despite not being able to host any of their 'normal' fundraising activities. St Cuthbert's are incredibly lucky to have such a dedicated PTFA who always go that extra mile to help our school. All of the money raised by the PTFA is spent on improving and developing the school for the good of all of the children. Recent school improvement projects funded by the PTFA have included our Well-being Wood, Enchanted Learning Classroom, the outdoor provision for the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms and the creation of our KS1 Library. There is no way we could afford to provide these wonderful extras for the children of St Cuthbert's on the school budget alone. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have supported the PTFA in any way, shape or form and thank you to any one who has donated or taken part in the PTFA events which have been organised. Please continue to support our PTFA whenever and wherever you can.

St Valentine's Disco

With help from the PTFA, we are having a St Valentine's Disco in school on Friday 18th February which is the last day of this half-term. All children from Reception to Year 6 will be attending the disco for free but in order to raise funds for school, we will be selling sweets and refreshments with prices for items ranging from 10p to £1. Children do not need to wear school uniform that day.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Anne Bullerwell
Headteacher

Attendance up until January 31st 2022

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
92.77%	95.41%	91.73%	94.83%	93.90%	95.50%	94.62%

Green Zone: 97% and above; Amber Zone: 91-96%; Red Zone: 90% and below

Well done, Year 5! Best attendance so far!

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 9 th March 2022	'Ride a Bike' prep for Bikeability L1 Y3 and Y4
Wednesday 16 th March 2022	Y4 Bikeability L1 (Road Safety Team)
Friday 25 th March 2022	'Wear a Hat to School Day' - Fundraiser
Monday 28 th March 2022	Y5 Bikeability L2 (Road Safety Team)
Friday 8 th April 2022	School closes for the Easter Holidays
Monday 25 th April 2022	School reopens for the Summer Term

Please note that we do our best to adhere to the dates set in the diary however the above may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.