

## Mr Delaney's Final Word of Session 2020/2021.

Dear parents and carers

It is hard to believe that we are now at the end of another school session. It feels like we have been somewhat cheated of the usual celebrations that the end of a school year brings. I have particularly missed seeing children going outside on sunny afternoons to play games of Rounders with their teacher as well as waving children off as they head off on summer day trips. I have also missed all of the other 'Big Events' of Term 4: Health Week, Sports Day, and of course our End of Year Assembly where we celebrate the contributions of everyone in our school community. We should be waving our P7 children off today and know that they leave our nurturing hands to move to the care and expertise of the nearby secondary schools where the good work of supporting them to be all that they can continue. We are planning on having groups of Primary 7 children up to the school next week. This will allow them to have their photo taken and be given some goodies.

Indeed, we may have missed all the usual excitement of Term 4, but we will no doubt have the opportunity to do it again next year. Instead this session has brought new challenges which we have all bravely faced. We have tackled obstacles that none of us could foresee coming. I didn't for a minute think we would have to test the resilience of our upper school pupils by breaking the news that their trips to Blairvadach and Italy would be cancelled. Look at how resilient and understanding they have been! I also didn't think that parents and carers would have to take on the role of School Teacher for as many weeks as they have. Again, be proud of how well you have risen to the challenges presented to you. When we look back at these times, I can confidently say that no one will be able to say that the staff, children and parents/carers of St Cuthbert's didn't try to make the best of a bad situation!

I am now at the end of my second year as your Headteacher. I can honestly say that I have loved (almost!) every day of it. I am continually reminded of what a great community we have. It is your children who make coming to work the joy that it is. They make us laugh (and sometimes cry!) and they amaze us all with their God given talents and skills. Finally, I am inspired by the hard work and dedication of my team. As each term passes we are even further ahead on our journey to improving the school for your child(ren) - this doesn't happen overnight and is very much a team effort. I am confident that as we face the challenges of 2020/2021, we will be able to continue that good work. Will it always be easy? Of course not! But we will work as a community to make the best of whatever comes our way.

I know for some of you, the Summer Holidays can bring anxiety and further worries. Please try to make some time for you and your child(ren). Simple things can often be where happy memories are made. Go a walk, listen to the sound of the birds, have a water fight, go to the park, feed the ducks, climb a hill, or just sit and watch a movie! Whatever you choose to do - do it with our school motto in mind "Learning and Growing together through Love and Respect"

With my very Best Wishes to you and your families  
God bless.

*R.J. Delaney*

