

Thursday 18th December

St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School
Gumbleberry's Close
Stechford
Birmingham
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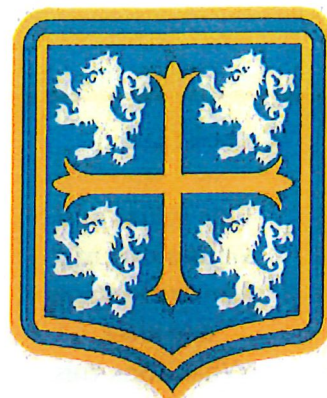
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Headteacher's Message

This is it – let the tears flow, let the hearts break and let there be rejoicing across the land – this is my final message to you all.

It has been 20 years and a term since I started at St Cuthbert's, I was 28 years old, young, fresh, full of life... and honestly the years have just flown by. From being a teaching deputy head in Year 6, leading R.E and assessment, to becoming headteacher in September 2012 with SENco in 2018, from Ofsted in 2006 and 2009 as Deputy and then 2012, 2017 and 2022 as head, to Catholic Schools inspections to births, marriages and deaths - I have lived a full life in this school.

It has been an absolute pleasure, no-one knows what the future holds for them, but I believe that St Cuthbert's was here to be my place in the storms of life, my purpose and reason when times got tough and I have always counted my blessing.

I have worked with many people: staff, agencies, other heads, the local authority, the diocese, contractors and I have shared such good times, particularly during things like residential, whole school celebrations and small booster classes with the pupils.

I have witnessed teaching far better than mine, and I have learnt many things over the years from the peers I have worked with.

I have made friends of colleagues and have always cared deeply about all who come into the care of St Cuthbert's. I leave without really considering what leaving means but I want to leave you with my thanks.

Thank you for supporting the school and for all the support you have given to me over the last 13 years as Head. I take the mission and ethos of St Cuthbert's with me and will miss you more than I can say.

I leave you with a couple of quotes that sum up how I am feeling about the future without St Cuthbert's.

"I'll tell you this. Leaving that which you love breaks your heart open. But you will find a jewel inside, and this precious jewel is the opening of your heart to all that is new and all that is different, and it will be the making of you-if you allow it to be."

— Jacqueline Winspear, [Leaving Everything Most Loved](#)

School Spaces

Schools across the country now have spaces in lower year group classes as the birth rate has fallen. It is due to rise again in the next few years but for now it is low.

We have spaces in Reception and Year 2. If you know someone who is looking for a school space, or is unhappy with their current place please let them know that we do have places available. Get in whilst you can!

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If you're brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello.

PAULO COELHO

This half term our Virtues and Values are Learned and Wise