



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

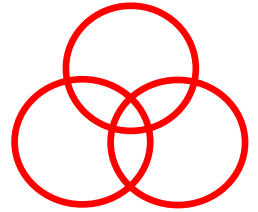
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

Tel: 01235 521558 Fax: 01235 532778

e-mail: office.3856@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

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

Headteacher: Mrs M Delany-White



25th February 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 4 and the season of Lent. The season of Lent started here at St Edmund's with Father Phil distributing ashes at our whole school Mass on Ash Wednesday. I'd like to say thank you to Father Phil and all the staff and pupils who made this Mass so distinctive and so meaningful; celebrating school Masses are one of the many pleasures of my role here as a Catholic Headteacher. As you know, Lent is a very special time of year for us all. During this, the Year of Mercy, we must think about the merciful acts we can do to make the world a better place.

Staffing News

I know you will all be sad to hear that Mr Long will leave us on Friday 11th March. Unfortunately for us Mr Long is moving to Liverpool to support his girlfriend in her new job. I'm sure you join me in thanking Mr Long for all he has done for our St Edmund's children and for his endless patience and encouragement for all. I know he will do well wherever he goes and any school will be very lucky to employ him.

Thankfully for us we have an equally talented sports teacher, Mr Lukasz Swiatek, who has already been teaching most of our classes on a voluntary basis, who has agreed to work for us in Mr Long's absence. Mr Swiatek will start on Monday 7th March and will work alongside Mr Long for his final week, so that Mr Long can explain about all the timetable and routines.

Also next Monday 29th February will be our new caretaker, Mr Bennett's, first day so please do welcome him as he opens the gate for you next Monday morning. I know he is very keen to get started with us. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Brown again for stepping in and covering the caretaker role for us for all these weeks- we really do appreciate your support Mr Brown.

Speaking of opening the gate, I am still thoroughly enjoying greeting you all each morning and I'm delighted by the number of children who can't wait to get into class each day. Their enthusiasm is infectious. Please support your child in their eagerness to learn by making sure that they arrive between the gates opening at 8:40am and the bell ringing at 8:50am **every** morning. There are still just a few families who are a few minutes late each day and it does mean that those children are missing the morning register daily. They also miss out on the early work each day which is valuable learning time wasted. Most children have now gained up to an extra hour's learning time per week which will have an impact on their learning over time.

I have been told by several parents that the added bonus to our new start to the day is that it is slightly easier to get a parking space as parents arrive and leave so quickly now. In an ideal world we would have a site large enough for a parent car park but unfortunately this is not the case. Therefore, can I remind you again about parking with due consideration for local residents. I believe the grassy area in The Warren has now been reseeded by the council and three poles have been put into the verge to hopefully prevent people parking there. Please maintain the good name for St Edmund's School and show consideration when you park at the beginning and end of the day.





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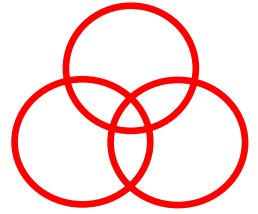
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As you know we are still waiting for our visit from Ofsted. We were told by our HMI last July that we were ready for a re inspection so we have been waiting each week since September. We are now officially due the re inspection anyway as it is two years since our last inspection. There are always things we can do to keep on improving and being the best we can be for your children but now we are focusing on moving beyond 'good' to the 'outstanding' category. You may not be aware that you can show your support for us as a school by completing the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire any time, you don't have to wait for (and possibly miss) the twenty four hour window the inspectors will give you when the inspection begins. Therefore, can I ask you to access the questionnaire at: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> and complete it today? You can also access this as a link down the right hand side of our website.

Remember, if you have any concerns or questions about anything we do please do you can always ask me or the class teachers. As you know the class teachers are available every day after school for a quick chat or if you want a longer chat you can book an appointment to see them via the school office. We also have our next Parents Evenings coming up soon- on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th March.

Finally, I would like to ask that you make sure your child continues to follow our school rule regarding hair. Any hair longer than shoulder length does need to be tied back at all times. This is particularly important at the moment with so many little visitors wandering round from head to head! Do keep checking all of your children's hair regularly. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Delany-White

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School		
DIARY DATES 2015/16		
Date		Event
Monday, 22nd February		Term 4 starts Magic Maths Week Quantum Maths Shows
Thursday 25 th February	2-3 pm	Dyslexia Parent Session run by Unicorn School Outreach
Friday, 26 th February	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 29th February		
Tuesday 1 st March	pm	PA Cake Sale
Wednesday 2 nd March	am	Choir- Passion Play rehearsal at Trinity Church
Thursday 3 rd March		World Book Day
	2-3 pm	Dyslexia Parent Session run by Unicorn School Outreach
Friday, 4 th March	2.20 pm	Choir- Passion Play rehearsal Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 7th March		
Tuesday, 8 th March	3.30 – 5 pm	Year 4 Wittenham Clumps Trip Town Netball Tournament – Fitzharrys School
Thursday 10 th March	2-3 pm	Dyslexia Parent Session run by Unicorn School Outreach
Friday 11 th March	2.20pm	Science Day





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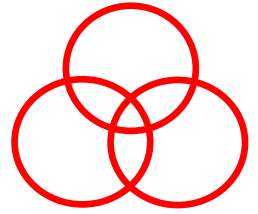
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Sunday 13th March		Abingdon Passion Play
Monday, 14th March	3.30 – 6.30 pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday, 15 th March	4-6 pm	Netball Tournament Year 5/6 John Mason
	4.30 – 7.30 pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday, 16 th March	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 18 th March		Year 2 Warwick Castle Trip
	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 21st March		
Tuesday, 22 nd March	am	Class Photographs
Thursday, 24 th March	am pm	Easter Egg Hunt Stations of the Cross Term 4 ends
25th March – 8th April		Term Break
Monday, 11th April		Term 5 starts
	am	Fire Safety Talk Year 5 & 6
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 2 pm	Year 5 & 6 Tennis Competition 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		KS2 SATs week
Tuesday 10 th May		Year 5 Millets Falconry Centre trip TBC
Wednesday 11 th May	pm	Year 3 & 4 Tennis Competition
Friday, 13 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Saturday 14th May	11am	First Holy Communion
Sunday 15th May	2pm	First Holy Communion
Monday, 16th May		
Tuesday 17 th May	am	Sun dome Science Year 5
Wednesday, 18 th May	2 pm	Mass in School
Friday, 20 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Sunday 22nd May	2pm	First Holy Communion
Monday, 23rd May		
Wednesday 25 th May	2pm	First Holy Communion Mass
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		





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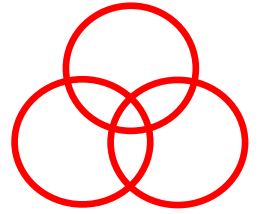
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Wednesday, 15 th June	am 2 pm	Quad Kids Athletics (Years 5 & 6) at Tilsley Park Mass in school
Thursday, 16 th June	am	Quad Kids Athletics (Years 3 & 4) at Radley College
Friday, 17 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 20th June	pm	Year 6 Boys Cricket at Thomas Reade School
Tuesday, 21 st June	pm	Year 6 Girls Cricket at Thomas Reade School
Wednesday 22 nd June	pm	Quad Kids (Year 5 & 6)
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

