



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

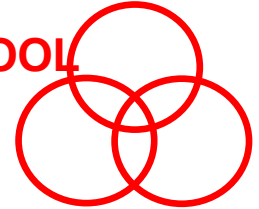
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www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



15th February 2019

Dear Parents,

I can't believe we are breaking up today for our half term break. I hope this mild weather will last throughout next week and that you all have plenty of time to enjoy the break together.

Staff changes

As you are aware Miss Hurley is finishing today to start her maternity leave. Mrs Wadryzk has agreed to work full time after half term to cover the class so they children don't need to worry about getting to know a new teacher. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Miss Hurley good luck; I can't wait to meet baby number three.

New lunchtime arrangements

This term we have been trialling new lunchtime arrangements for all children in Year 1-6. There are many reasons for the changes and so far all are proving to be very successful. One of the biggest reasons was to allow more class time for reading. We are striving to raise reading for pleasure across the school by having an extra fifteen minutes a day devoted to reading- either individually or using high quality whole class texts which we are asking the PA to purchase for us. You may not be aware but St Edmund's has had the shortest teaching day of any primary school I have ever come across. We did look at extending the day but that would have had a significant impact on clubs (e.g. sports clubs in the dark during winter), parents' child care arrangements and after school activities for many children outside of school. Instead we have decided to stagger the lunch breaks which means the children have more room to play as there are far less children playing at any one time. The benefits from this include football at lunchtime (a huge positive for most children) as there is space to play without interfering with the games of others, far less bumps and bruises and less behaviour problems from children becoming bored- mainly though not being able to play football or having space to play their games without interfering in the games of others. With the new arrangements, the dining hall is much quieter and more efficient as the service is much quicker now, so children are able to eat almost as soon as they leave their classrooms. This means that although the children perceive they are having far less time to play the reality is that most of the time has been saved from less queuing and waiting time in the hall. I would like to ask you to support us in raising the profile of reading for your child by making time to share stories with them and to hear them read to you regularly, even if they are in one of the older classes; the more children read good quality texts the better their vocabulary and literacy skills are. Also do look out for information from Mrs Graham and our new Reading Ambassadors coming to you soon.

Governor Parent Survey

Many thanks to everyone who has already completed the Parent Survey for the Governors - we've had a good response, but would love to hear from as many as possible, so if you are able to spare 5-10 minutes to complete the Survey, it would be very much appreciated. The link to the Survey is: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8bcKVxRbDkOVmbHftoifPne1-PuLWmBJjxg62V60HptUN09HNjZMUFVXNkiOQldMNFBZNVdNNU01MSQIQCN0PWcu>
It is anonymous and there is a space for you to provide any general comments.





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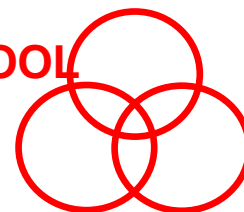
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As ever, thank you all for your continued support. Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Delany-White

Diary Dates- PLEASE KEEP THESE HANDY

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School		
DIARY DATES 2018/19		
Date		Event
18th – 22nd February HALF TERM BREAK		
Saturday 23rd February	3:30-5pm	Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 25th February		Children back to school
Thursday 28 th February	7:30pm	EGM PA meeting
Friday 1 st March	am	School health nurses: Reception and Year 6 height & weight measuring
	2.20pm	Gold Book
Saturday 2nd March	1:45-3:30pm	Ice Skating in Oxford, see parish website for details
Monday 4th March		
Wednesday 6 th March	am	Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament at Tilsley Park
	2pm	Ash Wednesday Mass in School- all welcome
Thursday 7 th March		World Book Day
Friday 8 th March	2.20pm	Gold Book
Saturday 9th March	3:30-5pm	Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 11th March		Science Week
		Year 6H to Pizza Express
Wednesday 13 th March	am	Year 5 Cold Show science talk at OLA
	6:30pm	Primary Pop Concert- choir
Thursday 14 th March	1-4pm	Year 3 & 4 Football competition at Chandlings School
	3:30-5:30pm	High Five Netball Competition
Friday 15 th March	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay and Play
	2.20pm	Science Sharing Assembly
Monday 18th March		
Tuesday 19 th March		Class photos
Wednesday 20 th March	am	Year 5 singing at Christchurch Cathedral
	3:30-5:30pm	Netball Vale Finals
Thursday 21 st March		Science Amey Theatre
Friday, 22 nd March	2.20pm	Gold Book
Monday 25th March		
Tuesday 26 th March	am	Year 4 pupils to Abingdon School for Humanities Curriculum morning





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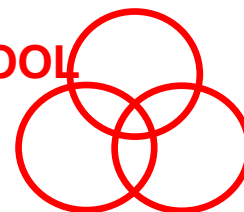
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		KS2 Reconciliation Service
Wednesday 27 th March	am 2:20pm	Year 4 at Abingdon School, chemistry workshop Year 3 Class assembly
Friday 29 th March	am 2:20pm	Year 2 Warwick Castle trip Year 3 to Trinity Church Gold Book Lenten Project Family Dance
Monday 1st April	3.30-6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 2 nd April	9:30-11am 4:30-7:30pm	Nursery Stay and Play Parents' Evening
Wednesday 3 rd April	2pm	Lent Mass in School- all welcome
Friday 5 th April	am 2pm 3pm	Easter Egg Hunt Stations of the Cross Break up for Easter holidays
Saturday 6th April	2pm 2-5pm	Choir singing in Abingdon Passion Play Film Club at Kassam Cinema, see parish website for details
10th April- 22nd April EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Tuesday 23rd April		Children back to school
Wednesday 24 th April	2pm 2-4pm	Easter Mass in School- all welcome Vale swimming finals
Friday, 26 th April	2.20 pm	Gold Book
Saturday 27th April	10-4pm 3:30-5pm	Community Day TBC Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 29th April		
Thursday 2 nd May	pm	Year 6H Junior Citizens
Friday 3 rd May	2:20pm	Gold Book
Monday 6th May		BANK HOLIDAY
Friday, 10 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book
Saturday 11th May	5 pm 3:30-5pm	Family Bingo TBC Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 13th May		Key Stage 2 SATs Week
Wednesday 15 th May	2:20pm	Foundation Stage assembly
Friday 17 th May	9:30-11am 2.20 pm	Nursery Stay and Play Gold Book
Saturday 18th May	9:45-5:30pm	Mini Pilgrimage to Boars Hill, see parish website for details
Monday 20th May		Year 4 trip to Sulgrave Manor
Wednesday 22 nd May	2pm	Our Lady Mass in hall- all welcome
Thursday 23 rd May	am	Early years- Year 3 Peter Pan drama workshops
Friday 24 th May	2pm	Our Lady Procession





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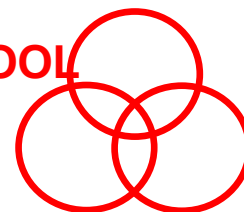
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	3pm	Children break up for half term
27th -31st May HALF TERM BREAK		
Monday 3rd June		INSET DAY- school closed
Tuesday 4 th June		Book Week Children back to school
Friday 7 th June		Annual Schools Mass, Portsmouth Gold Book
Saturday 8th June	2:20pm 10am 3:30-5pm	First Holy Communion Mass at St Edmund's church Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Sunday 9th June	2pm	First Holy Communion Mass at St Edmund's church
Monday 10th June		
Tuesday 11 th June	am	Year 6G to Abingdon Museum TBC
Wednesday 12 th June	am	Year 5 & 6 Quad kids competition
Thursday 13 th June	am am	Year 6H to Abingdon Museum TBC Year 3 & 4 Quad kids competition
Friday 14 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book
Saturday 15th June		Summer Fayre
Monday 17th June	pm	Year 6 cricket competition
Tuesday 18 th June	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay and Play Girls' Cricket competition
Wednesday 19 th June	1-4pm 2:20pm	Quad Kids Finals at Tilsley Park Year 1 Class assembly
Friday 21 st June	2.20 pm	Gold Book
Saturday 22nd June	3:30-5pm	Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 24th June	pm	New Reception children's first visit
Tuesday 25 th June	pm pm	New Nursery children's first visit Year 5 cricket competition
Wednesday 26 th June	2pm	Fitzharrys, Larkmead and John Mason transition day First Holy Communion Mass in school- all welcome
Thursday 27 th June		Larkmead 2 nd transition day
Friday 28 th June	am 2:20pm	Abingdon School Mini Olympics Gold Book
Monday 1st July	2pm	Prayer Space Week Welcome Meeting new Reception Parents
Tuesday 2 nd July	2pm	Welcome Meeting new Nursery parents
Wednesday 3 rd July	am 2:20pm	Year 1 & 2 Quad Kids competition Year 2 Class Assembly
Friday, 5 th July	2.20 pm	Gold Book
Saturday 6th July	3:30-5pm	Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Saturday 6th-Sunday 7th July		Family Pilgrimage to Walsingham, see parish website





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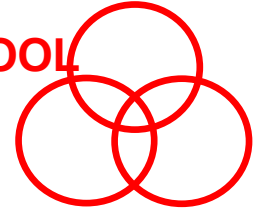
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		for details
Monday 8th July		
Wednesday 10 th July	am pm	Sports Day & family picnic Meet the Teacher
Friday 12 th July	am 2.20 pm pm	Reserve Sports Day Gold Book PA Discos
Monday 15th July		
Tuesday 16 th July	1:45pm 6pm	Year 6 Production Year 6 Production
Wednesday 17 th July		Year 6G & 6H to Wittenham Clumps
Friday 19 th July	2pm	Prize Day
Saturday 20th July	3:30-5pm	Parish Youth Group in the parish centre, Year 3- 6, see parish website for details
Monday 22nd July	1:45pm	Leavers' Mass
Tuesday 23 rd July	3pm	Term ends
SUMMER HOLIDAY		

