



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

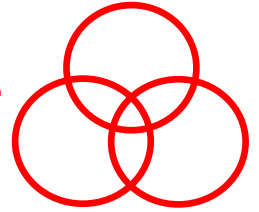
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www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



22nd October 2015.

Dear Parents,

As Term 1 is rapidly coming to an end I'd like to make you aware of a few things ready for next term. During the second week, **9th -13th November**, we will be holding our Sion Mission. This will be a whole school event led by a team of four from the Sion community and will coincide with the first week of St Edmund's Church mission. We have already started to prepare the exciting events the children will be involved in and I would like to invite you to meet the mission team each morning on the playground when they will be sharing tea and coffee and will be happy to chat and answer your questions.

During the Mission week the children will prepare special presentations for their parents- Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children will invite you to come and see their presentation on Thursday 12th November at 9:10 am. Key Stage 2 children will invite you to see their presentation at 6pm in St Edmund's church on Thursday 12th November. We will end our mission week with a whole school celebration of our St Edmund's Mass in church at 9:45 am. Last year's St Edmund's Mass was one of the highlights of the year for me so please do join us as we celebrate our school's patron saint, it promises to be a joyous occasion once again.

I will send out timetables for the Mission week as soon as we have them so you will know all the special events the children will be involved in. Please pray that the week goes well for us all; we have a special Mission prayer that we will be using with the children that you may like to use also:

*Dear Lord Jesus,
You are my special friend who loves me just the way I am.
I want to get to know you better.
I want to listen to your word and follow your ways.
Be with us all today as we prepare for our school mission.
Please send your Holy Spirit to guide us.
Amen.*

After half term, following advice from our Oxfordshire Early Years adviser, we need to change the access arrangements into school for some of you. Currently our Foundation Stage staff are unable to set up the outside area fully for all of the day as the teaching area is used as a thorough fare for other parents to get to the playground or junior end of the school and so the staff are restricted as to what equipment they can have outside at the beginning and end of the day. We have been told quite clearly that the outside area should reflect the same high quality teaching provision as the inside area at all times. In order to do this we will have to stop access on to the playground from the infant end of school as we do during the day already. What this will mean is that all children and parents for Years 1- 6 will have to enter the school grounds via the path down the side of the school and in through the junior gate. Nursery and Reception children *only* will enter via the infant gate as usual. If your Foundation Stage child has older siblings please make sure they are safely on the playground before walking back round to the infant gate to deliver the nursery/reception child. Then at the end of the day please collect the Foundation Stage child before walking round to collect the





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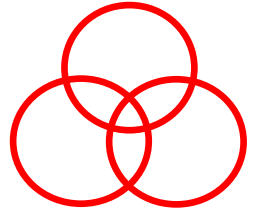
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older child. Year 1 children will enter school via the infant cloakroom as normal. However, at the end of the day they will be dismissed via the Year 1 & 2 cloakroom by Mrs Sylvester or Ms Myers and **not** via the classroom door. In this way all outside provision for Foundation Stage can be put out and left out for the whole week rather than being brought in and out with the time equipment can be used being limited as currently. I hope all of this makes sense and I thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter. I'm sure it will only take a few days for us all to get used these new arrangements.

As parents of Year 1 children will know we are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Harper this week. Mrs Harper has been teaching Year 1 for us in Miss Hurley's absence and I'm sure all Year 1 parents will join me in thanking her for all her hard work and dedication this term. Unfortunately she is leaving us to take up a permanent teaching position elsewhere. However, I can now announce that Ms Myers is going to teach Year 1 for two days a week starting from Term 2 and Mrs Sylvester will increase her time to three days a week. Many of you and your children will know Ms Myers as she is one of the supply teachers we regularly use when our teachers are out of school for any reason. We therefore know the high standard of her teaching and we are delighted that she enjoys working at our school so much that she has accepted the offer of a fixed term contract until Miss Hurley returns next year.

I am afraid that we had to take the hard decision this week to cancel the planned Year 6 trip to Didcot Railway Museum. As you know educational visits are a valuable addition to the curriculum which all children look forward to, enjoy and learn from. Teachers take a lot of time planning and arranging these trips and they use the experience in follow up work in class afterwards. Inevitably there is a cost involved which we do try to keep to a minimum. We are only allowed to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to cover these costs and in cases of genuine need we can use the extra funding the government gives us in the Pupil Premium Grant to pay for those children who qualify for the funding (If you are on a low income and think you may qualify please do come in and talk to the office staff as the extra funds can be used for so much more than paying for a hot meal every day). We have always tried as a school to make up the short fall when parents haven't paid for a trip so that no child misses out on these valuable learning experiences. However, with an already over stretched budget and an increasing number of parents not paying any contributions towards trips we can no longer afford to make up the short fall. Therefore we had to cancel the planned Year 6 trip. I do hope that this will not have to happen for any future trips.

As I haven't mentioned our Class Reps for a little while I thought I would list them again so that you know who is the main person to liaise between the class teacher and parents regarding those all important details such as when the yogurt pots are due in for junk modelling!

Reception	Stephanie Davis-Gill
Year 1	Marie Akers / Nishani Nanayakkara
Year 2	Laura Williams
Year 3BH	Gillian Kane
Year 3KH	John Platts
Year 4	Avril Williams
Year 5	Jennifer Lamboll
Year 6	Christine Whyte





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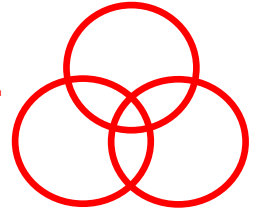
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Currently we don't have a rep for the nursery class so if you are a nursery parent and would be interested in assisting communication between the teacher and parents please do speak to either me or Mrs Semple. I will be meeting with the Class Reps again soon after half term so do talk to them if there is anything you think we should know or raise any issues you haven't raised directly with me already.

Sport's Report October 2015

Two weeks ago, we fielded two girl's teams and two boy's teams in the Abingdon School's Cross Country Championships. It was a very competitive competition with eighteen schools participating. All did well, with our girl's teams coming 4th and therefore qualifying for the Vale Cross Country championships. One outstanding achievement was Maisie's Silver medal for 2nd place.

At the Vale Cross Country Championships, our Year 3/4 team came 5th and our Year 5/6 team came 7th. Well done to all the girls involved – Year 3/4 team: Luna, Grace, Jemima, Maisie and Year 5/6 team: Chiara, Lexi Mae, Emily, Alice, Jeanette, Esther and Eleanor.

Finally, I have some good news to inform you of: a Health and Safety food hygiene inspector turned up at school this morning to inspect our school kitchen. I am delighted to say that she awarded our kitchen the five star highest rating. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our cook Mrs Williams and all her staff and thanking them as ever for the delicious food they provide our children with each day.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break,
Mrs Delany-White

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School DIARY DATES 2015/16

Date	Event
Friday, 23 rd October	INSET Day
26th – 30th October	Term Break
Monday, 2nd November	INSET Day
Tuesday, 3 rd November	Term 2 starts
Friday, 6 th November 2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 9th November	SION Mission all week
Thursday 12 th November 9:10 am 6 pm	Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 Presentation to parents Key Stage 1 Presentation to parents in Church
Friday, 13 th November 9.45 am	Whole school mass in Church – St Edmund's Day
Sunday, 15th November am	PA Nearly New Sale (School Hall)
Monday, 16th November	Anti-bullying Week
Tuesday 17 th November 6-7pm 7-8pm	Key Stage 1 Curriculum Evening for Parents Key Stage 2 Curriculum Evening for Parents
Wednesday, 18 th November 1-3pm	Swimming Gala at Radley College
Friday, 20 th November 2.20pm	Children in Need Gold Book Assembly





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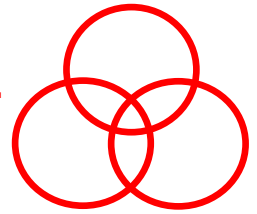
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Monday, 23rd November		Perform Drama – Year 3
Friday, 27 th November	2.20pm	Non Uniform Day for Christmas Fayre donations Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 30th November		
Wednesday, 2 nd December	am 2 pm	Gym Festival – Berinsfield Mass in school – all welcome
Friday, 4 th December	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 7th December		
Wednesday, 9 th December		Christmas Dinners - tbc
Thursday, 10 th December	5 – 9 pm	Year 6 IMPs trip Christmas Discos
Friday, 11 th December	2.20pm Evening	Gold Book Assembly Christmas Fayre set-up
Saturday, 12 th December		Christmas Fayre
Monday, 14th December	6 pm	KS2 Christingle in Church
Tuesday, 15 th December	9.30 am 2.00 pm	FS Nativity KS1 Nativity
Wednesday, 16 th December	2.00 pm	KS1 Nativity
Thursday, 17 th December		
Friday, 18 th December	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly Term 2 ends
21st December – 1st January		Christmas Holiday
Monday, 4th January 2016		Term 3 starts
Friday, 8 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 11th January		
Friday, 15 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 18th January		
Wednesday, 20 th January	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 22 nd January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 25th January		
Wednesday, 27 th January	pm	Dance Festival at Thomas Reade School
Friday, 29 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 1st February		
Friday, 5 th February	pm 2.20pm	Year 3-6 Badminton Competition Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 8th February		
Tuesday, 9 th February	3 – 5.30 pm	PA Film Club
Wednesday, 10 th February	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 12 th February	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly Term 3 ends
15th – 19th February		Term Break
Monday, 22nd February		Term 4 starts





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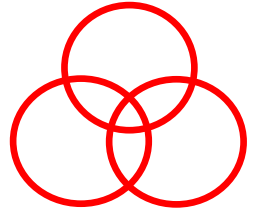
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Friday, 26 th February	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 29th February		
Friday, 4 th March	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 7th March		
Tuesday, 8 th March	3.30 – 5 pm	Town Netball Tournament – Fitzharrys School
Friday 11 th March	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 14th March	3.30 – 6.30 pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday, 15 th March	4.30 – 7.30 pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday, 16 th March	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 18 th March	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Saturday 19th May	pm	PA Spring Bingo
Monday, 21st March		
Tuesday, 22 nd March	am	Class Photographs - tbc
Thursday, 24 th March		Term 4 ends
25th March – 8th April		Term Break
Monday, 11th April		Term 5 starts
Friday, 15 th April	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 18th April		
Tuesday, 19 th April	pm	PA Cake Sale
Wednesday, 20 th April	pm	Year 5 & 6 Tennis Competition
	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 22 nd April	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 25th April		
Friday, 29 th April	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 2nd May		BANK HOLIDAY
Monday, 9th May		
Wednesday 11 th May	pm	Year 3 & 4 Tennis Competition
Friday, 13 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 16th May		
Wednesday, 18 th May	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 20 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 23rd May		
Thursday, 26 th May		Term 5 ends
Friday, 27 th May		INSET DAY
30th May – 3rd June		Term Break
Monday, 6th June		Term 6 starts
Friday, 10 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 13th June		
Wednesday, 15 th June	am	Quad Kids Athletics (Years 5 & 6) at Tilsley Park
Thursday, 16 th June	am	Quad Kids Athletics (Years 3 & 4) at Radley College
Friday, 17 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 20th June	pm	Year 6 Boys Cricket at Thomas Reade School



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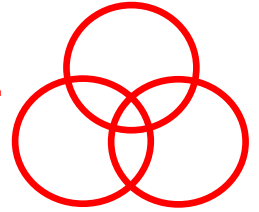
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Tuesday, 21 st June	pm	Year 6 Girls Cricket at Thomas Reade School
Friday, 24 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 27th June		
Tuesday, 28 th June	pm	Year 5 Boys Cricket at Thomas Reade School
Friday, 1 st July	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 4th July		
Friday, 8 th July	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 11th July		
Friday, 15 th July	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 18th July		
Tuesday 19 th July	2 pm	Leavers' Mass in the hall
Wednesday, 20 th July		Term 6 ends