



St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (NC)  
Gumbleberrys Close, Off Cotterills Lane,  
Stechford, Birmingham B8 2PS

# NEWSLETTER

9th October 2020

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### School Prayer

This is our school;  
Let peace live here;  
Let the rooms be full of  
happiness;  
Let love live here.

Love of God,  
Love of one another  
And love of life itself.

Let us remember  
That as many hands  
build a house,  
So many hearts make a  
School.



Amen.

Good afternoon everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and coping with the current situation. I appreciate how challenging things can be on a day to day level. We haven't had to send any classes home to isolate so far; however we are aware of cases of Covid in the community. We have some families isolating and other families who have been tested or are being tested.

I think we all have to accept that there may be a point when a class does get sent home. If this happens a letter will accompany your child with up to date information on about isolating and working from home.

One common question is if a child is sent home to isolate do the whole family have to isolate. The answer is no; unless someone in the family starts displaying symptoms, then all the household must isolate and a test is recommended.

I have guidance that is being updated constantly and I will follow this if notified of a case.

### MacMillan and Harvest

Thank you very much to the staff who provided cakes for our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raised £105 for MacMillan and I know that they will be extremely grateful for any donation at this present time.

Year 4 had their class Mass last week on the theme of Harvest. They collected food for the local foodbank. Each class will now collect donations for the Foodbank.

Stechford foodbank need:

UHT / Powdered Milk  
Rice pudding  
Tinned Fruit & fruit juice  
Tinned vegetables, tomatoes & soup  
Tinned meat  
Biscuits

Thank you for your support—it really does make a difference to people.

### Your Prayers

Your prayers are asked for the Fernandez family as the funeral of Andre's mum has taken place this week.

I also ask your prayers for Mrs Baker whose mother died last week and Mrs Mehew whose father died a few weeks ago.

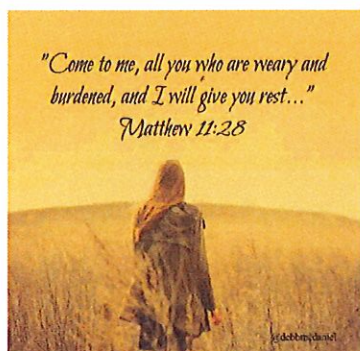
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.*

Amen





October is the  
Month of The  
Rosary we think of  
the joyful, sorrowful,  
glorious and  
illuminating times  
in the life of Jesus  
And we ask for Mary's  
Help and support.



I don't often get tired and frustrated but these past weeks have been a challenge. I am sure Holy Communion tomorrow will revive my weary spirit. I also know how blessed we are in this community with wonderful families and I am frustrated by just a few incidents and the world in general.

Many thanks

Mrs Hobbs

*S.M. Hobbs*

## COVID Symptoms

We would like to remind you of the symptoms of Covid-19

- > A high temperature
- > A new, continuous cough
- > A loss or change to your sense of smell or/and taste.

Please also be aware that under the guidance we cannot report to you who has been tested and if there is a positive test who it is. No-one is going to catch Covid on purpose and the guidance is clear that we cannot divulge people's personal information.

## Communication

I don't often write to complain but I feel compelled to explain my feelings on a few issues.

Everyone in school is working as hard as they can for all our pupils. I do not expect anyone to be rude or aggressive to my staff. There have been a couple of incidents recently in which members of staff have been spoken to badly. This will not be tolerated. Whether it be about behaviour, uniform, homework, hair cuts, special needs, medical needs or incidents within school there is absolutely no need to be aggressive, rude or demanding.

**Holidays:** I think more than ever you need to inform us if you are going on holiday in term time. There are many countries in which people are supposed to isolate when they return. Please don't just go on holiday and not tell us or equally ignore our phone calls. I have a legal obligation to know where the children of St Cuthbert's are during term time and why they are not in school.

Finally, St Cuthbert's is a school in Stechford, next to high rise flats and on a cul de sac. I know how distressing it is seeing the rubbish and filth but please don't just talk about how 'downhill' everything has gone. Work with us to do something about it. I am working with the council to develop some ideas of how we can improve our area—I'd like your support and for you to be part of it. We can change things if we work together but just moaning is not going to change anything.

I do not say these things lightly but I repeat that we are all trying our very best and I am very proud of the staff and children of the school.

## First Holy Communion

This will be our first sacramental celebration in the Covid era and it has been challenging for those of us involved in the organisation. I want to thank the staff again, some of whom are cleaning the church and setting it up tonight, some who will be supporting the Year 4's tomorrow and some who will clean the church afterwards. I think this dedication demonstrates how much we value the celebration of the sacrament.

I would also like to thank the wonderful children of Year 4, alongside Mrs Baker, Mrs McKenna and Mrs Hart, who have accepted and worked with all the changes we have had to make. I am very proud of them.

Finally, thank you to the parents and families who have so gracefully accepted that we cannot hold the 'full' celebration that we have in past and have made this process as easy as possible from the school and the children. My final plea, is that you follow all the guidance we sent out to you and please respect the rules of the church tomorrow. We are blessed to have Father Andrew and I wouldn't want the community of St Cuthbert's to make his position more difficult by breaking the church's Covid rules.