



Diocese of Portsmouth

## ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

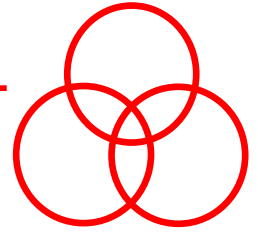
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[www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



21<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents,

### October is the month of the Rosary

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Last Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October all of our children in Years 2-6 joined children throughout the world in praying one decade of the Rosary. The initial idea for this campaign was conceived in 2005 at a wayside shrine to Our Lady in Caracas, the Venezuelan capital. Coming upon a group of children spontaneously praying the Rosary there, some of the women who were present also had a profound experience of the presence of Our Blessed Lady. One of them recalled a promise made by St Padre Pio, who once said, "When a million children pray the Rosary, then the world will change." The aim of this prayer initiative was first of all to show that the trusting prayer of children can fly like an arrow straight to the heart of God and consequently has great influence. How powerful then is the prayer of the Rosary when prayed by children for peace and unity within families, within their own nation and in the whole world! As Pope St John Paul II wrote in his Apostolic Exhortation on the Rosary, "The Rosary is by its nature a prayer for peace, since it consists in the contemplation of Christ, the Prince of Peace, the one who is "our peace."

### Mini Vinnies & Harvest Mass

*'If you can't feed 100 people, then just feed one' Blessed Mother Teresa.*

Last Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October we had our annual Harvest Mass here in school. Thank you for all your generous donations for the Abingdon Foodbank which have now been gratefully received. Our Harvest Mass was celebrated by Fr Mateusz who also kindly commissioned our new Mini Vinnies.

Mini Vinnies is a St Vincent de Paul group of children who come together every fortnight to organise and talk about helping others in our school community and beyond. Our Mini Vinnies group is coordinated by Mrs Hilary Webb, Miss Barbara

Habayeb and Mrs Jo Milham from St Edmund's parish and Mrs Himpson from Year 6. The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) seeks, in the spirit of justice and charity, to help those who are suffering poverty in whatever form it takes. Members are encouraged to make sure their work is 'full of unlimited kindness' and they are encouraged to 'give their time, their talents and themselves.'





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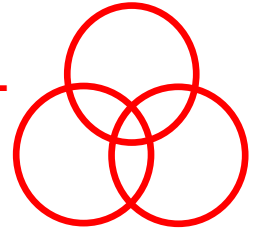
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Please pray for our new Mini Vinnies: Nevin, Michael, Erin, Taia, Tom, Beatrice and Isabelle as they start this very special role in our school.

### **Book Fair**

Thank you for your support during our recent book fair. As well as buying your children new books to read you also generated £256.51 of commission which Mrs Graham & Miss Hurley, our English Leaders, will now spend on new books for our school. On that note, I'm looking forward to seeing many of our Year 1 and 2 children and parents enjoying stories together in our Reading Café on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November before school starts. Just pop along to the Discovery Den from 8:15am and enjoy a book and a croissant with your child. Also well done to all of the children who entered the competition to advertise their favourite story in preparation for our Book Fair. The winners were: Emily in Reception; Lottie in Year 1; Sam in Year 2; Amaya in Year 3; Phoebe in Year 4; and Pablo in Year 5. Mrs Graham said all of the entries were fantastic!

### **Staff Update**

We have recently welcomed Mrs Bignell who has just moved into Abingdon and is now a Teaching Assistant in Year 5. We are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Wojarska the week after half term as she moves to a new primary school nearer to her home. You may be aware that we are still praying for the recovery of Mrs Moloney from Reception class and Mrs Attridge from Year 5. We hope both will be well enough to come back to school again soon; please do remember them and their families in your prayers.

### **Online Gaming**

Gaming can be a great way for young people to relax, socialise with their friends and have fun. Children can play on games consoles, apps or websites, and chat to other players or watch them play through live streaming. However, there are some dangers and with so many games available online, it can be hard for parents to know how to keep their child safe. Over the last few weeks we have had an increase in violent play amongst several of our year groups and in discussions with the children regularly involved it would appear they are re-enacting scenes from the online games they are regularly exposed to. All of the games the children mention are not suitable for primary aged children, let alone the 6-9 year olds involved.

Finding appropriate games for children can seem confusing but there are lots of games that have been created for children and families. Looking at games' age ratings can help you to work out what's suitable.

All boxed games for consoles and computers within the UK are given a PEGI (Pan-European Game Information) rating of age 3, 7, 12, 16, or 18. These age ratings tell you who the game is suitable for based on the type of content you'll see when playing. Indicators on the game's packaging explain why it's been given its rating. For example, it'll say if the game shows violence or other inappropriate content for young children. Games on app stores also have age ratings. Google Play, Windows Store, Nintendo eShop and Oculus use the PEGI system. But the Apple App Store and Amazon Apps have their own age ratings. Most games distributors will provide information about the game's content so please make sure you read before downloading. Age ratings are a helpful





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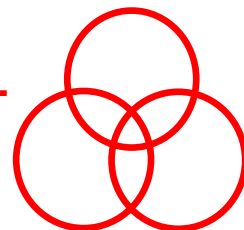
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guide, but each child is different. So it's also useful to think about how mature your child is for their age and the kinds of content they would feel comfortable with.

Also please be aware that although age ratings are a valuable tool they are only based on content. Even if a game is rated as 3 it may still let you talk to other players, including strangers, through voice chat or instant messenger. You may be connected with players in your local area or from around the world. Many gamers also talk through external gaming forums or chat sites. Therefore, as well as using age ratings, it's best to check the game yourself to see what features it has and decide if it's really suitable for your child.

### Trinity Learning Vacancy

TrinityLearning is looking for an **Administration Assistant** to work 6.5 hours per week (0.2 FTE) £3500 per Annum. TrinityLearning has been helping reduce stress in local schools for 10 years and has recently become a registered charity. We are looking for an organised individual with high standards of written English and good IT skills who is able to think flexibly and work well with others to produce work to a high standard. The hours offered equate to one day a week throughout the year but the post could be adapted to suit term time working, and/ or hours worked over several days. As a charity working with young people we are committed to safeguarding their welfare. For more information and an application pack please email: [Nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com](mailto:Nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com). Closing date for applications Thursday 21st November.

I hope you and your families have a lovely half term break.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Delany-White

### Diary Dates- PLEASE KEEP THESE HANDY

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School		
DIARY DATES 2019/20		
Date		Event
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	3.30 – 6.30 pm	Year 1-6 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	4.30 – 7.30pm	Year 1-6 Parents' Evening
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	2:20pm 3pm	Gold Book Children break up for Half Term holiday
<b>28<sup>th</sup> October – 1st November HALF TERM BREAK</b>		
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> November	8:15-8:40am 9:30-11am 2:20pm	Key Stage 1 Reading Cafe Nursery Stay & Play Gold Book
<b>Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	2:30pm	<b>Anti-Bullying Week</b> Year 6 Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	9:30-12	Year 6 to Abingdon Science Laboratory TBC
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	1:30-4pm	Year 5/6 Swimming gala at Radley College





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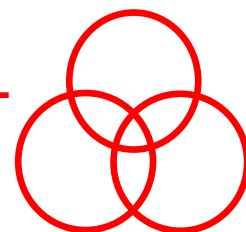
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Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November	10am	St Edmund's Day Mass-whole school in Church
<b>Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	2pm	Anti-Bullying Sharing Assembly
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November		Year 6 Abingdon Hospital IMPs trip
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>		
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	pm	Big Christmas Sing
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	2.20pm	Year 1-6 Flu Vaccinations Gold Book
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>		<b>Christmas Fayre</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>		
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December		Christmas Lunch
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm	Advent Mass in school – all welcome
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December		Year 1 Dinosaur Museum, Woodstock
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	am 2.20pm	Year 6 St Helen's & Katherine's Carol Service Gold Book
<b>Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	2pm	Foundation Stage Nativity for parents
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm	KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm	KS1 Nativity
Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	2.20 pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	6pm	KS2 Christingle in Church
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	3pm	Early Years Stay & Play for current families Term ends
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>		INSET day- school closed
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</b>		
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>		Children back to school <b>Art &amp; Poetry week</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	2pm	Epiphany Mass in school – all welcome
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	am 2.20pm	Vision screening, Reception class Art sharing assembly
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	9:30-11am 2.20pm	Nursery Stay & Plays Gold Book
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>		
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	2 pm	Mass in School- all welcome
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	9:30-11am	Safer Internet Day Nursery Stay & Play





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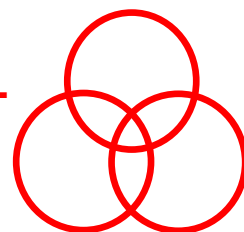
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Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	2:20pm	Y5 Class Assembly
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	am	St Helen's & Katherine's Love Languages Competition
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	2:20pm 3pm	Gold Book Break up for half term holiday
<b>17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February HALF TERM BREAK</b>		
<b>Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Children back to school
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	1:45pm	Ash Wednesday Mass in school- all welcome
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>		<b>Prayer Space &amp; Book Week- Narnia theme</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	am 2pm	Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament Year 2 Class Assembly
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	1-4pm	World Book Day Year 5/6 Girls Football Tournament
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	2.20pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	3.30-6:30pm	<b>Science Week</b> Parents' Evening
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30-6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9:30-11am 2.20pm	Nursery Stay & Play Science Sharing Assembly
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March		Class photos
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	2:20pm	Year 4 Class assembly
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	3:30-5:30pm	High Five Netball Competition at Fitzharrys School
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	2.20pm	Primary Science ATOM Fayre at Fitzharry's School Gold Book
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>		
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	2:00pm 3:30-5:30pm	Lent Mass in School- all welcome Vale Netball Finals at Larkmead School
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March		Gold Book
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	9 am	KS2 Reconciliation Service
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	am 2pm 3pm	Easter Egg Hunt Stations of the Cross Break up for Easter holidays
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April- 17<sup>th</sup> April EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>		
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>		Children back to school
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	2pm	Easter Mass in School- all welcome
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April	2.20 pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>		
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	am 9:30-11am	Year 3 Pizza Express trip Nursery Stay & Play
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	1:15-3:15pm	Vale Swimming Finals at Radley College
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	2:20pm	Gold Book





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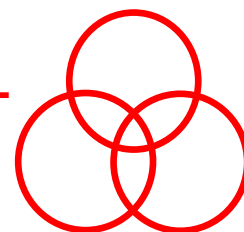
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<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>		
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>		<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>		<b>Key Stage 2 SATs Week</b> Year 5 trip to the Ashmolean Museum
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May	9:30-11am 2.20 pm	Nursery Stay & Play Gold Book
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>		
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	2:20pm	Year 3 Class Assembly
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	2pm	Ascension Day Mass in hall- all welcome
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	2pm 3pm	Our Lady Procession Children break up for half term
<b>25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May HALF TERM BREAK</b>		
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>		<b>INSET DAY- school closed</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		Children back to school
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	2:20pm	Gold Book
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>First Holy Communion at St Edmund's Church</b>
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2pm</b>	<b>First Holy Communion at St Edmund's Church</b>
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>		
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	am	Year 5 & 6 Quad kids competition TBC
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	2.20 pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b>		
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	12-4:30pm	Annual Schools Mass in Portsmouth Year 5/6 Cricket Tournament at Abingdon School
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	2:00pm	First Holy Communion Mass in school- all welcome
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	2.20 pm	Gold Book
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>		<b>Magic Maths Week</b>
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	pm	Maths Fayre in hall
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>		
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	2:20pm	Year 1 Class Assembly
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>		<b>INSET DAY- school closed</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>		
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	am pm	Sports Day & family picnic Meet the Teacher
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	am 2.20 pm	Reserve Sports Day Gold Book
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>		
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	1:45pm 6pm	Year 6 Production Year 6 Production
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm	Prize Day
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>		Leavers' Mass
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	3pm	Term ends
<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY</b>		





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