



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

23rd February 2024

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

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

What a week! The half term holiday seems like it was much longer than a week ago! I do hope that you were all able to enjoy the holiday. It has been lovely to see all the children back in school and raring to go this week.

Jewellery & Earrings

Staff have noticed this week that there are lots of children wearing necklaces and bracelets into school. Please do ensure that all jewellery is left at home – apart from the very obvious health and safety issues it is tragic when a special piece of jewellery is lost or misplaced. We enforce a strict no jewellery rule and we would be grateful for your co-operation in ensuring that the children do not wear any sort of jewellery to school – this includes fabric and woven types.

If your child has pierced ears, earrings should be small, plain silver or gold studs. Glittery, shaped or diamante types are not allowed. They should also be covered with micropore tape when the children have PE.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child's water bottle contains nothing but water. These drinks are available to the children at all times during the day and the effect of squash or juice on teeth is dramatic when the children are sipping all day – not to mention very sticky if spilt! Anything but water will be replaced by staff if discovered.

Parents Evening – 19th & 21st March 3.30 – 6.00pm

The teachers are looking forward to sharing details of your child's academic progress with you on the above dates. The booking system will open for you to reserve a place on Friday 8th March at 8pm and close on Monday 18th March at 10am. Please do ensure that you log on to book an appointment to see your class teacher. There is one 10-minute appointment available for each child.

You will need access to the school cloud to book your appointment, please ensure you can log on and contact the office if you have any questions.
<https://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk/parents/instructions-for-booking-parents-evenings-and-teachers-clubs>

Individual & Sibling Photos

The school photographer will be in school on the 5th & 6th March. All children will have their photograph taken during the school day on the 5th March. For simplicity, the children should wear school uniform for this and this includes hair design and ornamentation.

On the 6th March the photographer will take sibling photographs. Any siblings with us here at school will have photographs taken during the school day. If you wish to have a photograph with a pre-schooler or older child, we will open the school gates for access to the hall at 8am. No children should be left unaccompanied either in the hall or on the playground before staff arrive on the playground at 8.30am.

For simplicity, the children should wear school uniform – not PE kits - on both days. All PE lessons will be adapted accordingly.

Diocesan Building Fund

Currently, less than 40% of our school population have made the donation to the above fund. This has a huge impact on the school budget as we are required to make up the shortfall from our funding in order to support the Diocese. Although we have no projects planned for this year, the school has greatly benefited from this funding in the past – we had the entire school roof replaced just a couple of years ago for example. Please do consider making this payment if you have not already done so. I have attached the explanatory letter with this newsletter but do contact me if you have any further questions.

School Debts

As we approach the end of the financial year, there are a number of families who owe money on the school dinner, breakfast or after school club accounts. This causes us many problems making the school budget balance. Please do log into your Scopay account to see if you are amongst this number. If you are experiencing any financial difficulty in this regard, please do contact me directly and we will do our best to see if we are able to help in any way.

Reading Café – Remaining Class Dates

8th March 9am-9.30am Doves Reading Café

22nd March 9am-9.30am Kingfishers Reading Café

3rd May 9am-9.30am Starlings Reading Café

10th May 9am-9.30am Goldfinches & Sparrows Reading Café

10th May 2.15-2.45 Fledglings Reading Café

Lost Property

Thank you to the Friends for sorting through the mound of lost property. All is now clearly displayed and available for collection in the Key Stage 1 courtyard. Please do take a moment to check whether any items belong to your children.

Here is hoping that this half term is peaceful and healthy for us all whilst we continue to remember in our prayers all those who are experiencing difficulty or anxiety of any kind.

Very best wishes

Sarah Matthews

Headteacher