



Diocese of Portsmouth

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

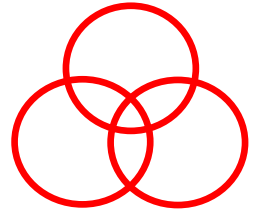
Radley Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3PP

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



12th January 2017

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! It already seems like ages since we were on holiday. The children have all quickly settled back into their school routines and there is the usual calm, but productive buzz around school as the hard work and fun continues as normal. We warmly welcomed six new children to our St Edmund's community this term: Jesse in Nursery, Seb in Reception, Evelyn and Daniel in Year 1, David in Year 3 and Carmen in Year 6. Please look out for their parents on the playground and join me in giving them a warm St Edmund's welcome. Our new members of staff have all quickly settled too.

Reception Places for September 2017

Remember, all parents/carers of a child born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 need to make an application for their child to start a Reception class in September 2017 by no later than 15th January 2016. This is done via the Oxfordshire County Council Website:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/starting-school>

Please remember, you must still apply for a primary school place even if your child already attends our nursery class. There is no automatic transfer between the two. It is also best to put down three choices as you may not get your first choice and you may then be allocated any school with a place which may not be convenient to get to if you haven't specified your next two choices on the form.

We will also need a copy of the Supplementary Information Form returned to the office by 15th January as this information helps with ranking children according to our published admissions criteria. For full details do look at the Admissions page on our school website or ask Mrs Pratt or Mrs Dingwall via the school office.

Key Admission dates to be aware of:

- **15th January 2017 - Deadline for on-time applications**
- 18th April 2017 - Offer of school places sent by second class post and email
- 5th May 2017 - Deadline for accepting or declining school places

Nursery Places for September 2017

From September we will be offering **full time and part time places in our nursery** and we will have three intakes: September for children who are already three years old; January for those who turned three over the autumn term and April for those children who turned three in the spring term. Parents will be able to choose all full time (i.e. normal school day times of 8:45-3pm), all part time (mornings 8:45-11:45 or afternoons 12-3pm) or a mixture of some full days and some half days to suit themselves and the needs of their child. Just speak to our Early Years team, Mrs Pratt or me to find out more. To apply for a place in Nursery from September 2017 you will need to complete the form available from the school office. Please be aware that completed forms have already begun to arrive as word of our new full time provision has started to spread.





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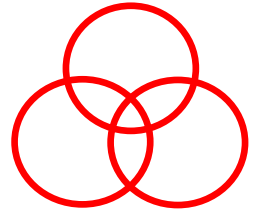
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Nursery Stay & Play Sessions

Over the next few months we will be opening our doors to youngsters in the Parish and local community who may want to enjoy our Stay & Play sessions in our well-equipped Early Years unit.

Each session will have a different theme (shown in brackets). If you are a parent or carer of a 2 or 3-year-old please do come along and visit us. Feel free to let parents of other 2 or 3 year olds know about our Stay & Play sessions too.

The dates of these sessions are as follows:

- **Friday 20th Jan (Winter)**
- **Tuesday 21st Feb (Vehicles)**
- **Friday 24th March (Easter)**
- **Tuesday 25th April (Spring)**
- **Tuesday 23rd May (Down on the Farm)**
- **Friday 23rd June (At the Seaside)**

For further information or to book a place please contact the school office on 01235 521558.

All are welcome to come and join us. Do speak to the staff during the visits about the expansion of the nursery provision from September.

Science Assessment Target Cards

Parents of Year 1-6 children, do look out for our new Science Target Cards which we are trialling from this month. We are focussing on developing and improving our Science teaching at St Edmund's this year and as part of this curriculum development we are now going to start assessing on-going Science progress in the same way that we assess the other core subjects of Reading, Writing and Maths. Therefore, over the coming weeks you will see the new Science Target Card in your child's assessment folder each week and you will be able to look out for the target they are working on and the growing numbers of dates signifying when they have achieved that target so therefore the progress they are making. As always, the assessment folder will be sent home each Monday and expected back in school on the **Tuesday** morning. Thank you as ever for your on-going support of your children's learning and do feel free to ask the class teachers if there is anything you are unsure about. The next parents' evenings will be on Monday 27th March 3:30-6:30pm or Tuesday 28th March 4:30-7:30pm.

School Uniform

Thank you for continuing to support us in making sure your children always look smart in their full school uniform. I would just like to remind a few parents that a PE kit is part of the uniform and should be in school every day as there are still a few pupils who regularly 'forget' some or all of their PE kit. Please make sure that your child's hair is tied back every day if it is longer than shoulder length and that they are wearing no jewellery, other than a simple wrist watch for telling the time. As we follow Oxfordshire County Council's health and safety guidance your child will be asked to remove their wrist watch and put it safely in their drawer during PE lessons. I would also like you to think carefully about your child bringing in items





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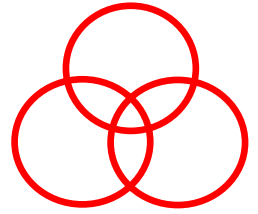
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from home. We ask that you discuss with the class teacher if they want to bring in anything of value to show in school. However, if they have something which would be upsetting to you and/or them if it was lost or broken at all I strongly advise that it is safely kept at home (I know Fr Christmas was incredibly generous this year to many of the children and I worry that there will be many tears if those precious gifts are accidentally lost or broken so do please save the heartache and keep everything safely at home).

Weather

As the weather forecasters are anticipating we may experience wintery conditions in the next few days do please check the Oxfordshire County Council website and listen to the local radio where any school closures are announced. As long as the conditions are safe for children and adults we would always remain open but decisions have to be made depending on the conditions at the time.

Finally, I have one more staff change to announce: sadly, we will say goodbye to Mrs Jefferies at the end of next week as she leaves us to take on a new role at the John Radcliffe hospital. I'm finding it very hard to imagine St Edmund's without the benefits of Mrs Jefferies' amazingly creative talents, her calm positive approach to every situation large or small and her cheeky sense of humour. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her all the best for the future. She will be sadly missed by children and adults alike.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Delany-White

Diary Dates- PLEASE KEEP THESE HANDY

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School DIARY DATES 2016/17		
Date		Event
Friday 6 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 9th January		
Friday, 13 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 16th January		
Friday, 20 th January	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play
	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 23rd January		
Tuesday 24 th January		James Carter, poet in school all day
Wednesday, 25 th January		Reception & Year 6 Height and weight checks
	pm	Dance Festival at Thomas Reade School
Thursday 26 th January	pm	Year 6 to Junior Citizen
Friday, 27 th January	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday 30th January		
Tuesday 31 st January		Year 5 Ashmolean trip
Friday 3 rd February	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 6th February		





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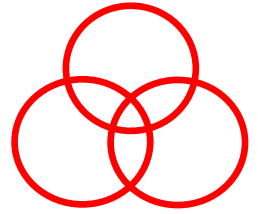
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Wednesday 8 th February	2 pm	Mass in School- all welcome
Friday, 10 th February	2.20pm 3pm	Gold Book Assembly Break up for half term holiday
13th – 17th February		Half Term Break
Monday, 20th February		Children back to school
Tuesday 21 st February	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play
Friday, 24 th February	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 27th February		
Wednesday 1 st March	2pm	Ash Wednesday Mass in school- all welcome
Thursday 2 nd March		World Book Day
Friday 3 rd March	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 6th March		
Tuesday, 7 th March	3.30 – 5 pm	Netball Tournament – Fitzharrys School
Friday 10 th March	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 13th March		Science Week Science Fair at Abingdon School
Friday, 17 th March	pm	Science Sharing Assembly
Monday, 20th March		
Tuesday 21 st March	am	Class photos
Friday, 24 th March	9:30-11am 2.20pm	Nursery Stay & Play Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 27th March	3.30-6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday, 28 th March	4:30-7:30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 31 st March	2.20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday 3rd April		
Wednesday, 5 th April	9:30-11am 2pm	Nursery Stay & Play Mass in School- all welcome
Friday 7 th April	2.20 pm 3pm	Gold Book Assembly Term ends
10th-21st April		EASTER holidays
Monday, 24th April		Children back to school
Tuesday 25 th April	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play
Wednesday 26 th April	2pm	Mass in School- all welcome
Friday, 28 th April	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday 1st May		BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 5 th May	2:20pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 8th May		Key Stage 2 SATs week
Friday, 12 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 15th May		
Wednesday, 17 th May	2 pm	Mass in School-all welcome
Friday, 19 th May	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 22nd May		
Tuesday 23 rd May	9:30-11am	Nursery Stay & Play





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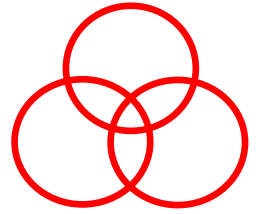
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Thursday, 25 th May	3pm	Children break up for half term
Friday, 26th May		INSET DAY
29th May – 2nd June		Half Term Break
Monday, 5th June		Children back to school
Wednesday 7 th June	2pm	Pentecost Mass in school- all welcome
Friday, 9 th June		Mother Tongue Day
Monday, 12th June	pm	New Reception children's first visit
Tuesday 13 th June	pm	New Nursery children's first visit
Thursday, 15 th June		Quad Kids Athletics (Years 5 & 5) TBC
Friday, 16 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Saturday 17th June		Summer Fayre TBC
Monday, 19th June	pm 1:30pm	Year 6 Boys Cricket Welcome new Reception parents in hall; new Reception children's second visit
Tuesday 20 th June	1:30pm	Welcome new Nursery parents in hall; new Reception children's second visit
Wednesday, 21 st June	pm	Good Shepherd Mass in Portsmouth Year 5/6 Girls Cricket
Friday, 23 rd June	9:30-11am 2.20 pm	Nursery Stay & Play Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 26th June		
Tuesday, 27 th June	pm	Year 5 Boys Cricket
Wednesday 28 th June	2pm	Abingdon School Mini Olympics First Holy Communion Mass in school TBC
Thursday 29 th June	2pm	Year 6 Induction Day: John Mason, Fitzharrys & Larkmead St Peter & Paul Mass in school- all welcome
Friday 30 th June	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday 3rd July		
Wednesday 5 th July	am	Year 1 & 2 Quad Kids
Thursday 6 th July		PA school discos
Friday, 7 th July	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 10th July		
Tuesday 11 th July	9:30pm 6pm	Year 6 Production Year 6 Production
Wednesday 12 th July	am	Sports Day & family picnic
Thursday 13 th July	am pm	Reserve Sports Day Meet the Teacher
Friday, 14 th July	2.20 pm	Gold Book Assembly
Monday, 17th July		No clubs this week
Wednesday, 19 th July	2pm	Prize Day
Thursday 20 th July	2pm	Leavers' Mass
Friday 21 st July	3pm	Term ends
SUMMER HOLIDAY		





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