# St Edward's Catholic Academy

Newhall Road, Swadlincote, Derbyshire. DE11 0BD Tel: 01283 216721 Website: www.stedwardsswadlincote.srscmat.co.uk Headteacher: Mrs J E McQuillan BA (hons)







# September 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school today after the summer holidays. They all looked so smart and so pleased to be in their new classes. Our new Reception and Nursery children will start school next Monday, 12th September, we look forward to welcoming them and our new families too.

We will be sending out our yearly calendar next week with key dates for the year. Please keep this somewhere safe. Any changes will be communicated via text or on our website.

For this academic year I will be working for the Trust for one day each week as a School Improvement Partner, supporting other schools in the Trust. Mrs Methven will lead the school on the days that I am not available and I know the smooth running of St Edward's will not be affected.

On behalf of all the staff and Governors, we very much look forward to working with you and all of the children this year, bringing God's love and presence into our daily lives and nurturing and educating our children, enabling them to reach their full potential.

With all best wishes for the coming year,

J McQuillan

# **One and All After School Club**

It is with regret that Jo Griffiths has made the difficult decision to close the One and All After School Club that runs at St Edward's each day. Unfortunately, numbers have been very low since COVID and Jo only had 4 or 5 children booked in each day for this coming term. It was not financially viable for the club to continue.

Whilst this may be upsetting and inconvenient for some of our parents, it is not a decision Jo has taken lightly but with such low numbers attending, the club was not sustainable.

St Edward's has been able to offer wraparound care, both before and after school, for many years and we want to support our parents if at all possible. Our own school Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am each day at a cost of £3 per pupil per session. Bookings are made online via School Money. Please contact the school office if you require more information.

We will be sending a Microsoft Form out to all parents early next week, once our new Reception children start school, in order to find out if there is a need for after school provision. Could I please ask that you all respond to this questionnaire. Could you also only indicate that you would like after school provision if you intend to utilise it. If we are thinking about providing any after school club it would need to be financially viable with at least 10 children attending on a daily basis. Once we have feedback from you we will be in a better position to make a decision and discuss this with the Trust as to how we move forward if after school provision is required. Thank you.

# Visit our website www.stedwardsswadlincote.srscmat.co.uk.

#### Uniform

#### THIS WILL BE RIGOROUSLY ENFORCED THIS YEAR.

Thank you for sending the children back to school looking so smart. We do appreciate just how difficult it is for families currently as the cost of living rises are having such an impact on people's finances. We have good quality second hand uniform available in school which you are welcome to have, unfortunately it is mainly smaller sizes that we have. Please consider donating items to school if you have good quality uniform that you children have out grown. A reminder of the uniform is below although summer uniform may also be worn up until October half term. *PLEASE ensure you label everything with your child's name, clothing is far too expensive to lose and we have no way of knowing who things belong to when they're found.* 

#### Winter Uniform:

#### Girls:

- Plain white blouse (not fitted)
- Black/silver school tie
- Grey or black skirt, pinafore dress, or pleated culottes
- Black or grey tailored school trousers (no jean or canvas style)
- Royal blue cardigan or sweatshirt (school crest optional)
- White or grey socks or grey or black tights

#### Boys:

- White shirt
- Black/silver school tie
- Black/grey tailored school trousers (no jeans or canvas style)
- Royal blue jumper or sweatshirt (school crest optional)
- Grey or black socks.

Both boys and girls should wear sensible black footwear. Trainers, fashion shoes with heels or long legboots are not permitted.

## PE Kit for all pupils.

- White tee shirt and royal blue or navy shorts.
- Plain navy blue joggers and hoodie (NO LOGOS PERMITTED).

PE kit must be brought in to school and be kept in a named PE bag in the cloakroom. A drawstring bag is the preferred option due to limited space. Children will need the joggers and hoodie during the colder months but we advise buying it now while it is readily available in the shops.

# ALL PE ITEMS SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

No jewellery is to be worn other than a watch and a small cross/medal and plain stud earrings. All jewellery MUST be removed for PE.



#### Appearance

Besides the uniform, as stated previously, there are rules regarding appearance that we require all pupils to adhere to. Again, these will be strictly enforced this year.

NO extreme hairstyles

Hair of shoulder length or longer <u>MUST</u> be tied back

Earrings - plain studs only are allowed. These <u>MUST</u> be removed for PE and swimming. Staff are not allowed to remove them and they cannot be taped over. PE is a statutory requirement of the curriculum and every child is expected to fully participate. Thank you for your support and cooperation in upholding our smart appearance at St Edward's.

#### Attendance

Please ensure pupils are on time and arrive punctually. The gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. Pupils arriving after this time will need to come via the office and will need to provide a reason as to why they are late. Any pupils arriving after 9.05am will have an unauthorised mark for the morning session.

It is important that children attend each and every day if they are fit and well. If children are ill or have a medical appointment please contact the school office before 9am either via telephone (Option 1 to report an absence) or email office@edw.srscmat.co.uk

Please contact the office each day that your child is absent.

### **Holidays in Term Time**

Please remember to check our term dates carefully; please click <u>here</u> to view them on our website. Holidays during term time will <u>not</u> be authorised. Leave of absence may only be granted in exceptional circumstances. INSET days are also specific to our school so please do not assume our dates will be the same as other schools.

### **Front Garden**

Please do not allow children to play in the front garden area either before or after school, this includes all younger siblings as well as school age children. There are many hazards and hard surfaces and areas where children could hurt themselves. Also, please ensure all children are supervised before 8.45am when the gates are opened. Thank you.

### Karan O'Connor

Our Chair of Governors, Karan O'Connor, passed away peacefully on 1st August after a short illness. She passed away following a short period of ill health, surrounded by her loving family.

Mrs. O'Connor was our Chair of Governors and Parish Assistant. In her many roles, she has touched so many lives and has been such a force for good. Her strong faith has been inspirational. She was a great supporter of St Edward's during her short time with us and gave her time freely and willingly. Her 'no nonsense' common sense approach to life kept our meetings on track and running smoothly. She will be greatly missed.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her,

May she rest in peace, Amen.

#### Parking

Please be considerate when parking and do not block the driveways of neighbours and local residents. Could we also ask please that you do not park in front of our Nursery and EYFS building as access is required at all times. Thank you.



## A few key dates... (More information to follow)

Wednesday 28th September - Parents' Information Sessions (2pm or 6pm) Friday 30th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning in school 9am to 10.30am Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th October—Parents' Evenings

School Masses will be confirmed after liaising with Fr Neil.