



2020 Newsletter

*'Live together, pray together, learn together
and grow together in Christ'*

Twitter: @StEdmundsJ_I

Website: www.stedmund.bham.sch.uk



Prayer

Lord,

Thank you for bringing all our children and families safely back to us.

We know that you are with us and walk with us even now on this unpredictable path of the pandemic. At the start of this new school, we look to you, Lord, to take, bless and multiply our efforts to educate and nurture your children.

We look to you, loving God, for wisdom, for courage, for inspiration and for creativity.

Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year will bring.

Open our hearts and minds to new friends and new staff

As we make difficult decisions in an unprecedented time, grant us an unshakable commitment to one another, especially to the most vulnerable among us.

Send your Spirit to open our ears to the voices we need most to hear.

Send your Spirit to open our hearts to the profound love you have for us all so that everything we do in this time of fear, anxiety and uncertainty reveals your compassion, kindness and grace.

Send your Spirit to comfort and direct us as we humbly look to you for guidance and strength.

Amen

Welcome

Welcome back to a new school year at St. Edmund's!

We look forward to working in partnership with *all* our parents during this rather different academic year to enable all our children to make the most of their time in school.

Also a warm welcome to Mrs Ho (Year 1) who has joined our Staff Team.



A huge THANK YOU to all our parents/carers who have helped us have a very smooth transition back to school. Thank you for following our social distancing procedures and bringing and collecting your children **ON TIME!**

Just a reminder to those parents/carers who are not quite there yet...

YEARS 2 and 5 timings are **8.45am** and **2.50pm**

YEARS 1, 3, 4 and 6 timings are **8.55am** and **3.00pm**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Masses/Assemblies:

Friday 18th September- Y6 Class Mass at 11.00am

Friday 9th October - Y5 Class Mass at 11.00am

Other Dates:

By Friday 25th September: Macmillan Raffle Prizes

28th - 3rd Raffle tickets sold in classes for Macmillan Raffle

Week beginning 2nd November - Autumn Term Parents' consultations.

Half term: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October. School opens again on **Monday 2nd November.**

REMINDER OF SCHOOL DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR (2020-2021)

<p>Autumn Term 1 2020 Thursday 3rd September - Friday 23rd October</p> <p>Half term break Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October</p> <p>Autumn Term 2 2020 Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December</p>	<p>Spring Term 1 2021 Tuesday 5th January - Friday 12th February</p> <p>Half term break Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February</p> <p>Spring Term 2 2021 Monday 22nd February - Thursday 1st April</p> <p>Easter break Friday 2nd April (Good Friday) - Friday 16th April</p>	<p>Summer Term 1 2021 Monday 19th April - Friday 28th May <u>Monday 3rd May (BH)</u></p> <p>Half term break Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June</p> <p>Summer Term 2 2021 Monday 7th June - Wednesday 21st July</p>	<p>Teacher Training Days</p> <p>Tuesday 1st Sept. Wednesday 2nd September *Friday 20th November (New date) Monday 4th Jan.2021</p> <p>One further Teacher Days to be confirmed</p>
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PLEASE NOW NOTE THAT FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER IS A TEACHER DAY.

Please check the dates given and DO NOT book any holidays during term time.

Please let family know these dates as well so that they can plan celebrations accordingly.

TESTING

The government continues to advise that anyone with symptoms of coronavirus should book a test as soon as possible, including children under the age of 5 years.

Anyone experiencing a new, continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia) can book a test.

A coronavirus test can be booked here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Essential workers in England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, can apply for priority testing through GOV.UK. A coronavirus test can be booked here:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers>

ASTHMA

On the advice of Asthma UK, we need to update our Asthma Register on an annual basis.

Attached to this newsletter is an 'Asthma Letter' for any parents/carers of children diagnosed with asthma. Only these parents need to complete the form and return it to school. If it does not apply to your child, please recycle the sheet!

SCHOOL MEALS

May we remind you that the cost of a school meal is **£2.40 per day (£12.00 per week)**

Please ensure this money is paid separately from any other money i.e. in an envelope with the child's name, class and amount enclosed. This should always be paid on a Monday and given to your child to hand to their teacher- monies are recorded in a book in the classroom so please do not pay at the Office. You can also pay via the SQUID online payment system.

If you wish to change meal arrangements -this must be done in advance and the Office Manager needs to be informed as soon as possible.

Universal free school meals are available for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

MEDICATION

The only medication that should be brought into school should be prescribed by a doctor.

Parents must come into the school to complete a 'School Medication Consent Form' before any medication can be administered.

Medicines must be in their original container, labelled clearly with the contents, your child's name, the dosage and when to administer it.

All medication with the exception of inhalers and Epi-pens will be kept safely in the School Office.

Please note: If your child is issued with medication to be given three times a day-**this does not** need to be administered in school as one dose can be given before school, one when your child arrives home from school and one before bedtime. Therefore, only medicine prescribed with a **four times a day** dosage really needs to be in school for the extra dose to be given at lunchtime.

Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

MACMILLAN RAFFLE

This is another charity that we support annually. Obviously we can't do our usual Coffee and Cake Morning this year, so we are organising a raffle instead. If you wish to donate a prize, please send it in before Friday 25th September. The prizes will be quarantined for 72 hours, then displayed and tickets will be sold throughout the following week (w.e. 3rd October) within the class bubbles. Tickets will be 25p per ticket or 5 for £1.

UNIFORM

It has been lovely to see the children looking so smart on their return to school and to see that the majority of children are wearing the correct uniform.

If you are having any difficulties or issues getting school uniform, please contact the School and speak to Miss Cairns.

Also, if your child is wearing a collared shirt then they need to be wearing a school tie with it. Ties can be purchased from the School Office. Children wearing polo shirt are not required to wear a tie.

Please make sure all items of clothing are named! Quite a few children have the same or similar coats and obviously very similar jumpers! This causes a problem when jumpers and coats are not labelled. Also, we understand that in poor weather the children may wear wellingtons or other types of boots, but please provide a pair of shoes to change into at school as wellies and boots are not suitable to wear around school all day and can cause children to trip over.

GLASSES

If your child needs to wear glasses, please make sure s/he brings them to school every day. Not being able to see properly can severely impact a child's learning. It would be ideal (if possible) to have a school pair and a pair at home.

PARENTS CONSULTATION WEEK

This will be directly after the half term - week beginning 2nd November. We are currently

planning that this will be a telephone consultation updating you on your child's progress. However, if you need to speak to your child's teacher before this time please call the school office and your child's teacher will return your call.

HARVEST CELEBRATION MASS - CHANGE!

Our annual Harvest Celebration is taking place on Friday 16th October, which is also World Food Day. Due to COVID restrictions and our bubbles, we cannot have a whole school celebration. Instead all classes will visit the hall separately and bring their gifts to add to the whole school display. Each class will have a Harvest celebration collective worship in their classrooms. We hope you will be your usual generous selves and donate items of food that will be distributed to the needy of the Parish and St. Chad's Sanctuary.

AND FINALLY...NEWSLETTERS

If you've reached here well done and thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter! At the start of a new school year there are always lots of reminders.

Newsletters are an important way of getting a lot of information out to parents. They take a lot of effort to put together and cost the school in terms of paper etc.

Please take time to read newsletters carefully and make notes of any important dates.

If there is anything you don't understand that is mentioned in a newsletter, please contact the School and we will be more than happy to clarify things.