



Newsletter 1
4th September 2020



Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to all our families – returning and new to St Cuthbert Mayne – and thank you for the considerate way you entered the school. It was very congested but that is to be expected with 60 children joining the school today – you were fantastic and the children have been amazing throughout the day. Our only issue was some Year 3 and 4 children arriving early. If your Year 3 and 4 child does not have a sibling in Year 5 and 6 please try to avoid getting to school (the car park) before 8.55. This will help parents of Year 5 and 6 to use the car park for drop off and be out of the way for Year 3 and 4 parents. In addition, we plan to open the top gate (to the upper playground) for those entering on foot – please could parents say goodbye to their child before entering the school grounds.

A special welcome to our Year 3 families. It has been a pleasure for our staff to get to know them and they have made a wonderful start. We look forward to working with you as we all go on this journey in what can be an anxious time for all. The children's resilience is an inspiration and we hope to support them on this return to full time education in school.

Badges, Pens, Ties and Shoes

These can all be paid for on the School Gateway – which will act as an ordering system. Items will be given to the children to bring home.

School iron-on badges are now in. Parents can pay for these via the school gateway and the badges will be given to the child to bring home. We are selling the badges in twos - £3 for two badges. Ties are £3.10 each.

All children will be issued with a pen at the start of term. We are selling pens in multiples of 2 for £2 (£1 each).

We have decided not to ask children to change into plimsolls in school and not to change shoes for break and lunchtime – this saves time in class and supports keeping hands clean. Please look at the guidance on shoes in our school uniform policy (on website). Children are not permitted to wear school shoes with logos.

Music

Instrumental Tuition

Lessons for those Year 5 and 6 pupils who were taking lessons at school up until March 2020 will re start from Monday 14th September. with Mrs Greengrass (Violin); Mr Jones (Brass) and Mrs Strzalka (Fife Flute) on Wednesday 16th September, and Recorder with Mrs Larbey on Tuesday 15th September. Please remind your child to bring their instrument, music, and lesson book on those days. Lessons will take place in the Music Room or Hall. All areas meet the Covid 19 Risk Assessment criteria. Lessons will be 1-1 or 1-2. Information about lesson fees and payment (direct to Herts Music Service, not the school) will be sent to parents in the next 2-3 weeks. Please do not send any payment to school.

Instrumental Lesson vacancies

There are spaces available for Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils who may wish to start learning an instrument in school and who are not taking lessons at Dacorum Music School. Our four experienced instrumental teachers all work for the Hertfordshire Music Service and provide an excellent standard of teaching. There are eleven lessons each term. **If you would like to register your child's name, class and preferred instrument, please email the school office by Wednesday 9th September.** The instrumental teacher will then meet your child in school for a short chat/audition. A letter will be sent home to confirm if they have been offered a space, together with details of lessons and payment arrangements. We do have a number of school violins and brass instruments that can be loaned free to new pupils. Recorder and Fife pupils will be required to purchase their own instrument, details will be sent home.

After School Clubs

We are hoping to start Year 6 football club in a few weeks time – details will go to pupils.

APEX are planning to run after school football clubs for each year group maintaining the school bubbles – details to follow.

Munchkids are hoping to re-open later this month and have been in touch as to how this can be arranged in line with our guidance – please contact them directly for more information.

Illness

Please do not bring your child to school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms OR if they have a non-COVID illness. Please inform the school office of the reason for any absence by 8.30am either by email to admin@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk or telephone 01442 253347 – message service available.

Guidance

Please do refer to our COVID-19 guidance and related policies that can be found on the website under parent information, COVID-19 updates.

Staffing

We are welcoming several new members of staff: Miss Calloway joins us in Year 3 (3N) and Miss Phillipps in Year 5 (5Mandela). Mrs Hobbs is now a class teacher in Year 6 (6MLK). We also welcome teaching assistants Mrs Mclroy (Year 3), Mrs Liddle (Year 3), Mrs Wheeler (Year 4), Mrs Reynolds (Year 4).

We look forward to you meeting your child's teacher at our Meet the Teacher evening on September 19th (7pm). The teachers and class names are as follows:

Year 3 Anning	Miss E Ryan
Year 3 Nightingale	Miss S Calloway
Year 4 Jemison	Mrs A Young & Mrs L Welch
Year 4 Attenborough	Miss S Thompson
Year 5 Mandela	Miss G Phillipps
Year 5 Einstein	Mrs S Poyner & Miss J Sheridan
Year 6 Johnson	Miss R Reed
Year 6 Martin Luther King	Mrs A Hobbs

Additional teachers: Mr Collingwood, Mrs Knight, Mrs Crompton (French), Mrs Rayson (SENDco)

Our Meet the Teacher will take on a new format this year – more details to follow.

I just wanted to end this brief opening newsletter by emphasising that we delighted to have the children back at school. We have had some classes with 100% attendance today and strong attendance across the school. Thank you for making this possible when many families have had such difficult times. We hope to support your children with getting back to normality – spiritually; in their well-being; and succeeding academically.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday,

Best wishes

Mrs Smith
Headteacher