



# Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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

[www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk](http://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk)

Dear Parents

Goodness me what a week! Y2 have excelled themselves in their three performances of 'Lights, Camel, Action!' which have been warmly received by all who have seen it! Well done Year 2!

### Y1 (Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December) & Y3 (Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December) Carols in the Courtyard

We are now looking forward to the Y1 and Y3 performances next week.

Due to the nature of the Y1 and Y3 Carols in the Courtyard, we would politely request that no more than two adults per child attend, and that **no children at all attend**. In addition to the space being restricted, there will be lit candles making it hazardous for children. Many thanks for your cooperation.

The Friends will also be hoping to sell mulled wine and hot chocolate at the Y1 & Y3 evening performances but this is dependent on them having enough volunteers to do so. Please do offer to help if you can – it helps create a lovely atmosphere.

Older siblings from other schools may attend if you wish but should be considered as part of your "ticket" allocation.

For the Y1 and Y3 carols, we would encourage all parents to watch and listen rather than film or take photos but, as we will not be filming this performance, we do understand that you may wish to do so. If you do, please remember to be considerate of all other parents during the performance and also commit to not sharing any images of children that are not your own on any social media platform.

There will be a collection for the Alexander Devine Hospice Christmas Appeal after each event.

### Y4 Carols @ St Edward's Church 6pm Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

As the church has far greater capacity than either the courtyard or the hall, everyone is welcome to attend this service, including siblings and younger children. Please ensure you are seated before 6pm. This service is being filmed by George Riddell and therefore no photos or recordings should take place during the service.

### A Touch of Advent Purple!

It was lovely to see so many of the children celebrate the first Monday of Advent by wearing a touch of purple last week. They are invited to do the same on the upcoming Monday, 9th December and then to wear a touch of pink on the 16th December to celebrate Gaudete Sunday on the 15th. Gaudete means "rejoice" and we will be celebrating the joy of anticipation at the approach of the birth of Jesus and the Christmas celebrations.

Normal uniform with purple/pink socks, tights, ribbons, cardigans, jumpers or t shirts for example.

### Christmas Lunches

#### Years 3 & 4 - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

*Fledglings, Year 1 & Year 2 will all need a packed lunch*

#### Fledglings, Year 1 & 2 - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

*Years 3 & 4 will all need a packed lunch*

Payment for Christmas lunch is via Scopay, in the usual way.

Children not wishing to have a Christmas lunch on their set day may bring a packed lunch and will sit with their friends in the hall to eat it.

### **Robin Hood Panto – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Please ensure that you have paid your £12 ticket price for the Panto – we still have over 35 payments outstanding. It would be really helpful if the office staff did not have to waste time chasing these payments next week! Thank you!

We are all looking forward to our annual trip to the pantomime at South Hill Park next Thursday. The children should come to school in their uniform but may adorn it with a Christmas Jumper instead of their usual school sweatshirt if they wish. There will be collection buckets on the gates for cash donations to the Alexander Devine Hospice for the privilege.

As we get back to school later than our usual lunchtime, the menu for next Thursday has been changed to enable a speedier service. **The kitchen will serve Bolognese and Mac and Cheese for lunch on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and the Pizza options will be served on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>.**

A reminder that Cuckoo Club will not be open on Thursday and the last after school session will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

All children should be collected at 3:15pm on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **School Mass Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Canon David will be in to celebrate the end of term and the upcoming Christmas season with Mass at 9am on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. All parents are welcome to attend.

### **End of Term – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

The school term will end for all pupils at 2pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure that your children are collected promptly.

### **HCPT Fayre – 8th December**

#### **12:00-14:00 in the Parish Centre.**

Pat Burke from the Parish is organizing a Christmas Fayre to support the fundraising for the next HCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Please come along and support your Parish HCPT group: Tombola, Raffle, Face paints & tattoos, Children's lucky dip, Mulled wine, Cakes, Christmas presents stall. Can you provide a cake?

(Please bring cash for purchases if possible).

### **Lunch Time Controller Position**

We are still looking to recruit a lunchtime controller to work with our team supervising the children over the lunch period. There is a job description & application form on the website or, if you wish to know more, please contact [office@secfs.org](mailto:office@secfs.org) with your questions.

### **Hannah Peckham – Author Visit – 17<sup>th</sup> January**

We are excited to welcome back Hannah Peckham a local award-winning author to complete some workshops and readings with the classes across the school. This will take place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Hannah's books cover key social and emotional skills that the children will complete some work around in class prior to her visit. I have attached information about her books.

Mrs Langdale has added the books to your child's ScoPay account if you would like to take the opportunity to order any of her books that Hannah

can sign / dedicate to your child. Hannah is offering a discounted rate of £6.50 per book or 5 for £30. The books will also be on sale on the day after school however due to time she will not be able to dedicate books bought on the day.

### **Starting School in September 2025**

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, then they are due to start school in Reception in 2025.

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](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 2025** deadline. Link to admission section on school website below for your convenience.

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

Please note that any siblings must also complete this application process – it does not happen automatically!! Please do recommend us to any friends you may have looking for school places.

It's seems that it is going to be very wet and windy this weekend – please do take care out there!

God Bless

Sarah Matthews

### **\*\*Kitchen Apology**

A delivery got held up this morning so the kitchen was unable to serve fish to all of the children. This was replaced with chicken or vegetarian nuggets for today. Please accept our apologies for this unavoidable alteration.