



St Edmund's Catholic Primary School Fortnightly Newsletter

Friday 17 December 2021



StEdmunds@TW2



St Edmund's Primary School & Nursery Whitton



Stedmundsschooltw2

'Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration'

Diary – Forthcoming Events

Tues 4 Jan – INSET Day – School Closed

Wed 5 Jan – Children Return to School

Tues 11 Jan – PA Happy Bag Collection

Save the Children Collection



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our collection for Save the Children last Friday. We raised a fantastic £585.

Congratulations

Many of our staff continue to study and train to further specialise and develop their knowledge and understanding of educational theory and development to ultimately support the children in our school.

I would like to extend our warmest congratulations to the following staff for their wonderful achievements...

Miss Meldon on the achievement of the **National Award for SEN Coordination (NASENCO)**.

Mrs Cheatham on her **MA in Education: Leading Innovation and Change**.

Mr Nash who has become an **'Inspector of Schools'** for the Catholic Education Service.

Christmas Performances

We hope you have all enjoyed the performances. Whilst you haven't been able to view them in real life, you will be able to sit down with your child and enjoy them together.

A big thank you to all the staff who helped prepare the children, the staff who found skills we didn't know they had – filming, editing and publishing!

And the BIGGEST THANK YOU of all to the children whose enthusiasm and joy for Christmas has been boundless.

With the exception of Nursery and Reception classes, the films have all been uploaded onto the children's Google Classroom pages. Nursery and Reception were emailed individually.

Santa Visit to St Edmund's



There was great excitement in school on Monday as we had a surprise visit from Santa who hijacked our zoom assembly!

All the children were delighted to see him and he delivered a small gift to the children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 & 2. It really was a magical Christmas moment!

School Meals Price Increase

Please note that due to rising costs, the price of a school meal will increase by 10p from the beginning of January. The cost will increase from £2.30 to £2.40.

Congratulations to our school kitchen staff who have just been awarded another food hygiene rating of five by the Food Standards Agency.

Booking School Meals in January

When you log on to book your child's school meals for January, please note you will be unable to choose a specific menu selection for the first day back (Wednesday 5th January). Instead, you need to choose the options 'meal required' and 'dessert required' as the catering staff are unsure about their exact food deliveries and do not want to publish a menu that they cannot fulfil.

Term Dates 2022

Spring Term 2022: Tues 4th Jan – Fri 1st April

Inset Day: Tuesday 4th January

Children Return: Wednesday 5th January

Half Term: Monday 14th – Friday 18th February

Summer Term 2022: Tues 19th Apr – Fri 22nd July

Children Return: Tuesday 19th April

RE Inset Day: Friday 29th April

Half Term: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Jubilee Day: Monday 6th June

Term Dates 2022/23

Autumn Term 2022: Thurs 1st Sept – Fri 16th Dec

INSET DAYS – Thurs 1st & Fri 2nd September

Children Return: Monday 5th September

Half Term: Monday 24th – Friday 28th October

Spring Term 2023: Tues 3rd Jan – Fri 31st Mar

INSET DAY - Tuesday 3rd January

Children Return: Wednesday 4th January

Half term: Monday 13th – Friday 17th February

Summer Term 2023: Mon 17th Apr – Fri 21st July

Children Return: Monday 17th April

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

INSET DAY - Monday 5th June

RE INSET DAY TO BE CONFIRMED

PARISH NEWS

Christmas Masses

Booking is required for the two Christmas morning Masses at 9.30am and 11.15am.

Events – Roman Catholic Parish of Whitton

(rcdow.org.uk) The Midnight Mass will not require booking.

PA NEWS

Virtual Balloon Race - Race to the North Pole

Thank you to everyone who participated in our virtual Balloon Race - Race to the North Pole. We sold over 330 balloons in total raising £1,000 for the school.

A big congratulations to the winners whose balloons travelled the furthest across the seven-day race.

1st place - Ellie (Year 3)

2nd place - Rex (Reception)

3rd place - Lucas (Year 2)

Happy Bags

This scheme is designed to help schools to raise funds and to help the environment by diverting discarded but reusable textiles away from landfill. In the UK alone, we consume and discard over

1.4 million tonnes of textiles a year which goes directly into landfill despite the fact that there is spare capacity in textile recycling plants. By taking part in this scheme you help to reduce this amount by giving textiles a new lease of life.



To take part you simply need to fill the Happy School Bag with unwanted but **clean** clothing. A Happy Bag will be sent home with your child at the beginning of January. Happy Bags accept both children's and adult clothes including paired shoes and accessories (hats, belts, handbags, etc).

This is a fantastic opportunity to raise eco-friendly awareness amongst children. Everyone can take part so spread the word and let's get fundraising! The Happy School Bag van will be collecting from our school on **Tuesday 11th January at 9am**. Please bring all your bags to school on that morning and drop them off by the field gate and help us have an amazing collection. Many thanks for taking part!

LOCAL EVENTS

FUEL Programme

The FUEL (Feed Ur Everyday Lives) programme, supporting children on benefits-related Free School Meals, will once again be running over the Christmas break.

After a successful summer, where over 1,500 children across Kingston and Richmond engaged with holiday activity and food providers, the programme continues to grow with new locations, providers, and activities available for children across the two boroughs.

As a reminder, the programme offers completely free access for children receiving benefits related Free School Meals to attend holiday clubs, sports groups, play sessions and more. With most providers operating in the build up to Christmas, this will help young people have a healthy start to the holiday period.

For further information on the programme and the providers that we will be working with, please visit our website at www.kr.afcinfo.org.uk/KRFUEL, contact FUEL@Achievingforchildren.org.uk or check out [this leaflet](#).

Volunteers Wanted

Parent/baby duos wanted to participate in observation sessions – at home – for students of dance movement therapy at the University of Roehampton.



MA Dance Movement Psychotherapy (DMP) trainees at the University of Roehampton carry out a *five-hour* baby/parent movement observation task, for their Human Development and Growth module.

Sessions can take place from January to mid-March. Sessions could be in-person or online (via phone/tablet/computer – zoom).

Trainees will take confidential notes, with no audio or video recording. You will not be analysed by the student, who will gain greater understanding of child movement development and child movement relationships.

You will be asked to sign a consent form, and data protection protocols will be followed by the student.

If you are interested in being a participant, please email Davina Holmes (DMP) on childatheart2020@gmail.com
Thank you.



Reflection



"Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the Bethlehem's of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present."

Edward Hays, *A Pilgrim's Almanac*

To all our children – have a wonderful fun filled Christmas ☺

To all our families – we wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas filled with love and kindness.

To all the staff - thank you for the dedication and commitment you have shown to the children and families of our school.

St Edmund's remains a place of vibrancy and fun within an environment of learning and consistency for all our children – it's what makes us unique.

Stay safe and we will see you all in the New Year.
God Bless

Mrs C Moreland
Headteacher