

Newsletter

St Cuthbert Mayne | Summer 1, 2024



Resilience



Self-regulation



Empathy

A message from the Head

What a busy half term with lots to celebrate and much for pupils, staff and parents to be proud of.

Last week we celebrated Pentecost and reflected together on how we can bring peace to others through our words and actions, guided by the Holy Spirit's help. We talked about the importance of saying sorry when we are wrong or have hurt someone and of forgiving others quickly when they hurt us.

As a school, we believe that developing resilience, self-regulation and empathy is essential for creating an environment where each of us can bring peace to ourselves and others through what we do and say. This can feel hard to do - and you don't have to look far to see that this is a common struggle for people throughout the world.

As Catholic Christians, we believe that the Holy Spirit can help us and we concluded our collective worship last Friday with the following prayer... I hope you find it as inspiring as I did.



All:
O Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful
by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that by the gift of that same Spirit
we may be always truly wise
and ever rejoice in His consolation.

Amen.

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House Winners

Look out for our House Winners in the final newsletter of the year!

Alex Sallis (Headteacher)

Mass and Liturgies

Year 4 led our liturgies this half term. As always they were wonderful celebrations. It was lovely to have parents join us and the orchestra continues to develop their skills by accompanying our singing.



Pupil Led Worship

Children have continued to lead worship in their classes, with a focus on pupils evaluating their session in order to support them to improve overtime.

Dominican Sisters

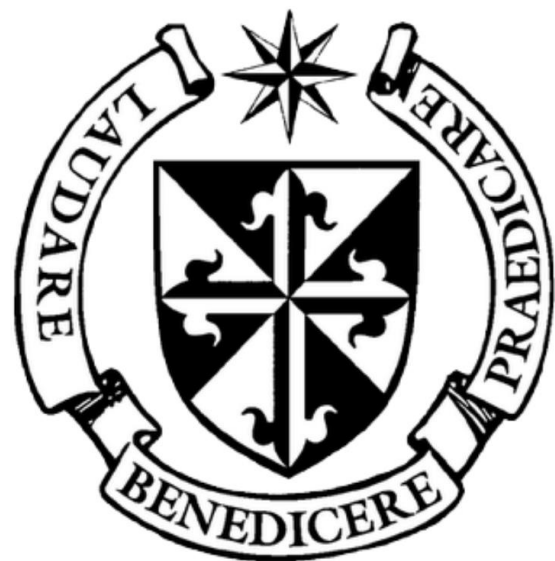
We are proud to be a Dominican school. Our Dominican heritage is a source of pride and inspiration encapsulated in our motto: "To Praise, To Bless, To Preach".

You can find out more about the Dominican Associates through their website. We are planning a trip for our incoming Chaplaincy Team to visit the Rosary Priory in the new academic year.

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching provides us with principles to help guide us on how we should respond to our faith as individuals, and actively respond to God's call to work towards a common good. Each half term we will look at one of the key themes:

- Human Dignity
- Community & Participation
- Care for Creation
- Dignity in Work
- Option for the Poor
- Solidarity & Peace



Upcoming Mass / Liturgies in School

June 6th – Whole School Mass at St Mary and St Joseph in Boxoor (5M)

July 2nd – St Peter and Paul Liturgy (5E)

July 18th (Thursday) at 9am – Leavers' Mass (Year 6)

CLASSES

Year 3

Year 3 had an amazing day experiencing pre-historical times at the Celtic Harmony Camp. Once we were permitted to join the local tribe (we had to prove we weren't attacking the camp!), we followed our leaders Cariad & Fynbar as they led us back in time over 2 million years. It really brought our classroom learning to life.

We learnt more about the three main eras of pre-history, and we were able to discover and experience what life would have been like. We were able to pick up new skills through the hands-on activities: Soap arrowhead making using flint in the Stone Age; making clay pots inspired by the Beaker people from the Bronze Age and finally grain grinding using a Quern Stone followed by bread dough making as part of the Iron Age.



CLASSES

Year 5

Year 5 have taken part in a local field trip to Gadebridge Park as well as a trip to Hazard Alley. Thank you to the teachers and parent volunteers who made these trips possible.

Children have been writing some exceptional stories inspired by the book 'A River' by Marc Martin with more than a few headteacher awards handed out by Mr Sallis.



CLASSES

Year 4

It has been a busy half term for Year 4, starting with both classes organising a liturgy for the whole school. 4 Jemison led the Marian Liturgy and planted flowers to symbolise Mary and gave each class a 'Mary Garden' for their prayer table.

Year 4 then took part in a STEMPoint workshop to learn about electricity. The children learnt about renewable energy, made circuits and used the sun's rays to power mini windmills.



CLASSES

Year 6

Year 6 focused hard on preparation for their end of key stage assessments and then enjoyed a week away on a residential.



Behaviour

We have continued to focus on developing the core values of resilience, self-regulation and empathy in all children in school. Each Friday I discuss these with pupils and in Summer 2 staff will be developing further opportunities for children to understand and practice these values in their day-to-day interactions. Thank you for your support with this important work.

SEND

Mrs Rayson held a second coffee morning for parents alongside partner agencies with a focus on transition. Thank you to professionals and parents who participated in the event.

Volunteers

Thank you again to all the parents and governors who have volunteered throughout the half term. Any support for Forest School, Swimming or other trips and events is always very welcome.



How have you demonstrated our values this week?



Resilience

Resilience means being strong on the inside and bouncing back when things are tough, like a rubber ball that bounces back after hitting the ground.



Self-regulation

Self-regulation means being able to manage your emotions, thoughts, and behaviours in different situations. It's like being in control of your personal remote control.



Empathy

Empathy means understanding and caring about how someone else feels. It's like putting yourself in their shoes and seeing the world from their perspective.

After School Clubs

After school clubs have been well used. For the summer term clubs please see this week's Wednesday email. New additions to the offer are tennis and rounders!

Summer After School Clubs 2023-24					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
APEX		Inclusive Football (Mixed) Years 3-4		Inclusive Football (Mixed) Years 5-6	
Watford Education Trust	Dodgeball Years 4-6	Squad Football (Boys) Years 5-6	Squad Football (Girls) Years 5-6	Tennis Years 3-6	Rounders Years 3-6
Amanda Tizard		Netball (Mixed) Years 5-6			
Challenge Education					Boxing Years 3-6
Playfeet		Drama Years 3-6	Drama Years 3-6		
Kew Dance				Dance Years 3-6	
Mona Shiraz	Art Years 3-6				

EduPod Caregivers Survey

Please complete this short questionnaire in order to help us develop our whole school approach to support the wellbeing of everyone in our community. It is anonymous so we will not be able to match any personal details with your answers.

Breakfast Club

If you would like to make use of our breakfast club provision, please book on Arbor. Children choose two delicious but healthy breakfast items from a variety of choices and enjoy time with peers before the school day begins. (Photos above!)

STAFF UPDATE

Welcome

We welcome Miss McCarroll from a local school and as a past pupil herself who is joining us as a class teacher from September.

Welcome to Coach Cally who has taken the baton from Coach Emma, supporting us with our PE and after school sports provision through Watford FC Education Trust.

Goodbye

Coach Emma left us to take on a new role as youth Development Lead at Fulham Football Club. Congratulations – we know she will be great.

Congratulations to Miss Healey who successfully secured a job at a local school following the completion of her training with us in 5E.

PUPIL GROUPS

School Council

A sub group of the School Council have been helping to create a child-friendly safeguarding policy and this work will be completed throughout the remainder of the summer term.

Chaplaincy Team

The Chaplaincy Team have continued to support with collective worship each Friday. They will be involved in recruiting the next Chaplaincy Team from our Year 5 cohort this coming half term.

POPstars

The POPStars have been meeting regularly this half term and led our 'Walk to School Week' before half term.

House Captains



FOREST SCHOOL

We are very much enjoying the sunshine at Forest School. Please can I ask you to remember sun hats and sun cream for your children. We will continue to change our shoes for forest school as we are still getting muddy when doing the gardening or using the mud kitchen, however, old trainers or walking boots are fine if it is too warm for wellies. On certain weeks, we will be making full use of the wooded area of the park, just outside the school grounds, which has lots of brambles and stinging nettles so please either keep sending in the waterproof trousers or some other item of clothing to pull on, to cover the legs for this activity, otherwise shorts are fine.

If anyone has any large log slices, that we could use as seats for the fire circle, and would like to donate them, I would be very grateful.



MUSIC

Curriculum Music

Mrs Jones has been teaching music successfully to Years 4, 5 and 6 using a scheme of work called 'Charanga'.

Orchestra

Miss Larbey has continued to provide first access music sessions to Year 3 this half term.

SPORTS

Lunchtime Clubs and Sports Premium

Mrs Tizard has continued to lead sporting and physical activities at lunchtime on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This coming half term there are a number of competitions planned including cricket and a SEND specific sports festival. Mrs Tizard is funded through a government grant provided to all publicly funded schools to make additional and sustainable improvements to the quality of PE and sport they offer. Mrs Tizard will be running the following clubs this half term – do encourage your child to take part!

Year 3 and Year 4 – Cricket / Year 5 and Year 6 - Rounders

Sports Premium – Key indicators

- 1 Engagement of all pupils in regular physical activity
- 2 Raise the profile of PE and Sport across the school
- 3 Increase confidence, knowledge and skills of staff
- 4 Broader experience of a range of sports and activities
- 5 Increased participation in competitive sports

Governors

The Finance Committee brought the school budget to Full Governing Body this half term where it was discussed by governors and was approved.

The Admissions Committee met and reviewed our process for in-year applications.

If you would like to find out more about the role of the Governing Body, please email:

mariabutchart@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk

DfE School Building Project

The DfE are in the early stages of preparing an appeal to the planning inspectorate and are keeping school leaders informed about progress made.

Academisation

Academisation is now due to take place on 1st July. There have been ongoing difficulties around land transfer and overlap with our participation in the School Rebuilding Programme. I met with the ASCAT CEO last week who continues to provide valuable support to myself and governors throughout this process and I am looking forward to joining other Trust School Headteachers for a strategy day next week.

Parent Association

Thank you to the parent association for leading our Mothers' Day fundraising activity. Up next is the Space Dome – funded by the PA straight after half term, Fathers' Day and the popular 'Rainbow Day'.

A huge thank you to those parents who make this possible. We are having difficulty with finalising a date for Sports Day this year but will make a final decision on Monday 3rd and communicate out to parents as soon as possible. We are really keen to provide an opportunity for parents and children to come together after this event and will be seeking support for this. Please keep an eye out for further information.

Attendance

Please continue to report all absences and medical appointments via the dedicated attendance email:

attendance@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk

For all other absence requests please continue to complete the Google Form: [Application for Leave of Absence](#)

Please see the most up-to-date information regarding attendance on our [school website](#).