



# The Cuthbert Chronicles

EDUCATE; CREATE; WITNESS:  
CHRIST AT THE CENTRE



## Head Teacher's Edition: Autumn Term 2018

<p><b>Introduction:</b> As another busy term draws to a close we look back and give thanks for all the wonderful opportunities that we have had. Here are a few of the highlights:</p> <p><b>Training:</b> As Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead respectively, Mrs Ward &amp; Mrs Brown have attended termly briefings. <b>Safeguarding our children is perhaps the single most important thing we do as a school and it is everyone's responsibility to report any concerns which they may have about a child.</b> Mrs Ward has also attended the 'Diocesan Head Teacher's termly briefing' and Deanery Partnership Meetings with the other 8 Sunderland Catholic Primary Schools. Alongside Mrs McGill (Teaching School Manager) she has also attended NETS meetings (North East Teaching Schools) and a National College for Teaching and Leadership-Strategic School Improvement Fund Event as part of our work as a Teaching School. Mrs Ward is also working with both the Local Authority and Diocese to mentor new Head Teachers. Mrs Steele has attended English Subject Leaders training as well as Schools Direct Mentors meetings and training. She is also undergoing training to once again work as a KS2 Writing Moderator for the local authority. Both she and Mrs Brown attended the Diocesan Heads &amp; Deputies Termly Conference in November and both</p>	<p>Ladies are taking part in the Diocesan led 'Aspiring Head Teachers' Course.</p> <p>Mrs Brown has also attended the usual SENDCO cluster meetings which ensure that we are up to date with latest developments. She has also undertaken special training on the development of Educational Health Care Plans and taken part in Local Authority sessions for those staff that are new to Y2.</p> <p>Mrs McAneny has attended a number of specialised Early Years courses and meetings including 'Cluster Moderation' &amp; 'The Early Years Forum Meeting' Other training in Early Years have included Mrs Barnes attending 'Mark Making &amp; Early Writing'.</p> <p>Miss McGill has attended an R.E. Coordinators Autumn term moderation session as well as specialised training on Marriage &amp; Ordination. She is also taking part in the Diocesan led 'Aspiring Deputy Heads' Course.</p> <p>Mrs Robbins has attended cluster science coordinators meetings.</p> <p>Miss Hardy is taking part in the Diocesan led 'Aspiring Middle Leaders' course and has also attended training on Behaviour Management.</p> <p>All Teachers &amp; Teaching Assistants have renewed their Emergency First Aid at Work Training and All teachers and teaching assistants also undertook Lockdown training delivered by the ICE CATS Team</p>
---	---

**Parish & Community:**

We celebrated 'Other Faiths Week' during September. Y1 & Y2 enjoyed finding out all about Hinduism whilst Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 enjoyed finding out all about Sikhism. Nursery & Reception will look at Islam later in the year.

Our Y6 children attended the Monkwearmouth Partnership mass on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September at St. Joseph's Parish Church. This was an opportunity for Y6 children from across the partnership to celebrate mass together.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, to mark family fast day, we held an 'odd sock' day in school. Families paid £1 to wear odd socks and all proceeds were donated to CAFOD raising an impressive £240. Following on from this on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October we held a CAFOD Assembly followed by workshops in every class. This was delivered by Anne Hepple, a CAFOD representative, and she helped children to understand the work of CAFOD and how families may feel having to flee war-torn areas.

Harvest Festival mass was celebrated on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October and once again we had an over whelming response from our families, who donated a huge amount of produce for the Sunderland Foodbank.

Y4 children have begun the sacramental preparation programme for First Holy Communion. They have attended 3 sessions in school so far and made their First Confession on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at The Holy Rosary Church with pupils from St. Leonard's. Special thanks to our wonderful team of catechists who are guiding our children through the programme.

Travelling Cribs have once again gone home with every child in school during the advent period. This is a resource that our families use

to help them focus on the season of Advent. It provides a short act of worship which is be enjoyed by the whole family. Each day during Advent the cribs are sent home to a different child in the class. These are unpacked and children spend some time thinking about what the season of Advent means to them today and how are we preparing for the birth of Jesus.

**Initial Teacher Training Opportunity:**

Have you ever thought about a different career path? A career which offers huge job satisfaction and provides an opportunity for you to make a real difference to the lives of local children. Why not train to become a teacher?

As you know, St. Cuthbert's is a designated Teaching School, leading the St. Bede's Deanery Alliance which is made up of the Sunderland Catholic Primary Schools. St. Cuthbert's works with Leeds Trinity University to offer Initial Teacher Training (ITT) following the non salaried post graduate Schools Direct route.

There are many different routes you can take to begin your Teacher Training, however our programme is a school led training programme which allows you to gain your qualification in school based environments- actually doing the job that you will qualify for.

You'll train in at least two good schools IN SUNDERLAND over the course of an academic year, gaining the valuable experience you will need to succeed in the classroom. You will be part of a team from the very start, receiving intensive support from experienced teachers and mentors.

If you are interested in the outstanding training we offer you can search for our training programme through UCAS

or contact our Teaching School Manager Mrs McGill on 0191 528 5094.

**THIS TRAINING IS SUNDERLAND BASED AND YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO TRAVEL TO LEEDS TRINITY.**

#### **School Events:**

School trips this term have included Y4 travelling to Jarrow Hall as part of their 'Invaders, Raiders & Traders' topic and Y3 travelling back in time at Beamish as part of their 'World War 2- Home Front' topic.

Y6 travelled to Hartlepool Maritime Museum and enjoyed a day aboard the Trincomalee as well as a trip to SafetyWorks to learn about real life emergency situations.

Y5 were also chosen to attend a special 'Show Racism The Red Card' day at the stadium of light where they enjoyed several interactive workshops and had the opportunity to meet some of the players. Y5 have also visited Hylton Castle and have worked with the Heritage Schools team and the Hylton Castle mission team.

Reception & Nursery Class have also enjoyed onesie Wednesday and enjoyed visiting Washington Arts Centre to enjoy 'Snow Play' as part of their Christmas celebrations. Special thanks must go to Mr Hill, one of our Governors, who very kindly volunteers on so many of our school trips. He also ensures our school mass is set up and runs smoothly each Wednesday and he and Mrs Hill also run our Rosary Club.

Year 5 have enjoyed a six week programme of tag rugby coaching delivered by All Stars Rugby. Other sporting events have included football and hockey tournaments at St. Anthony's and a visit from the Newcastle

Eagles Basketball team as our Y5 & Y6 children take part in the annual Hoops For Health competition.

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September we hosted a 'Big Coffee Afternoon' in support of Macmillan Cancer Support. This was a really well attended event with the staff very kindly providing all of the cakes for sale. We raised a magnificent £428.21 which was gratefully received by Macmillan.

Our annual book Fayre took place during the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> October. We had a great response from both children and parents and raised an impressive £1261.25 giving us a commission of £696.75 to spend on new books for school. Special thanks to Miss Watson who organises and runs our book fayre.

Y5 took part in Bikeability week during 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October. This course is designed to teach children how to ride safely on the roads, with control and confidence.

Children in Y2 have been taking part in the Walkwise pedestrian programme run in conjunction with City Of Sunderland. This encourages children to increase their knowledge of road safety in a fun way. Thanks to our parent volunteers- without who we could not run the programme.

Year 1 have also enjoyed a busy term. Not only have they been getting used to their new classroom they have also been getting used to some super hard work! During this term they have enjoyed a visit from the local district school nurses (one of who was our very own Miss Costello). When the school nurses came to visit they discussed how to stay safe when riding a bike or scooter. Y1 have also had a visit from the lady who instructs the Walkwise course in

Year 2. Children completed some activities on how to stay safe when walking in the dark. Year 1 have also been spending a lot of time practising for the Christmas production with year two. And finally, for the first year in year one, we were able to invite our grown-ups into school to watch our class liturgy and join us for a special Christmas Play & Stay.

The ICE CATS (In Case Of Emergency Children, Adults & Teacher Safety) team visited school on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> September to deliver their lockdown programme. We decided to use the programme to help support staff and children in school to learn how to respond to evacuation and lockdown procedures. These are things that new legislation requires schools should be planning for and implementing.

The ICE CATS programme uses a 30 minute lesson that is a fun and active P.E. lesson, it works with the curriculum and teaches children to respond to guidance in a 'worst case' scenario situation. As a school we understand the dangers we may face in modern society and by teaching young children and adults to respond, with simple commands and signals they will become second nature and may very well save lives. They are a life skill that can be used in any environment in or out of school. The programme was very well received and staff have implemented the ideas across the school.

#### **Christmas at St. Cuthbert's:**

##### **NATIVITY:**

All of our Nativity plays were once again a roaring success- certainly worthy of a BAFTA or two. Thanks to all the children and staff and to the family members who came along to support us. Very special memories of a special time of year.

##### **CHRISTMAS WEEK:**

This week sees Christmas Party Day and a visit from the Peter Pan Pantomime. The Choir have also performed at High Grindon House to rapturous applause from the residents. Finally, we ended our term with a special whole school Christmas Mass which set us up perfectly for the festive season.

##### **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:**

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas raffle this year. You will be pleased to hear that we raised an impressive £342.00 which will go towards school funds. The raffle was drawn and all winners have been notified. Thank you for your generous support.

##### **CHRISTMAS JUMPERS:**

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of 'Save the Children' raised £63.90 and certainly made our Christmas Lunch Day extra special.

##### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIME REMINDER:**

Holy Rosary- 24<sup>th</sup> Dec- 5.00pm & 12 Midnight  
St. Anne's & Holy Family- 24<sup>th</sup> Dec- 6pm  
(Carols from 5.30pm) & 25<sup>th</sup> December-  
9.15am  
Immaculate Heart- 25<sup>th</sup> Dec- 10.00am  
St. Leonard's- 24<sup>th</sup> Dec- 5.30pm

**I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. I hope that you all enjoy the break and return refreshed for the Spring term on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019.**

**MRS J. WARD- Head Teacher.**

--	--