



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

September 5th 2018

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[@StEdwardsFirst](https://twitter.com/StEdwardsFirst)

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new academic year! I have just been on a walk around the school and am happy to report that the children are all settled in their new classrooms and the teachers have already got them working hard!

The teachers were all in school on Monday, preparing for the arrival of the children. It was nice to see them all looking refreshed, ready and enthusiastic about the new school year. We were delighted to offer a very special St Edward's welcome to Mr McKell, our new Deputy Head and Woodpeckers teacher, and to Mrs Wetherall, the new Sparrows teacher.

We also have new team members in Fledglings: Mrs Craig, Mrs Sheffield, Miss Couser, Mr Kitson and Mrs Bosquet have all joined Ms Stone, Miss Marshall and Miss Cobb. They have all been busy preparing the setting for the arrival of all the new children this morning.

I am also pleased to report that Miss Clark and Miss Cooper will be undertaking their teacher training with us this year. They will be based primarily in Kingfishers and Woodpeckers respectively.

Fledglings

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to the following EYFS / Year R children and their families:

Aiden, Albert, Allegra, Amber, Amy, Annette, Arnie, Beatrix, Cameron, Cassandra, Chloe S, Chloe W, Cian, Cloe, Dominika, Emilia, Faid, Florence, Flynn, Franco, Gunnar, Hadley, Harry, Helena, Henry, Isabella, Jake, John-Paul, Jonas, Joshua, Juwairia, Kacper, Kian D, Kian M, Kimberly, Leander, Lena, Leonardo, Liliana, Lily, Mariella, Mia, Michelle, Miguel, Milana, Millie, Oliver O, Oliver T, Olivia, Oscar, Penelope, Sebastian, Sophia

N, Sophia S, Summer, Thomas A, Thomas G, Tiarah, William and Zachary.

Fledglings all start school this morning, attending mornings only for this week before starting full days from next Monday. We will introduce them to their Y4 Buddies this week and they will have the opportunity to spend some time together. We will officially welcome all the new EYFS children to St Edward's First School at their Buddy Assemblies on Friday 19th October. For space reasons it has been necessary to split this event into two sessions: Owls will introduce their Buddies at 9.00am and Nightingales at 2.30pm. Parents of both the Y4 and Fledglings children are invited to join us for this special event.

We are also delighted to say hello to Soffia and Matthew, who have also joined us this term. Please join with me in welcoming them and their families to our school community.

Meet the Teacher

The staff would like to informally invite you to your child's new classroom at 2.45pm on Friday 14th September, so that you can see where your child is working and find out a little about the work they will be covering this term. If you have more than one child at school, please feel free to simply "pop-in" to each class. The details of the learning for the term will be given to each child as they leave and will also be available on the school website.

Please note: Meet the Teacher is NOT for Fledglings.

Kiss and Drop and Breakfast Club

Our Kiss and Drop facility is available to all parents at St Edward's First School. Simply drop your child with our staff members by the disabled parking space in the Dedworth Park car park. Staff will be in attendance from 8.25am every school morning and will leave



promptly at 8.45 to ensure that they arrive in school in time for the start of the school day. There is no need to book – simply drop off your child/ren and we will do the rest!

Should you need to leave for work earlier, our Breakfast Club opens at 7.15am every morning:

<http://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk/school-clubs>

Leave of Absence from School – A Reminder

There are strict Government rules and regulations that Head Teachers must follow regarding children's absence from school. Permission for a child to be absent for any reason other than illness must be applied for in writing and will be granted only in exceptional circumstances. Further information and details can be found at:

www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/overview

Last academic year, almost one third of our pupils had at least one unauthorised absence, an unacceptably high percentage of absenteeism.

Uniform

Our school uniform unites us as a school community and should foster a feeling of pride and a sense of belonging. This in turn helps to develop a greater awareness of personal appearance, self-esteem and self-respect. Please help us to uphold these values by ensuring that your child's uniform adheres to the school policy, which can be found on the school website, but please, in particular, note the following;

- Earrings should be a pair of small, plain studs which must be removed or taped for PE lessons. Please provide your child with a roll of micropore tape to put in their PE bag if you would prefer them not to remove their studs.
- If you would like your child to wear a track suit for outdoor PE lessons these must be plain black.
- Nail varnish is not permitted and hair clips/slides should be functional, not decorative. Please do not adorn your

child's hair with large bows, hairbands, slides or ribbons.

- If the children have hair which reaches their shoulders, it must be tied/clipped back.
- Coats should be plain and dark coloured.

We appreciate your help and co-operation in helping us maintain our high expectations where uniform is concerned.

Cuckoo Club

Mrs Berry and her team are looking forward to welcoming the children back to Cuckoo Club. You can book a place at the club online by visiting:

<http://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk/school-clubs>

After School Clubs

After School Clubs will begin week commencing 17th September.

However, please take note that the teacher led activities will NOT be held on Wednesday 26th September, because of a Staff and Governor event, or on Thursday 1st or Tuesday 6th November because of Parents' Evenings. Cuckoo Club will be open on all of these dates.

School Dates

We have compiled a list of school events and dates, which includes all Class Assemblies, plays, Sharing Afternoons, Carol Concerts and Sports Day. Please take a moment to look at these and to write them down in your diaries. It is really important for your children that someone attends these events. For convenience and consistency, all class assemblies will be held at 9.00am on Friday mornings and any school events in the evenings will begin at 6.00pm.

The events list also includes the dates of Parents' Evenings for this term and also for the Spring Term.

I will advise you of the dates of our school Masses when Canon David returns from his holiday next week.

First Holy Communion

A reminder that if your child is entering Year 3 as they return to school, **now is the time to register him/her for First Communion Preparation**, which will begin with a meeting for parents on Thursday 27th September. Please contact the Presbytery office on **01753 865163** as soon as possible to arrange an appointment to see Fr David. You will be able to complete the appropriate paperwork at that appointment.

Tesco Tokens for St Edward's First

Parents and staff can vote for St Edward's First School in the *Tesco Bags of Help Token Scheme* in the following stores:

Tesco Superstore Windsor SL4 4JT
Tesco Express Windsor SL4 3QL
Tesco Express Datchet SL3 9HW
Tesco Express Langley SL3 8BB

You have to ask for the tokens at the checkout or you may not get them. Voting finishes on 31st October. 1st prize is £4,000, 2nd prize £2,000, and 3rd prize £1,000, so please support us when you're shopping during the next 2 months and let's see if we can win that first prize!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any immediate concerns, issues or worries.

Best Wishes

Sarah Matthews
Head Teacher