



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

20th December 2024

office@secfs.org.uk

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

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk



Dear Parents

Advent is a really important part of our school year and sees us all making preparations for Christmas and the birth of Jesus. It has been lovely to see the children embracing the season through their living out of our Mission statement, their work, their art and their talented displays of acting singing and dancing – not to mention their glorious Monday purple and pink attire!

The staff and I are so proud of every single one of them for their hard work and efforts in the recent productions of **Born In A Barn; Lights, Camels, Action; the Carols in the Courtyard** and the traditional Y4 **Carol Concert**. They all shone brightly and their confidence and enjoyment was a delight to see from the youngest children to the oldest.

Well done to them all!

Recordings

The number of you who have requested the link to your child's Christmas production film and photographs does not currently cover the costs we have incurred to record them. If this is an oversight,

please do go online and pay for the link. If the numbers do not increase we will no longer be able to provide this service to our parents and the recordings and photographs will not be available in the future.

We will send the links out to those of you that have paid very early on in the new term.

End of Term Mass

Canon David celebrated a lovely end of term mass with us this morning. It was lovely to see so many of our parents there.

Please take note of the Mass times for Christmas below – I am sure Fr David would love to see you there!

Christmas Services in Our Parish 2024

Sunday 22 December - 4th Sunday of Advent

St Marks 09:30

St Edwards 11:00

Christmas Eve Masses

St Edward's 18:00 (carols from 17:30)

St Edward's 22:00 (carols from 21:30)

Christmas Day

St Mark's 09:30

St Edward's 11:00

Robin Hood & The Magic Arrow

The children all looked magnificent in their Christmas Jumpers yesterday and they really enjoyed the opportunity to shout and boo at the cast of the Panto. They were really well behaved and, once again, the staff at the Park commented on their lovely manners

and good behaviour telling me that we were by far the best school they have had in this season! What a credit they are – to the school and also to you, their parents.

Goodbye

We have said goodbye to Miss Morris who has been with us for just a short time to cover for the beginning of Mrs O’Connell’s maternity leave. Next term, Mrs Hayman will be working Tuesday to Friday in Doves and Mrs Kitson will be covering the class on Mondays.

Miss Couser will be taking up her second school placement as part of her teacher training and will return to us at Easter. We will be welcoming Mr Ben Reynolds into Y2 for his school placement.

School Dinner Price Increase

A reminder that the cost of a school dinner will be rising to £2.75 a day from the start of next term. If you wish to check to see if you qualify for free school meals please follow the link below;

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/>

Fledglings PE Kit

A reminder for Fledgling parents that the children will need to wear PE kit to school on Mondays from January. This is available to order online. The children will need a pair of black PE shorts, a white T shirt, plimsolls/trainers and a **plain** black tracksuit (without a hood or a zip) for colder outdoor lessons.

Please ensure that every item is named.

As we come to the end of the calendar year, we can look back and see that 2024 has been another truly successful year for St Edward’s First School. Aside from all the recent productions and performances, our

children have worked really hard and have achieved so much.

My thanks, and those of the children, must go to all the fantastic, hardworking (and currently very tired) members of staff; teaching, support, administration, lunch time cover and kitchen, all of whom show such dedication and commitment to all the children. We are very lucky to have them.

Thanks also to Canon David for his time and commitment to our school, to the Friend’s Association for their dogged and tireless work to enhance the education and provision for the children, to the Governors and to you, the parents, for your continued support and for continuing to trust us with your precious children. It is not a responsibility we take lightly.

Without everybody pulling together St Edward’s would not be such a caring and loving school. Here’s to 2025!

At the heart of our Advent preparations has been living out our Mission statement to see Jesus in everything we do and to act as God’s children and through our words, actions, faith and prayers and touch the lives of others. Let’s all work hard to continue this throughout 2025.

A reminder that **school closes at 2pm today** and that the Spring Term begins on for the children on Tuesday 7th January.

All that remains is for me to thank you, on behalf of the entire staff, all for your kind and generous words, gifts and cards and to wish you all a joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

God Bless

Sarah Matthews

Headteacher