



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

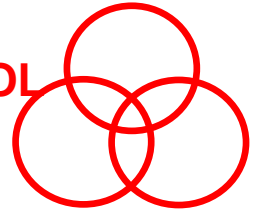
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www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



1st May 2015.

Dear Parents,

Life at St Edmund's continues to be incredibly busy and productive. It's lovely to feel the weather warming (a little) and to see the children in their summer uniform. If you are unsure about the uniform at all remember you can always check the list on our school website but can I just draw your attention to the fact that the girls summer dress is a small **navy** check and that any child with hair longer than shoulder length should have it tied back neatly with a navy or red hair band (for coolness as well as to discourage little visitors traveling from head to head!)

We have had lots of positive feedback over the last few weeks from our HMI and all the different members of the Local Authority who have been supporting us over the last year. All are agreed that we are now 'good' again in all areas and that we are ready for when Ofsted visit us again next academic year. I am delighted by this as it affirms all the hard work all the staff have been doing and it is also a few months ahead of when we were initially aiming for. Now we will continue to maintain this level and start striving for possibly even higher results in the Autumn.

Following our staff e Safety training session last week I have booked two parent sessions for Tuesday 16th June which I would urge as many of you as possible to attend. The message is hard hitting and worrying as our children spend so much of their time online now and from a very early age. As teachers and parents we want to protect our children but I don't think we can fully protect them if we don't fully understand the dangers ourselves. Therefore, I strongly recommend you to write this date in your diary now and make sure that you attend either the afternoon or evening session.

I have some exciting developments in our sports provision to tell you about. Mrs Harris and I have just agreed a new sports programme which will be run by the instructors from Can Do Martial Arts and funded by our Sports Premium money. This money is given to schools to help provide sporting opportunities for all children and to develop different sports for those children who are not naturally involved in the traditional sports on offer. To this aim we have already been providing some new after school clubs such as Quidditch and table tennis this year which have proved popular with the children. We have now arranged for each class from Year 2-6 to experience a six week Martial Arts/fitness programme led by the martial arts instructors. The first five weeks will be run in the school hall and the last week for each class will take place at the Abingdon Dojo. As well as introducing the children (and class teacher) to different activities and increasing their fitness levels, the sessions will also develop the children's focus and ability to listen to instructions in a disciplined way. Year 5 will be the first year group to start this programme in a few weeks' time.

Sports Report by Mrs Harris





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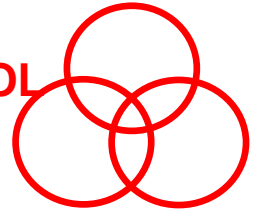
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The term has got off to a busy start with our summer extra curriculum clubs getting underway. Cricket and Athletics are our main focus this term. We have also got the House football, Netball and X country Competitions and Sports Day to look forward to. We will take part in Abingdon School Mini Olympics, Abingdon Primary Schools' Athletics and Cricket Competitions too in the weeks to come.

We have also strengthened our link with Can Do Martial Arts and have arranged to use some of our Sports Premium funding to broaden our curriculum and give the children new experiences. During the next year all children in years 2-6 will have a weekly Martial Arts/fitness lesson for 6 weeks. Reception and Year 1 will have taster Tiny Tiger sessions in school next summer. Year 5 will begin their 6 week block after half term in June.

Our Football team had a very successful season in the Vale league and narrowly missed out on being the champions in the final. They were beaten by a last minute goal from Botley Primary School. Well done to Mr Long and all of the children who took part.

It's always lovely to meet with parents and last week I had a meeting with Kimberley Kelly (Mum to Harley in Year 5 and Kyran in Nursery) who was asking for our help and support. As most of us have been affected or know of someone who has been affected by breast cancer Kimberley has asked if anyone at St Edmund's would like to sponsor her as she is participating in the World Record Skydiving/Parachute Jump attempt on the 20th June 2015 on behalf of Against Breast Cancer, who research into the secondary spread of the disease. The charity is aiming to develop a vaccine for a future free of breast cancer. Currently they are investing in education through a Fellowship associated with Oriel College at the University of Oxford to specifically look at new anti-breast cancer antibodies that could be used for new treatments or to make a vaccine and test new treatment ideas that uses a virus to kill breast cancer cells without damaging surrounding healthy cells. Our support will allow Against Breast Cancer to continue making real progress in their ground-breaking breast cancer research. If you are able to help at all Kimberley's fundraising link is: <http://www.doitforcharity.com/KimberlyKelly> and you can find more details about the Big Pink Plunge at: <http://www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk/get-involved/sporting-and-challenges/events/554/big-pink-plunge-world-record-attempt/>

Finally, Mrs Semple and I have been discussing our Mother Tongue and Pentecost arrangements and I would like to ask for help from any parents who speak a language other than English. During our Pentecostal Mass on Wednesday 20th May in school we will ask some of the children who speak another language to read out the bidding prayers in their language (help from Mums and Dads when they are practising will be needed here please.) On Thursday 21st May we are having our Mother Tongue Day. To start the day I would like whole school worship at 9am in the hall, rather than the Key Stage worships we usually have on Thursdays. During whole school worship I usually read an extract from the Bible and discuss its message and relevance to us. For Mother Tongue day I would like to ask if any parents who are free could read out parts of the bible reading in their own language so the children really appreciate the Pentecostal story. Please come and speak to me or Mrs Semple if you are able to help with this at all. We are





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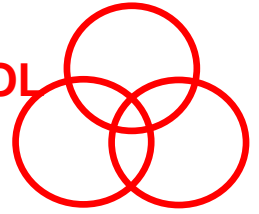
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hoping to have as many languages as possible represented. In the afternoon we are hoping many adults would be free to read stories to children in class in their own language and join us in the hall where we want to set up stalls representing different languages and countries from our school community. We will send out further details nearer the time but if you feel you will be able to help in any way please do let myself or Mrs Semple know.

Apologies for the length of this newsletter but there are lots of exciting things happening at St Edmund's at the moment.

Kind regards,

Mrs Delany-White

Diary Dates- PLEASE KEEP THESE HANDY

Wednesday 6 th May	Year 2HS assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Thursday 7 th May	Year 3 trip to Living Rainforest
Monday 11 th - Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Wednesday 13 th May	Year 3 assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Wednesday 20 th May	Whole School Mass at 2 pm in hall
Thursday 21 st May	Mother Tongue Day for whole school Break up for Half Term Holiday
Friday 22 nd May	Staff INSET- school closed
Monday 1 st June	Term 6 begins
Mon 1 st -Fri 5 th June	Healthy Eating Week
Wednesday 3 rd June	Year 5 assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Friday 5 th June	Non Uniform Day for Summer Fayre
Saturday 6 th June	11am First Holy Communion in St Edmund's Church
Sunday 7 th June	2pm First Holy Communion in St Edmund's Church
Wednesday 10 th June	Year 2KW assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Thursday 11 th June	St Edmund's Book Day
Friday 12 th June	First Holy Communion Mass at 2 pm in hall
Tuesday 16 th June	1:30 pm New Nursery Parents in the hall 2-3pm e Safety Session for Parents 7-8 pm e Safety Session for Parents
Wednesday 17 th June	Reception class assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Thursday 18 th June	Megan Rix, author, visiting 1:30 pm New Reception Parents Visiting
Saturday 20 th June	Summer Fayre





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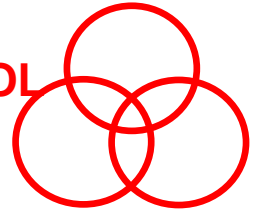
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Monday 22 nd June	JMS Community Concert- Choir
Tuesday 23 rd June	Good Shepherd Mass in Portsmouth PA Film Club
Wednesday 24 th June	Nursery & Reception Trip to Farmer Gow's Tilsley Athletics Competition Year 5 & 6
Thursday 25 th June	Bishop's Visit to school
Tuesday 30 th June	Summer Music Concert 6 pm in the hall
Wednesday 1 st July	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Thursday 2 nd July	Alternative Sports Day (if needed)
Monday 6 th July	Year 6 Production at 1:30 pm
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 6 Production at 6 pm
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 4 Assembly 2:20 pm in the hall
Thursday 9 th July	School nurse visiting Year 6 PA School Discos
Friday 10 th July	Leaver's Mass at 2 pm in hall
Monday 13 th July	Year 3 trip to Pizza Express pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Meet the Teachers afternoon for children & parents meet new teacher after school
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 6 trip to Wittenham Clumps
Thursday 16 th July	Prize Giving 2 pm in the hall
Friday 17 th July	School finishes at 3pm
Monday 20 th July	Staff INSET- school closed