





# St Edmund's Catholic Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

  StEdmunds@TW2  
St Edmund's Primary School & Nursery Whitton



*'Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration'*

## KEY DATES

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct – Harvest Festival**  
**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – INSET Day – School Closed**  
**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct – Half-Term**  
**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Children Return to School**  
**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Dec – Flu Immunisation for Reception-Year 6**

## Cycling Proficiency

Well done to all the Year 6 who have successfully completed their cycling proficiency.

Feedback from the instructors included how well behaved the children were and that they were a credit not only to the school and themselves but to their families as well.

Anyone who missed the training can book a free 90 minute one to one session via the Local Authority. For more information and to book, please call 020 8487 5131 or email: [safety-education@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:safety-education@richmond.gov.uk)

Children and staff from St Edmund's School were lucky enough to be in attendance and this week we shared a special assembly to remember the event.



## Harvest Festival – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Harvest Festival will obviously be a bit different this year however as a school we are pleased to be able to facilitate donations to Whitton Food Bank.

If you would like to make a donation the food bank would appreciate washing up liquid, laundry capsules/tablets, tinned fruit and vegetables, chopped tomatoes, baked beans, UHT milk, juice/squash, small jars of coffee, toothpaste and tooth brushes, shampoo and conditioners.

Please bring your donation to school at **morning drop-off** next Friday. There will be a Baran's van parked in the church car park with the back open. Please drop your donations on to the van which will then be taken to the food bank.

**Please note we can only accept donations straight into the van at morning drop-off. We cannot accept donations into school at any other time.** Thank you so much.

Please remember that if any family finds themselves needing to use the food bank, we have vouchers here at school. Please call the office and we can organise this.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Big Assembly held at St Mary's University

The Holy Father, Pope Benedict, led a group of 3,500 school children and students at St Mary's University in an event titled The Big Assembly. The theme for the event was "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full". (John 10:10).

The event was a celebration of Catholic education in the UK and the outstanding work that takes place in Catholic schools, colleges and higher education institutions across the country.



## Farewell Mrs Kirk



We are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Kirk today. After 10 years at St Edmund's Mrs Kirk is leaving us for pastures new. We wish her every success and happiness for the future.

### Information Required re Children Working from Home

It is important that the school has information about the availability of digital technology to all students. There may be a case when an individual or year group has to self-isolate for a period of time at home. In this eventuality it is vital we know students have the facility to access online learning on platforms such as Google Classroom.

Students will need wi-fi access and the use of a Chromebook or laptop. They will need this for classwork during the school day and for later periods when homework is normally undertaken.

**Please could you follow [this link](#) to complete our short questionnaire by Monday at the latest.** Thank you for your ongoing support.

### SEN Secondary Transfer Information

Please find below links to secondary transfer information aimed at parents whose children have additional needs.

[Richmond Schools](#)  
[Hounslow Schools](#)

### Entry and Exit to School

I want to say the biggest THANK YOU to all the parents for their patience with entry and exit times. It is much better and improving. We had to flip the exit route because of the number of parents and children crossing the line to collect bikes and scooters at the main entrance.

The school gates will open at 3pm. You do not have to be absolutely on time – if you delay a little there may be less congestion. Parents with siblings should also look to see which time is best for them as the later pick up may suit better?

We have tried to open the back gate so parents can line up in the playground to get you off the road but it really is a balancing act and we appreciate how kind and positive you have all been – thank you.

A final reminder to wear a mask even though we are outside, as we are all in close proximity and this will help to prevent the virus spreading – thank you.

### Visits to School

Please ensure your child comes to school with everything they need for their school day to avoid unnecessary parental visits to school during the day.

Please also ensure your child comes to school wearing their school jumper. Due to Covid, we need to ensure there is adequate ventilation throughout the school (windows and doors open). Now the weather is cooler children will need to wear their jumpers in class.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in keeping us all safe.

### RSE – Relationship and Sex Education.

RSE becomes statutory for all schools this September. We would like to introduce the *Life to the Full* programme. It is based on 'A Model Catholic RSE Curriculum' which was highlighted for its good practice by the Department of Education.

We are attaching a letter which details the structure and content of the programme. We will put it out for a four-week consultation to get any parental views before we officially introduce it but it is excellent and we feel that as a parent body you will feel very comfortable and confident in its use.

### Breakfast Club

Our school Breakfast Club has spaces available should you wish your child to attend. The club opens at 7.45am every weekday and costs £3.50 per session. If you would like your child to attend please email into the school office on: [office@st-edmunds.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-edmunds.richmond.sch.uk)

### SCHOOL LUNCHES Sausage Thursday!

Please note ISS, our school lunch provider, are continuing with packed lunches going forward. However, they will be serving sausages (vegetarian and non-vegetarian) on Thursdays. Please select the meat or vegetarian option.

### Reminder - School Meal Funding

The government take the number of meals the school serves to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October**. This figure is used to calculate the amount of funding the school will receive for the following financial year for the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) grant on this date. We would like to strongly encourage

as many Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children as possible to log on and order a school lunch on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October** as the low numbers currently having a school lunch will adversely affect the schools funding for the next financial year. **We need you to do this for us and appreciate your support on this day. We will send out a reminder alert nearer the time.**

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We will have a parent governor vacancy at St Edmund's in November. More details to follow in the next newsletter but please start thinking about whether this might be something that you could consider volunteering for?

### **Birthdays**

Please note that due to the current circumstances we kindly ask you not to send any items, such as sweets, cakes or books, into school to celebrate your child's birthday. However, the children may wear a birthday badge on the day if they would like to.

### **Year 3 and Year 4 Homework**

Idea grids to support children's math homework are going home today and will also be uploaded to the website. Curriculum Tab – Home Learning – select your child's year group. We hope you find these useful.

### **LOCAL EVENTS**

#### **Richmond's Community Heroes Awards 2020**



Nominations are now open and we need your help! The deadline is 10pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

- Nominations can be made for work directly in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as other work not directly linked to the pandemic.
- All work must have been carried out in a voluntary capacity.
- Details of categories can be found via the link below.
- Shortlisted nominees will be announced on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020.
- An awards event will happen later this year. This may be virtual depending on social distancing guidelines.

[Click here for more details.](#)

### **Macmillan Cancer Support**

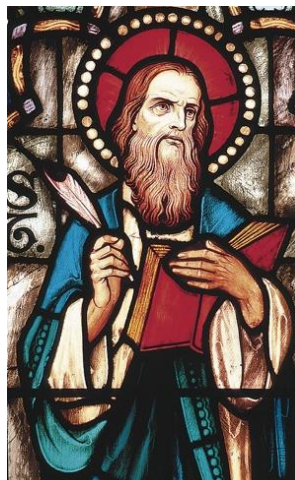
Barbara Byrne, one of our ex-parents, braved the shave on the 4<sup>th</sup> September in memory of colleagues from Meadow House Hospice.

Barbara, a heart failure nurse, wanted to raise money particularly at this time when funding from usual sources has been depleted. If this is a charity

close to your heart and you would like to sponsor Barbara then please click the link below to her page.

<https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/barbara-byrne>

### **Reflection**



On Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> September, we celebrated the feast of St Matthew. This great saint was one of the twelve Apostles and a writer of one of the four Gospels. He was originally a tax collector but gave everything up to follow Jesus. We ask St Matthew's intercession to help us to follow Jesus faithfully too.

*O Glorious St. Matthew, in your Gospel you portray Jesus as the longed-for Messiah who fulfilled the Prophets of the Old Covenant and as the new Lawgiver who founded a Church of the New Covenant. Obtain for us the grace to see Jesus living in his Church and to follow his teachings in our lives on earth so that we may live forever with him in heaven. Amen.*

Mrs C Moreland  
Headteacher