



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

30th November 2023

office@secfs.org.uk

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

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

As I walk around the school this week it is very evident that Christmas has properly arrived – even though it is not quite December yet! The children in every class are already engaged in singing and practising for their various Christmas performances and I have to say they sound lovely!

The Friends are still looking for volunteers to help serve refreshments on the various evenings. If your child is not performing and you are able to spare half an hour to help then please contact the friends@secfs.org.uk to volunteer. It would be lovely if all parents were able to enjoy their child's performance without having to worry about serving mulled wine and mince pies!

Medication & Illness

There are lots of bugs going around school at the moment. In order to keep transmission down, please do not send your child into school unless they have had a strict 48-hour period without vomiting or suffering from diarrhea.

If your child needs any medication during the school day, it is essential that you complete an administering medication form available by following the link below.

<https://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk/uploads/Medical/Medical%20Consent%20Form%20Jan22.pdf>

Without out a signed consent form for each medicine, we are unable to give your child any form of medication.

All medication must be handed in by an adult to the school office – **under no circumstances should children be sent to school with any medication in their bags or pockets.**

Gardening Club Plant Sale – Friday 1st Dec @ 2.45pm

Mrs Lansley, Mrs Reston and their intrepid bunch of keen gardeners are holding a plant sale in the Courtyard on Friday afternoon. Do please come along and help them by buying some plants to raise money for a green house so that they can continue with their gardening adventures!

George Riddell – Filming

I have had a few enquiries regarding the reason behind us booking George to record and photograph our school productions. George is very talented and I have worked with him for many years with various local dance and drama groups. Having him in to film and edit school performances has several benefits.

Firstly, it covers us for filming permissions and keeps us in line with the copyright rules of the various publications – we will always purchase a film license with the performing rights. You, the parents, get a high-quality recording of the children's performance edited to show them all at their best. You are also able to enjoy the performance without having to watch through a screen – or even worse, having to watch it through the screen of the person in front of you! It minimises the movement of parents in the hall where the children are often making use of the aisles and doors. It also hugely reduces the risk of your children being inadvertently posted on social media platforms.

George does not charge us to record or photograph the performances and all the money you pay for the links to photographs and films goes directly to him for his time, travel and effort.

It is much easier for us to share his work with you via links but this is open to abuse if you then pass on the link to other families that have not paid for it. I would therefore kindly request that, if you do purchase a link to a performance you do not share it with others. If George does not make enough money to cover his costs, we may not be able to make use of his services in the future.

Welcome Assembly – Fledglings & Y4

Thank you to those of you who purchased the link for the assembly. This has now been shared with you for you to enjoy with your families.

Y2 Nativity – Bethlehem B&B and

Y4 Carol Concert

A charge of £10 has now been set up on your child's Scopay account for you to purchase the film recording and still photographs, if you wish. We are hoping that, by asking you to pay in advance, we are able to send home the recordings before the school closes for the holiday. Seasonal entertainment in good time!

No Parents Room

Please do have a hunt around the house for any unwanted or extra gifts you feel you would be able to donate. Pre-Covid, the children absolutely loved having the opportunity to independently select a gift and wrap it for someone special but we will only be able to offer them this opportunity if we have enough gifts for them to choose from!

Donations of wrapping paper and tape are also most welcome. Please send them into school with the children or drop to the school office.

Traffic Disruption - Walking Bus

The Cadent work is causing no end of disruption to so many people and there has been a big increase in the number of children arriving late for school. Whilst we do understand that it is difficult with such major roadworks going on, the timetable is structured to have phonics lessons first thing and many of the children are either arriving late for these or missing them altogether.

Please do try to get the children here on time - if you can't deal with the traffic why not take advantage of the Walking Bus and drop the children in the park with our staff from 08:25am or at Breakfast Club from 07:15am?

Starting School in September 2024

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, they are due to start in Reception in 2024. A reminder that the RBWM Admissions portal is open for online admissions. Link below for your information.

https://myportaladmissions.rbwm.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

We are happy to receive completed Supplementary Information Forms at any time but these must be returned to the school office before the 15th January 2024 deadline. Link to admission section on school website below for your convenience.

<https://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk/admissions>

Please do recommend us to any friends you may have looking for school places.

I do hope you all have a lovely weekend when it finally gets here!

God Bless

Sarah Matthews