



**Newsletter 2**  
**11<sup>th</sup> September 2020**



This Monday marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Cuthbert Mayne School (formerly know as Blessed Cuthbert Mayne before his beatification). The school first accepted pupils in 1958 but was official opened by Cardinal William Godfrey on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1960.

This beautiful glass cross is now displayed at the front entrance – designed and created by parent and artist Adriana Garcia-Tonello. The design includes our school colour and flecks of yellow to represent St Rose’s as part of our community. We look forward to you all seeing it. Please remember the school especially in your prayers this weekend.



Dear Parents,

I want to start this newsletter saying how wonderful it has been to have children back in school. The children have been fantastic in adapting to our new way of working and playing and it is so good to get back to some form of normality. Special praise goes to Year 3 who have settled in so well and have picked up new routines seamlessly. There have also additional been benefits – more room to play and consistency in support from their year group bubble. Behaviour has been outstanding and the children are a credit to their families. Thank you for your patience in getting it right at drop off and pick up. We are still having Year 3 and 4 parents (with no older siblings) coming to the car park before 8.55. For your own convenience – there is no congestion in the car park between 8.55 and 9.05. Please try to stick to the timings for the benefit of all.

Curriculum work and "re-activation" of learning has now started. We are holding Year group Assemblies on a rota basis on Mondays and Fridays. We have increased our support staff to both aid well-being and academic learning.

Apologies for all the guidance, instructions and actions needed by parents at this time of year. Once all the systems are up in place, it will be easier! Today Year 3 will be coming out of school with a paper copy of the Home School Agreement that was also sent out electronically with the Wednesday Email. Please return your signed copy – electronically (scanned) or paper form – as this is a statutory requirement.

### **Lenten Boxes Appeal**

It is several months since the Lenten Boxes were given out... and much has happened in between. The collection is for the Catholic Children's Society. They have continued to support vulnerable local families in London, Hertsfordshire and the South East throughout the pandemic, yet their funding has diminished during this time. If you still have your Lenten Boxes, please could you bring these in (still in the box/ in a plastic bag or envelope) by next Friday. Children should give them in either to myself at the gate or their class teacher. Any contributions for the Catholic Children's Society will be gratefully received and we will send them off next Friday. Thank you to those who have returned their boxes. To see the work of the Catholic Children's Society visit <https://www.cathchild.org.uk/>

### **Music lessons**

ALL pupils wishing to continue or start music lessons this term MUST register with Herts Music Service before lessons can start. Registration details are on [www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/registeronline](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/registeronline). This is for lessons in school.

### **Pick Up/Drop off**

The flow of cars in the car park is improving with parents sticking to the allotted time. If your children are in Year 3 and 4 (except siblings of Year 5 and 6 pupils) **please do not come to the car park until 8.55**, when you are likely to find it flowing much better.

At drop off we are now asking parents to come on to the playground one year group at a time, starting with Year 6. Please do not turn up early for your pick up time as this adds to the congestion. We will have a poster on display for the relevant Year group.

Siblings: If you have collected one child and you need to wait for a sibling you are welcome to come to the lower part of the playground (turn right when you come into gate) and wait for the sibling there. If you prefer to go out and round again, you are welcome to do so, whichever you are most comfortable with.

## **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club is thriving and working well in Year group bubbles. Children need to arrive by 8.15 (start time 7.55) via the parent car park. If you are late, you will need to ring 07526076963 to alert a member of staff to let you in. Children are not able to come in the front entrance.

## **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](mailto:admin@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk) or telephone 01442 253347 – message service available.

If you have any concerns regarding COVID-19 symptoms, it is suggested that you take your child for a test. This is normally as a precaution but also provides absolute clarity for the school in the interest of all children and staff. Any possible cases of COVID-19 will cause anxiety in the school community so I would suggest that you do not share information about your child's health widely (ie on class WhatsApp) as this causes undue anxiety – to parents and children. We have had several children and staff tested and thankfully all have been negative. However, should there be a case, parents will be alerted at the first opportunity. We will follow our guidance that is on the website for suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Communication with school is vitally important. I would re-iterate that if your child has any other form of illness they should be kept off school.

## **Trading cards ban**

Match Attack / Card collections – please be aware that cards for swapping in school are not permitted. Children should only be bringing school items into school.

**After School Clubs** – APEX are starting after school football clubs for Year 3 (Tues); Year 4 (Wed); Year 5 (Thurs) from Monday. Please go to their website [www.apex360.co.uk/bookings](http://www.apex360.co.uk/bookings) to sign up. They are restricting numbers in accordance with Government guidance. Mr Collingwood will be running a Year 6 football club on a Monday and will send out details for signing up next week. Again this will be limited in numbers.

## **School places**

We are currently full in Year 5 and Year 6 but have spaces available in Year 3 and Year 4 should you know of anyone looking for a school place in a Catholic school.

Wishing you all a relaxing and peaceful weekend,

Best wishes

Mrs Smith  
Headteacher