

St Cuthbert's CofE Junior School



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Welcome back and what a very cold start to the new year it has been! The new year provides us with an opportunity to reflect and regroup and it has been a real pleasure listening to the children and finding out what they have been up to over the two weeks off school.

The weather is very, very cold at the moment so could I ask that parents check to make sure children are coming to school with warm clothing on please. Some children have still been coming to school without a coat. Please make sure that coats, fleeces and other warm clothes have your child's name written in the label. We have an extraordinary amount of clothing in lost property so please check if you have lost something.

Year 5 and 6 drama

Year 5 and 6 have had a great time this week doing a drama-based activity outside which is linked to their writing topic. They did choose the coldest week we have had so far to do it but it seemed to add to the adventure and the children had a fantastic time. I am very much looking forward to reading their writing which has been inspired by the drama they have done.

Year 3 and 4 Educational Visit

We have an exciting visit coming up for our Year 3 and 4 children. They will be visiting Cheddar Caves and museum on 1st March. This is a great opportunity to support their learning in History and Geography topic this term - 'The Stone Age to Iron Age'. The objective of the visit will be to improve their knowledge and understanding of life in prehistoric times.



Bikeability



Year 6 have the opportunity to take part in bikeability on 29th February and 1st March. We like to ask Year 6 children first as this will be their last chance before leaving us for secondary school.

We have a lot of names already down but we have not had any adult volunteers to go out with the instructors and children. Please can you check to see if you are able to do this. We

cannot run opportunities like this without your support. Parents will need to have a bicycle and a bike helmet. We really need your help to enable this to happen so if you can support on either or both of the days please contact the school office.

Staffing Changes



We are delighted to let you know that Kim Hanks is returning to Himalayas class from her maternity leave after February half term. Mrs Ramsey will be leaving us to move on to another teaching position locally. Whilst we are looking forward to having Mrs Hanks back, we are also all very sad that Mrs Ramsey is going.

Mrs Hanks will be in and around school over the next few weeks so do make sure you say hello when you see her.

I am sure that you will agree that Mrs Ramsey has done a fantastic job and we wish her all the very best for the future.

PE Kit

From September 2024, we have decided to have blue t shirts only for PE. We **will not** be using the yellow, green and red t shirts from our house system. We have informed the uniform shop so be aware that only blue t shirts will be available to buy from September. If you have yellow, green or red t-shirts, children can still wear these until they need to be replaced.

Sports Festivals

Due to the ongoing structural issues at The Blue School, all sports festivals have been cancelled.

Online Grooming — minimising risks

As children continue to find new ways to connect with each other on a range of devices and platforms, it is increasingly important to help them make smarter and safer choices about who they talk to and what they share online, especially with an increase of groomers online.

To help you give them the tools to be more critical about how they interact with others online, the site below has created a hub of expert advice to support you on this issue.

Find out how to protect children by going to: www.internetmatters.org

Smart Watches

There have been a number of children coming into school following the Christmas holiday with smart watches. These watches are a fantastic piece of technology; they can take photographs, access the Internet and receive calls. Because of this, we need to treat them the same as a mobile phone so any children wearing smart watches will be asked to give them to the office for safe keeping until the end of the day.

Can I also remind everyone that all mobile phones need to be handed into the school office at the beginning of the day.

Safequarding

Safeguarding is high priority at St Cuthbert's Junior School. We take every opportunity to ensure that our pupil's safety is paramount. We want our pupils to be healthy and happy and to develop well, both physically and mentally.

Our Designated Lead (DSL) is Mrs Helen Mullinger and our Deputy Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are Mrs Alison Allen, Mrs Liz Ramsey, Miss Lisa McLaurie and Mrs Helen Singleton.

Our school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy can be found on the school website https://www.stcuthbertsjuniorswells.co.uk/policies

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child you can either talk to our DSL or DDSL as above, or you can phone Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224.

With many thanks for your continuing support

Helen Mullinger

Headteacher

Helling



