



St Cuthbert's CofE Junior School



Newsletter 04/09/25

Welcome back! The holiday seems to have gone by very quickly indeed and we are back to school and ready to learn. It has been lovely to open up the doors again and see everyone return.

I would like to say a very special welcome to our new Year 3 children and their families. We have some wonderful children in school who will really help our new children to settle in quickly.

The autumn term is always packed with variety as we head towards the festivities of December via Harvest and Remembrance. We look forward to an action-packed term ahead and lots of exciting learning!

We have had a lot of workmen in school over the holidays doing lots of different work around school. The most visible has been the fencing that has been erected around the pond area, stream and farm. This will ensure that children are safe at all times when they are playing outside.

Staff Changes

As you will be aware, Mrs Hanks left to take up a new position at another school. Mrs McKie will be the full-time class teacher in Himalayas and she is very much looking forward to this.

Parents Evening Meeting

We have set the dates for parent meetings this year for **Monday 20th October and Thursday 23rd October**. This will give parents the opportunity to speak to school staff about how their children have settled into their new class and to see the work they have been doing.

PE reminder

We are continuing to ask children to come into school in their PE kit on their allocated PE day.

Below is a reminder of PE days for each class.

Rockies (Miss Shimmin) and Alps (Mrs Ramsay) - Tuesday

Himalayas (Mrs McKie) and Pyrenees (Mrs Hazell) - Wednesday

Atlas (Mrs Sambles) and Snowdon (Mrs Tate/Mrs Turner) - Thursday

Mobile phones in school

We have noticed a significant increase in the number of children bringing mobile phones in to school. If your child is bringing in a mobile phone, they **MUST** hand it in at the office where it will be stored securely until the end of the day. I would like to thank parents for supporting this system which has worked well for a number of years.

Mobile phones have caused a lot of upset and disagreement, mainly when inappropriate messages are sent in group chats. Our children are really good at raising concerns with their parents and parents are acting on this quickly.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to check your child's phone use. Look at the chat logs and message content – even (or especially) if they do not want you to.

The Importance of Reading

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a government campaign to address the steep decline in reading amongst children, young people and adults. The aim is to reverse declining reading engagement and foster a positive reading culture.

We can't do this without you.

In order to improve our children's reading, we need your support.



- We ask that parents read or listen to their child read at home for 20 minutes every night.
- Remember to sign their reading record. These are checked on a weekly basis.
- We celebrate how many times children read at home by entering them in a weekly raffle and they will also receive dojo points if they have read at home.
- Children will be bringing home a question about their reading book that we will ask them to share and discuss with an adult at home.
- Encourage any kind of reading – comics, recipes, instructions to build a toy or their favourite author. **Try to limit your child's time with online gaming.**

Swimming Lessons



We are very pleased to say that swimming will resume again this term. It will however only be for Year 3 and 4 children. Each class will have 10 sessions in the pool and lessons will be every Tuesday morning.

Children will leave school at 9.10am to start their session at 9.30am at Wells Leisure Centre.

Swimming will start on Tuesday 16th September and will continue until 25th November.

The first class to start swimming will be Atlas. Parents in this class will receive further information via Parentmail.

Shepton Mallet Park Run

Shepton Mallet park run takes place every Sunday morning and they have a junior run for 4 – 14 year olds that your child may be interested in doing. Collett Park is a real asset to the town with the new play area, teas and coffees and a pond. This event is free of charge and perhaps a great way for the family to spend a Sunday morning. I have attached a flyer at the end of the newsletter to explain how to register if anyone is interested.



Hot Meals

We have some delicious hot meals available for your child at lunchtime. If you would like to look at the menu, you can view this on Parentmail.

When you order the meals for your child you will need to pay for them at the time you order them.

A reminder that if your child is off sick and is due to have a hot meal that day, you must let us know by 9.30 am when you report the absence otherwise the meal will not be cancelled and you will have to pay for the missed meal.

Deadline for ordering hot meals is always 9am on a Tuesday for the following week. Please speak to either Helen or Hilary in the office if you have any questions.

After School and Lunchtime Clubs

Bubble Club

We have some wonderful people who come into school every week to work on wellbeing with some of our children. They also run an after club called 'Bubble Club'. Please log onto the Happy Mojo website to book your child's place
www.happymojo.co.uk

This club will run on Monday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm starting on 22nd September.

Choir and Band Lunchtime Club

Mrs Jenkins will be taking the choir and school band on Tuesday lunchtime and children just need to turn up! The choir and band regularly perform at all of the key services and assemblies we have throughout the year. There is no cost for this club, all that is asked for is a lot of enthusiasm and commitment!

After School Sports Clubs

We have a range of sports clubs that is run by our sports coach, Josh Cottrell.

Monday – dodgeball

Tuesday – Football

Wednesday – Basketball

Thursday – Multisport

If you would like to join any of these clubs, please contact Josh directly on Tel: 07708014916 or email jlsportsenrichment@gmail.com

Autumn Term Christian Value

Our Christian Value this term is endurance.

Endurance is recognition that life is sometimes difficult and painful and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity. Endurance and perseverance are only possible where there is hope and that hope is based on the enduring nature of God's love and faithfulness.

In our school, this means that we don't give up as soon as things go wrong. We know that we can learn from mistakes and keep improving. Even when we are faced with challenges, we remember that we are not alone. Please encourage your children to keep trying at those things they find difficult.



Thank you very much for your continuing support,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'H. Mullinger'.

Helen Mullinger

Head Teacher



JOIN THE JUNIOR PARKRUN FAMILY

WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER

or simply come and watch - it's up to you!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS

Every Sunday morning

FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS

Adults can join in with the kids too!

EVERYONE WELCOME

Walk, jog, run, hop, skip or jump - it's up to you!

FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART

No special kit needed - wear whatever you like

HAVE FUN BEING ACTIVE

Share high fives and big smiles!

MAKE FRIENDS

Meet lots of new people

LEARN NEW SKILLS

Kids can volunteer in lots of roles

FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD

Try your best and celebrate your achievements

*"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice,
it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"*



Register at parkrun.com
and head down to your local junior parkrun event!

notes:

@ Collett Park, Shepton Mallet
8.50 run brief to start for 9