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Headteacher:

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16 July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

What a year it has been for St Cuthbert's. As well as challenging and exciting learning experiences, our students have been involved in the following:

- 60th Anniversary celebrations including our Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass at Liverpool Cathedral, the St Helens 10K Run and #StCuthFEST
- History trip to the Battlefields
- Y7 Football trip to Glasgow
- London trip
- Chester Zoo trip
- Year 6 Induction Days
- Year 5 Taster Day
- Y10 Taster Days to local Sixth Form Colleges
- Youth Parliament
- University trips for Y8-10
- CEIAG Drop Down Days
- GCSE Exams and Whole School Internal Exams
- Our school website building from strength to strength and continuation of our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels
- Summer Health Festival

Each year we say fond farewells to some staff and students and prepare to make new friends in the new year. This year we see the following staff leaving for pastures new/retirement: Miss Tufnail (English), Miss Murphy (Geography), Miss Tomlinson (Science), Ms Holcroft (Geography) and Mrs Owen (Learning Support). I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the above staff on behalf of staff, students, parents and Governors for the contributions they have made to St Cuthbert's over the years. We look forward to welcoming new staff in September.

We are now a cash-free school, using the secure service of ParentPay; this is a much more convenient way to pay for school meals, trips, equipment and much more online. If you require another copy of your log-on details, please let us know. For further information on ParentPay please visit www.parentpay.com.

We are also continuing with our school app. **My Ed [https://www.myedschoolapp.com/]** is the free parent app that gives you a multitude of communication and information features to stay in touch with what is going on at school. The app gives you direct access to your child's attendance, timetable, absence records, achievements, behaviour and much, much more. You will also see that we update and change the information in the app as the school year moves along. Click here to see a short video about the app. You must ensure that you keep us informed if you change your mobile telephone number as the App is linked to your contact details on your child's school record.

All this hard work and planning for the future has been acknowledged by the Governors who have given their permission for an early finish on <u>Friday</u>, 20th <u>July 2018 at 12:30pm</u>

Unfortunately Mersey Travel are no longer able to provide **any school buses** at that time of the day so we would therefore ask that you make arrangements for your child to be collected by you or a representative if they usually use any of the buses.

Although no lunch will be provided that day appropriate food will be available at break time.

Please contact us if you have any issues with this arrangement.

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From September, standards of behaviour and achievement will continue to be driven for all members of our school and we will expect all students to be correctly dressed and with the correct equipment at all times. This includes polishable plain black shoes, knee length skirts (alternatively pinafore), school blazer with new logo, <u>black only</u> outdoor coats, no make-up/nail polish, school bag and pencil case*. <u>Please refer to the uniform list on the website before purchasing uniform and equipment.</u>

*If students do not have a pencil case with stated equipment on the first day of term, they will be expected to purchase a pre-packed pencil case. Payment can be made through ParentPay and pencil cases can be collected from the school office (priced at £1.50) with the following contents: Pencil case, black pen x 2, red pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, sharpener, highlighter and protractor. Students should also purchase/keep in their pencil case a Casio Scientific Calculator also available to buy from the school office, again with payment made through ParentPay.

N.B. From 1st September 2018, due to the Council's commitment to increase charges in line with inflation, there will be an increase of 2.5% in the cost of some individual food items in our canteen areas.

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of our Year 11 students when they receive their GCSE results on Thursday, 23rd August 2018.

Other dates for your diary include:

- Tuesday, 4th September 2018 when all students return to school 8:30am in the Sports Hall.
- <u>Thursday, 27th September 2018</u> Open Evening for students and their parents/carers transferring to secondary education in September 2019
- Thursday 11th October 2018 Our Annual Awards Evening further details to follow.

We will of course keep you up-to-date with other dates for your diary as the year progresses.

I would like to remind you about the importance of good attendance and not taking holidays during term time. Good attendance at school is acknowledged as a major factor in students' development. Poor attendance leads to disrupted learning and causes under-achievement. Therefore, we ask that parents make every effort to ensure their children's attendance is as high as possible.

Nationally young people's health and wellbeing, physical, mental, emotional and social is extremely high profile – this has never been more focused than at St Cuthbert's. We already have Wellbeing Champions, Health & Wellbeing Week (this year focusing on mental health) and a great deal of work has been done to ensure the care of all our students to be fully inclusive and reflect our golden rule of treating others as you would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12). This will continue next year as will the support from and to our families.

I am extremely proud of all our young people and of St Cuthbert's and I thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your children uphold our standards and expectations. We are committed to make St Cuthbert's a vibrant, forward-thinking school that provides an outstanding education for its students and prepares them for life in modern Britain, allowing and encouraging them to live life in all its fullness.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and happy holiday.

God bless.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Twist **Headteacher**













