

Saint Edmund's and Saint Thomas' Catholic Primary School

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Love Learn and Live Like Jesus

www.stedmundsprimary.co.uk

13th September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers

After our first week in school, may we take this opportunity to thank you for ensuring that children are so well turned out in their uniform, refreshed and ready to learn. Many shared their exciting adventures over the holidays and we did actually manage to get very summer like days over the previous six weeks. We extend a very special welcome to all our new children in Reception who have made a very settled start.

The children reviewed the School Mission Statement and pupil motto last week to focus their sense of faith, personal development and our school's purpose in a strong Catholic community

A rather sombre mood has set across the nation with the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II and the children will have plenty of opportunity to discuss this in class and recognise this significant time in history of which they are all a part. As you know the government has declared that there will be a Bank Holiday to respect the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's funeral next Monday 19th September 2022.

The start of the last week was eventful too with the appointment of a new Prime Minister, Liz Truss and we hope that future education policy will aim to preserve and protect resources in our sector to the benefit of all our children.

This week we will commence *Meet the Teacher* afternoons after school in the school hall.

Year 1 and Year 2 staff will meet parents in the school hall to outline their expectations for the year this Thursday 15th September at 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Year 5 and Year 6 staff will meet parents in the hall to outline their expectations for the year on Tuesday 20th September at 3.15pm - 3.45pm

Year 3 and Year 4 staff will meet parents in the hall to outline their expectations for the year on Wednesday 21st September at 3.15pm - 3.45pm

The Early Years Reception parents' meeting dates will be communicated later this week by Mrs Smith

Fr Dominic popped into school last week to meet the children after their holiday and will return to celebrate Mass for the beginning of the year with Year 5 and 6 on Tuesday 20th September at 1.30pm

School has made very significant investments in reading resources for each class and Nursery Early Years have set up a lending library of picture books for children to take home with their parents. Please help us to look after these books.

You may have seen workmen in the carpark. They are currently replacing the school boilers which are in excess of twenty years old. Please remember that we have a new signing in register for latecomers and visitors to the school or those who have missed registration for appointments.

Swimming starts on Thursday for Mrs Clayton's class so children will receive a separate letter from school so they are familiar with all rules regarding this activity, As in previous years, children will be allowed to wear their PE kit on PE days

Nursery Places

We have a number of thirty-hour places as well as some part time places in our Nursery at the moment, do let friends and neighbours know and Mrs Smith and Mrs McCombs will be delighted to meet new arrivals

New Staff

Mrs Metcalfe and Mrs Greaney were appointed to middle leadership roles for the beginning of the school year. We wish the well in their career development. We extend a warm welcome to Miss Sharrockwoods who is teaching in Year 3

Reading

New phonics and reading intervention groups are set up and we will continue to monitor reading at home through logs. Staff will raise concerns if children are missing out on reading practice and we will continue to communicate with you to raise awareness. Children who regularly read at home and experience effective targeted support at school make the most progress and the subsequent impact on other areas of learning and personal development is significant.

Uniform - In relation to articles in the media about uniform demands made by schools we have issued our uniform policy to everybody. We only expect children to wear either the school sweatshirt or cardigan with the school crest. In relation to minimising expense, all other items of uniform can be purchased from supermarkets We will attach our policy with this letter

Visit from New Headteacher of Sacred Heart Catholic Academy

Mr Nightingale visited the school last week and is looking forward to strengthening links with St Edmund's and Saint Thomas' and the other Catholic feeder primary schools, Flyers have been sent out for the open evening tonight from 6.00pm – 8.00pm at upper site

Flu Vaccination

NHS school vaccination teams will visit the school later this term to administer the influenza nasal spray to all children. The actual date is to be confirmed but you will receive a letter about this and an opt out form within a two week window

Yours sincerely.



Kieran A Loftus Headteacher



Alison Pritchard Deputy Headteacher

