



Newsletter 28
17rd April 2020



Dear Parents,

Hello to you all and I hope that you were able to enjoy your Easter break despite the lockdown. It will be difficult for some I know, but also a time when families actually can spend good time together – something that is often denied us in normal life!



Most of all I hope you are all safe and well. This is a worrying time for all and there will be families dealing with illnesses and losses. Others are bravely helping others and I am sure you have all been clapping our key workers on a Thursday. I hope as a community we can come together and celebrate the lives of all our loved ones together when we are able to.

“Term” is due to start again on Monday. Whilst we are still closed, class teachers will be putting up daily work for pupils to re-engage with learning and come together as a class. We are as much in the dark as to when this will be as you are, but in the meantime, we will continue to work with all the pupils via the blog. Please ask children to comment to their teachers so they can appreciate what the children are doing – and know that they are still doing some learning!

We have a surprise for the pupils – a staff video of what we were up to at Easter!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XVEo-aC6to_5mdhHtuYJomEM3qDtRjvb/view?ts=5e99d0c1

The video is posted on our new pupil blog at www.communitycuthbert.edublogs.org where you can share news/activities – work or otherwise. While it is not possible to “post” directly on the blog, you can, and are welcome to, comment by clicking on a post and scrolling down. Any posts you want to contribute should be send to blog@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk

Staff News

We are sad to announce that Mrs Cassidy is retiring and left the staff at Easter. The onset of the coronavirus prevented us from having a proper farewell to Mrs Cassidy, so we will be inviting her back for a proper send off when we can. Mrs Cassidy has dedicated 20 years to the school and been such a big part of school life, not only directly supporting children but with her talents in costume design and wonderful displays. Thank you and enjoy a well-earned rest and we look forward to seeing you soon.

We do have a new member of staff in our new site manager Mr McKinnon, who started in the Easter Holidays and immediately became a key worker to have our premises open for our key worker children. We welcome him... from a distance... and look forward to working with him.

Key worker childcare

St Cuthbert Mayne will continue to make provision for key worker children while we are closed. They have been at St Rose's over the Easter Holidays but return to St Cuthbert Mayne from Monday. Our thanks to Miss Brydon and APEX as well as those at St Rose's for their help with children from both the schools.

Gade schools family support

Gade Schools Family Support continue to be available to support parents during the Easter break and beyond and will continue to communicate some useful tips and techniques to support parents at home – these are attached to this newsletter. The focus this week is to explore ways in which we can talk to our children and reduce any anxieties they may be having and the second is a document providing some useful links recommended by Hertfordshire County Council on different activities that can be accessed at home.

Mass and Services

I hope you have been able to take part in the live streaming of the Easter services with Fr Brian and Fr Kim. The Hemel parishes continues to celebrate Mass in this different way. Our thanks to both parish priests for being there for us, particularly over Easter. Thank you particularly to Fr Brian for his messages to our children each week. The Mass links can be found at <http://www.hemelcatholic.org/mass-live/> Details of a number of live web Masses elsewhere in the diocese can be found on <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/>

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Best wishes

Fionnuala Smith
Head Teacher