



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

8th September 2023

office@secfs.org.uk

www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

What a week! You can always rely on the British weather to throw us a curve ball – after the end of the holiday being overcast and drizzly, what a gloriously hot week we have had for the return to school! It has however been lovely to see the children greeting and playing with all their friends again!

The classrooms have been calm and the teachers have put the children to work already – they have all been very focused and busy on my regular tours!

I'd like to offer a huge, warm welcome to all the new families who have joined us this year – both in Reception and higher up the school. We are delighted that you have chosen to join our thriving school community and we are looking forward to getting to know you all better as the weeks – and years – pass!

The new Fledglings have had a lovely week and have settled in well but they will be ready for the weekend by the end of today – as will many of the older children!

From next week, all the children, including Fledglings, will need to be in school for 0845. They can be left on the KS2 playground from 0830 or wait for the courtyard gate to open at 0845.

Air Conditioning

It is perhaps worth mentioning that we installed air conditioning in the KS2 classrooms last year. It is very efficient – so much so that some of the children have been complaining that they are too cold this week! Could you please make sure that they bring a cardigan or sweatshirt to school with them – even on very hot days like today – so they can put them on and we can still keep the classrooms cool!

Building Fund

Each year we ask the parents to contribute £10 per child, per term to the Diocesan Building Fund – I have attached the letter explaining what this is used for with this newsletter. Last year, less than 60% of our parents made this contribution and the remainder was necessarily taken out of the school budget. As we continue to try and make the school funds stretch way beyond their means, this was a significant contribution for us to make. Your donation can be made termly or annually via Scopay and we are very grateful for every donation made.

Teacher Led Clubs

The booking system for the teacher led clubs, which will begin the week commencing the 18th September, will open at 8pm tonight and remain open until 8pm on Wednesday 13th September. Please do check that your child wishes to attend an activity rather than booking them in because it is convenient for you – reluctant children are hard to engage after school!

The teacher led clubs are not open for the new Fledgling children until the summer term – experience has taught us that it is simply just too long a day for them to cope with before then!

Enrise Arts

Miss Marianne is hugely excited to be launching Enrise Arts Saturday Stage School here at St Edwards First School as of Saturday 16th September. Students will be working on West End script, vocals and choreography creating a musical masterpiece to be staged at The Old Court Theatre in Windsor next year. If you would like to sign up or join for a free trial please let Marianne know via the information in the attached flyer.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge finishes this Sunday. Even if the children did not complete the challenge. They are encouraged to pop into any library and let them know how many library books they read over the summer to get their stickers, prizes and medal.

Friends – Save the Dates!

The Friends of St Edward's are raring to go this year and already have big plans for fundraising. Please do put the below dates in your diaries and let the team know if you are available to help in any way! friends@secfs.org.uk

Cake Sale - Friday 22nd September 2:45 -3:30pm

Quiz Night - Friday 29th September 7-10pm (Adults only)

Colour Run - Sunday 15th October 2-5pm in the school grounds.

House Captains

Year 4 have elected their new House Captains.

Matthew – Linus & Brodie

Mark – Luke & Zara

Luke – Tilly & Ambra

John – Rian-Sian & Elin.

Congratulations to them all!

Reading Ambassadors

We also have some new reading ambassadors;

Sid, Clemmie, Hattie, Gael & Mia will join Sophie, Thomas and Marianna who continue in the role from last year. Well done to all of them too!

Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform and make no apologies for ensuring that all the children abide by the rules. Please help us by ensuring that your child's clothes and shoes adhere to the uniform policy – particularly with regard to earrings (which should be

small, **plain** studs) and hair accessories which should be functional not decorative.

No jewellery is allowed – it is far too risky in a school environment.

Many thanks for your continued support in this regard.

Contact Details

We will be asking all parents to review their private data at the October parents evening but, in the meantime, please don't forget to let us know if you have changed your phone number or address. It is really important that we have up to date contact details for you should we need to contact you in case of an emergency or your child being unwell.

Handyman Shout Out!

We have a lovely wooden boat in our Fledglings garden which has succumbed to some over-enthusiastic play over the holiday! The wooden base of the boat has broken and it is in need of repair that is beyond our capabilities! Is there someone out there that may be able to help...? Please contact the office@secfs.org.uk if this is you!

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 school in Reception in 2024. Can I invite you to contact the school office to book onto one of our open mornings? The admissions process will be explained. Please let any friends you have with children of this age know that we are open for admissions!

I do hope you have a lovely weekend – make the most of the sunshine – it's due to be much cooler next week!

God Bless

Sarah Matthews

Headteacher