

**St. Cuthbert's R.C. Primary School**  
*EDUCATE; CREATE; WITNESS:*  
*CHRIST AT THE CENTRE.*  
Grindon Lane, Sunderland. SR4 8HP.  
Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Ward



Telephone: 0191 5285094 E-mail: [office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk) Visit at: [www.stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk)

## **We are an Operation Encompass School**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### **END OF TERM LETTER**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you so much for your continuing support during these challenging times, particularly in this last week where we have been overwhelmed by your kind and thoughtful messages. It has been a very difficult and stressful week for us, as I imagine it has for you and it was certainly not the way we wanted, or how we envisaged ending the term. Despite not being able to film and record our Carol Service and Christmas songs, we hope that through our remote learning we have successfully managed to bring a bit of Christmas to our children and yourselves,

### **Covid-19 email**

Just in case anyone has missed the post on Dojo, can all parents please ensure that over the Christmas period if a child tests positive, can they please notify us letting us know the date they experienced symptoms from, the date they had the test and the date they have been advised to isolate to, by dropping the school office an email at the following:

[covid@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:covid@stcuthbertsprimaryschool.co.uk)

This will help ensure a swift return in January.

### **January Arrangements:**

We are not planning on changing any of the collection and drop off arrangements so can you please make sure you bring and collect your children at the correct times. It is very hard for us to police this and so we do heavily rely on your cooperation for this. We appreciate that the rules that we have put in place are inconvenient but we have them to try and ensure everyone's safety. All other arrangements with regards to items being brought in and lunches remain the same. If there is any change to guidance or children's return date to school (as I know there is currently a lot of speculation about this in the media) I will off course let you know as soon as that information is made available to me.

### **Christmas Gifts**

Thank you so much for all the food donations, toiletries and the toys. These have been collected / dropped off and were very gratefully received by St Aidan's food bank and by Cash for Kids Mission Christmas. Once again the generosity of our parents has blown us away and there will be many families and children who will benefit from your kindness.



## **Termly Thanks**

Firstly, to our parents, thank you so much for the support you have shown us throughout this year, it is greatly appreciated by us all. You should be ever so proud of your children as they are very resilient and have come back to school with great enthusiasm and a zest for life. We are under no illusions that the challenges this virus brings are real and a threat to our health- so we will continue to remain vigilant as we enter 2021.

We also have two special thanks to give to two of our parents.

Firstly, to Melissa Ferguson, who provided the children with the amazing Halloween sweet treats the children brought home with them on Halloween party day. The children were so pleased and appreciative of them so on behalf of the school a massive 'Thank You'!

Secondly, we want to mention Allison Quinn who organised, through the company she works for (BGL), for them to pay for the apps we are now using to support our remote learning – Mathletics, Readiwriter, Eggspress, Readingeggs and Spag.com. They are proving to be very popular with our children and have helped the staff so much in allowing us to continue your children's learning at home. So again on behalf of our school community a massive 'Thank You' – it was so generous of your company!

The governance of the school has adapted well to the challenges of 2020. We thank our governors who are no longer in Post- Mr Tim Connors and Mrs Sara Wilkinson- for sterling work over many years; as well as Mr Len Stule, our Chair of Governors, who recently passed away. His humour and wit, in addition to his invaluable dedication and contribution to the school as part of the governing body will be very much missed.

Finally I would like to thank all the members of staff at St Cuthbert's for their dedication in ensuring our school building is safe, clean, bright and welcoming for children whilst still delivering a broad and balanced curriculum and trying to bring a level of normality to their lives. This year staff have had to rise to new challenges and do jobs well beyond their job description. They have done this without complaint to ensure your children are cared for and safe. From, the teaching and support staff, to our Office team, our cleaners, caretaker, lunchtime supervisors and our catering team they have all gone above and beyond – I can't thank them enough and from the messages I have had over the last few days from so many parents I know you feel the same!

## **Special Mention – Mrs White Retirement**

This special mention has been saved until last. We have news to share with you all, that Mrs White has taken the decision to retire. She has been a huge asset and will be a huge loss to the school having had a deep impact on those children that she has worked with over her 21 years of dedication to the school. Sadly, with everything that has been happening this week we weren't able to give her the 'send of' she deserved but we hope she will come back and visit us once the pandemic is over so we can give it to her then. I am sure you will all join me in saying a massive 'Thank you' and wishing her all the best as she embarks on this new journey to spend it with her gorgeous grandson.

On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Peace, Health and Happiness for the New Year. Take care and stay safe over the holidays and we will see you back on the 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Thank you once again for all your support,  
Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Steele  
Acting Head Teacher



