



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

3rd September 2024

office@secfs.org.uk

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new academic year and an especially warm welcome to the new members of our school community in Fledglings or higher up the school. We are looking forward to getting to know you all!

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable holiday and have made some precious memories with your families. On behalf of all the staff, teaching and non-teaching, I'd like to start the new year by thanking you all for your generous gifts and cards at the end of last term. They were all gratefully received and highly valued. Thank you.

The teachers spent yesterday in school setting the yearly calendar and preparing the classrooms in readiness for the return of the children this morning.

It has been lovely to welcome them all back to school looking so happy and ready to learn. They are all already hard at work in their new classrooms!

E-Mail Issues

We experienced some issues with our school e-mail over the holiday, resulting in us returning to an inbox with over 62,000 e-mails! If you did e-mail us over this period and your communication was important, and you have not received a reply by end of this first week, please resend it to office@secfs.org so we can deal with the issues raised.

Office Capacity

Due to illness, we are likely to be short staffed in the school office for the foreseeable future. Please do be patient with us and we will deal with any issues or problems you have as swiftly as we possibly can. It may take us a bit longer than usual during the next few weeks!

School Events Calendar

We have attached the school calendar for the year. This includes School Masses, Class Assemblies, Parents Evening dates, Plays and Performances, Carol Concerts and Sport's Day. Please take a moment to look at these and write them down in your diaries. It is really important for your children that someone attends these events. It is also frustrating for us to have to make separate appointments when we have sent out the dates of our events so early in the year.

Please do pay particular attention to the school holiday dates and avoid booking any holidays during the school term. I am sure that you are aware that new legislation regarding attendance at school and the issuing of fines for taking unauthorised time off school has been introduced over the summer holiday. We have never previously issued fines here at St Edward's First but we are now bound by the new rules. Please do take a moment to read and absorb the contents of the attached attendance sheet. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to ask.

PE Days – from next Monday 9th September

Please refer to the table below for the relevant PE days for the children. On their allocated day, the children should come to school wearing the correct school PE kit.

Please remember that the children should not wear hoodies or zipped tops on PE days. They must have a plain black sweatshirt without logos. Trainers should be dark coloured, preferably black. Any earrings should be taped or removed before leaving home.

The Fledglings PE day will be allocated at the end of this term. There is no need for them to wear PE kit before the Spring term.

Monday	No PE
Tuesday	Y4
Wednesday	Y1
Thursday	Y2
Friday	Y3

Meet & Greet

The staff would like to informally invite you to your child’s new classroom between 9am and 9.30am on Thursday 12th September. This is so that you have the opportunity to see the classroom where your child is working, find out a little about the work they will be covering this term and meet the teacher if you do not know them already. We will open the gates at 9am once we have taken the registers and lunch orders.

If you have more than one child at school, please feel free to simply “pop-in” to each class.

Full details of the learning for each term will be available on each class area of the school website. Some of this information is available already but all class areas of the website will be up to date by the end of this month.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office if you have any questions or we can help you in any way possible.

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 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.

May I also remind you that earrings should be a pair of small, plain studs (not sparkly) which must be removed or taped for PE lessons. Please provide your child with a roll of micropore tape if you would prefer them not to remove their studs. Nail varnish is not permitted and hair clips/slides should be functional, not decorative.

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

Lost Property

Today we have filled numerous bin bags with left over belongings from last year. This will now be donated to the Bags to School collection or be recycled into our second-hand uniform shop.

This leaves us with an empty lost property bin. Please help us to maintain this by making sure that EVERY item of your child’s uniform is clearly labelled with their name so that their belongings are identifiable. The waste - and associated cost - is a source of great discomfort to us all!

God Bless

Sarah Matthews

Headteacher