

St Cuthbert's CE Primary School

# NEWSLETTER



## *Believe Achieve Inspire*

*Autumn term 1*

### Message from the Headteacher

Dear families, friends, volunteers and governors,

Where has this half term gone? It seems only a moment since we were welcoming everyone back in September, and already there is so much to reflect on and celebrate. The autumn term is an opportunity for a fresh start: to establish routines, build relationships and help every child feel ready to learn. A very warm welcome to our new Reception children and to all the children and families who have joined St Cuthbert's this term.

Our vision, **Believe • Achieve • Inspire**, continues to guide us, with **Community** as our particular value this half term. In our church school, this means putting kindness and care into action: welcoming others, noticing when someone needs help and recognising that each of us has something to contribute. We want every child to know that they are valued and that they belong.

There has been a great deal of hard work this half term, both in children's learning and in the work of our staff to make each day purposeful, positive and full of opportunity. Our Upper Key Stage 2 children have also enjoyed their residential, with opportunities to take on challenges, support one another and develop their independence beyond the classroom.

The coming weeks promise more opportunities to learn and enjoy being together, including our Lower Key Stage 2 residentials and our pantomime visit—oh yes they do! There is much to look forward to as we continue **Making School Unmissable**.

Thank you to our families, staff, governors and church community for all you bring to St Cuthbert's. Your support helps us create a school where children can learn, flourish and make happy memories.

I wish you all a restful half-term break when it comes.

Warm wishes,

Nicola Thornber  
Executive Headteacher

# Uniform reminders

Thank you to all of our families for your continued support in helping children come to school ready to learn each day. We are very proud of how smart our pupils look, and we would like to take this opportunity to share a few reminders from our Uniform Policy.

## Jewellery

- Children may wear **one pair of stud earrings** and a **simple wristwatch (not a smartwatch)**.
- No other piercings or jewellery are permitted.
- For health and safety reasons, **earrings must be removed for PE lessons and other physical activities**. Staff are unable to remove earrings on behalf of children, so we kindly ask that earrings are removed before school on PE days if your child cannot do this independently.
- Jewellery remains the responsibility of the pupil and school cannot accept responsibility for lost or damaged items.

## School Bags

- Children should bring their **school book bag** to carry books and equipment safely.
- Rucksacks should only be used where prior arrangements have been made with school.

## Hair

- Long hair should be tied back for PE and practical activities.
- Hairstyles should be suitable for the school environment and should not include shaved patterns, tramlines, brightly coloured dye, or excessive hair accessories.

## Make-up and Nails

- Make-up is not permitted in school.
- False nails and nail extensions are not allowed.
- Only clear nail varnish may be worn.
- Temporary tattoos should not be worn to school.

We greatly appreciate your support in helping us maintain high standards while ensuring all children can participate safely and fully in school life. If you have any questions about our uniform expectations, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Thank you to the parents that donated towards Macmillan or came to the coffee morning or baked and donated cakes –we raised £45.10.  
Thank you to PTA for helping with the coffee morning—it was much appreciated.**



### **Celebrating Our Value of the Term: Community**

This term, we have been exploring and celebrating our school value of **Community**, thinking carefully about what it means to belong, to care for one another and to play a positive part in the world around us.

Throughout the term, the children have been developing their understanding of how we can build a strong and caring community through kindness, respect, teamwork and supporting others. In class discussions, collective worship and everyday school life, we have encouraged the children to recognise that everyone has an important role to play and that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference.

Our assemblies have provided wonderful opportunities to reflect on the importance of community, both within our school and beyond. We have been delighted to involve parents and families in sharing and celebrating our values, helping to strengthen the links between home and school. These shared experiences remind us that our school community is at its strongest when we work together and celebrate the contributions of everyone.

We have also been pleased to welcome members of our church community to lead worship and share their thoughts with the children. These visits have helped us to explore how faith, fellowship and service to others can bring people together and strengthen our sense of belonging. They have also provided valuable opportunities for the children to make connections between our school values and the wider community in which we live.

Most importantly, we have seen our value of Community being lived out in the everyday moments of school life: children helping one another, welcoming others, working as a team and showing care and consideration for those around them.

Thank you to our parents, families and church community for supporting us in celebrating this important value. By working together, we help our children understand that community is not just about being part of a group; it is about **belonging, contributing and making a positive difference to the lives of others.**

We look forward to continuing to nurture these values in our children as they grow into thoughtful, compassionate and responsible members of their communities.



# Emerald Class

**Emerald Class** have made a fantastic start to the school year! Everyone has settled in well, and our first half term is flying by. We have been working hard and enjoying lots of exciting learning opportunities. In English, we have been developing our writing skills by producing a piece of work linked to *The Blitz Sister*. In Maths, we have been working really hard on place value and strengthening our arithmetic skills. Throughout our History lessons, we have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Britain during the Second World War and discovering more about life during this important period in history. Our RE has been very thought provoking, exploring how we can live by the teachings of Jesus in the 21st century, thinking about how these values can guide our everyday lives. Oh and of course, some of us went to RobinWood for a few days and had an amazing time – what an adventure! We are so proud of the positive attitude and hard work shown by everyone in Emerald Class so far.

Well-done, Emerald Class – keep up the fantastic work!

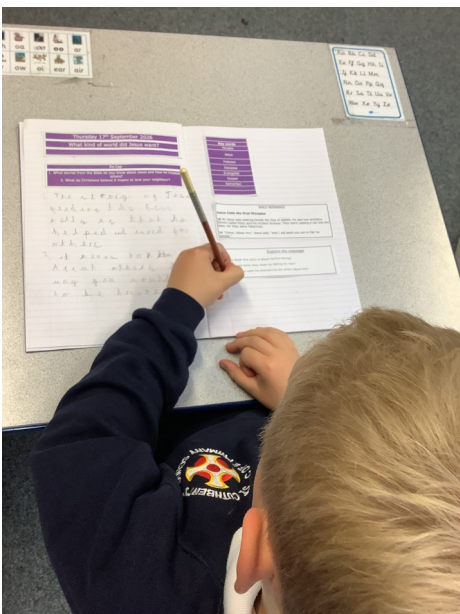


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| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> HALF TERM – 7 weeks</b> | <b>2 November – 18 December 2026</b>                                 |
| <b>2 Nov</b>                              | <b>School starts – all children</b>                                  |
| 16 – 17 Nov                               | Year 3&4 residential visit to Nell Bank                              |
| 26 Nov                                    | Federation Pantomime Visit 10am (Sleeping Beauty, Harrogate Theatre) |
| 15 Dec                                    | Reception/Key Stage 1 Nativity dress rehearsal                       |
| <b>16 Dec</b>                             | <b>Reception/Key Stage 1 Nativity Performance 2.30pm</b>             |
| <b>18 Dec</b>                             | <b>Christmas Carol Church service 10-11am</b>                        |
| <b>18 Dec</b>                             | School closes at 3:30pm for Christmas                                |
| <b>21 Dec – 1 Jan</b>                     | <b>Christmas / New Year holidays</b>                                 |
| <b>4 Jan</b>                              | <b>INSET DAY – school closed to children</b>                         |
| <b>5 Jan</b>                              | <b>School reopens – all children</b>                                 |

## Ruby Class

**Ruby Class** have had a brilliant start to the school year, and it has been wonderful to see everyone getting stuck into their learning! In English, we have been letting our imaginations run wild as we write our own exciting stories inspired by *Leon and the Place Between*. The children have been exploring what might happen if Leon took a different path on his adventure, creating their own imaginative twists on the original story. In Maths, we have been focusing on place value, developing our understanding of how numbers are structured and represented. Our History lessons have taken us back in time to explore the fascinating Shang Dynasty, where we have been finding out about this ancient civilisation and what life was like during this period. In Music, we have been putting our voices to good use, learning and practising songs together. During RE, we have been thinking about the question, 'What kind of world did Jesus want?' and discussing how his teachings can help us to make positive choices and build a kinder world.

It has been lovely to see the creativity, curiosity and effort that the children are bringing to their learning each day. Keep up the great work, Ruby Class - we are looking forward to all the exciting things still to come!



## Diamond Class

This half term **Diamond Class** have been busy welcoming our new reception children. They have been exploring numbers and patterns alongside developing their learning in our outdoor classroom. We have all been developing our ball control skills with Mr Henry in our weekly PE sessions. Our KS1 children have explored how schools have changed over the last 150 years and thinking about what school was like for the children at St Cuthbert's Primary School in 1875. In Year 1 and 2 we have been enjoying the stories Little Red and A Chair for Baby Bear and using these as inspiration for our own story writing. We have started our science project investigating how and why different materials are used in design and we will become designers ourselves when we design and build our own chairs for Baby Bear.



# Behaviour Policy

Our behaviour policy has been updated this Autumn and here are the Three Stages—the full policy can be accessed on our website:

[Policies > Upper Nidderdale Federation](#)

## UNPF approach

Our policy is based on our **CHAMPS** values along with a relational approach so that everyone can achieve their best. The approach sets out **HIGH EXPECTATIONS, HIGH CHALLENGE, CLEAR BOUNDARIES APPLIED CONSISTENTLY WITH NURTURE**. It draws on research in neuroscience, psychology and adverse childhood experiences from Dr Bruce Perry, Dr Karen Treisman, Dr Nadine Burke Harris, Paul Dix and many more. It is underpinned by an expectation that by modelling, celebrating and recognising the agreed CHAMPS values and positive behaviours, our children are enabled to be ready to learn effectively.

## The Three Stages

### Stage 1 - Gentle Reminder

A **gentle reminder** is the first response when a pupil is beginning to show low-level poor behaviour, for example:

- Calling out
- Off-task behaviour
- Distracting others
- Not following a routine
- Minor non-compliance

### Stage 2 - 10 Minutes Time Out to Regulate

If the behaviour continues after Stage 1, staff offer **10 minutes time out** to regulate and return ready to learn.

This is not a punishment. It is a chance for the pupil to:

- Calm down
- Regulate emotions
- Reset behaviour
- Return to learning successfully

### Stage 3 - Internal Suspension

Stage 3 is used for more serious behaviour, including when a pupil is unable to settle after Stage 2 and is disrupting learning for others continually.

#### Immediate Stage 3

**Violence against another child goes straight to Stage 3.**

This includes:

- Hitting
- Kicking
- Punching
- Biting
- Throwing objects at another pupil with intent to hurt
- Any assault that compromises safety