St Edward's Catholic Academy

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January 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed a happy and restful Christmas! On behalf of myself and all the staff I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Christmas performances, the children did an amazing job and it was wonderful to see them all in action. We were disappointed to have cancelled the Advent Liturgy and Carols Around the Tree but with the amount of illnesses and viruses in school that week, we wanted to try and protect everyone as much as possible.

Please read the rest of the newsletter for some updates to staffing, actions if your child is ill and diary dates.

Wishing you and your families good health and happiness for 2023.

J McQuillan

Staffing Changes

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Gibbs who has now commenced her role as our new Pupil and Family Support Worker. I'm sure you will meet with her over the coming weeks.

We are thrilled to announce that Mrs Moyes, our Nursey Teacher is expecting a baby in May. This is very exciting news and we send our congratulations to both Mr and Mrs Moyes.

Mrs Methven is taking a short secondment until Easter as she takes up the temporary position of Deputy Head at Holy Rosary Academy in Winshill. She will be back to join us again for the summer term. During her absence Miss Prabatani will take up the position of acting Deputy Head at St Edward's and I am delighted to be working alongside her. We are happy to welcome Miss Windspeare who will cover Y3 as class teacher until Easter in Miss Prabatani's absence.

Wraparound Care

Our after school club is up and running. Numbers are quite low at the moment so we are hoping that there will be a greater up-take over the coming weeks. The club is run by our own staff, led by Mrs Morris and supported by Mrs Aucote, Mrs McInulty or Mrs Murphy. The club runs every day straight after school until 5.30pm. Prices are as follows:

3.15 - 4.30pm - £7.00; 4.30 - 5.30pm - £7.00 or 3.15 - 5.30pm - £10.00

Our Breakfast Club also runs from 7.45am each day at a cost of £3 per pupil per session.

Bookings can be made online at School Money. If you would like to pay for either provision using childcare vouchers the bookings cannot be made online, please email the school office instead and we can do this for you. Unfortunately, any bookings made will be charged for unless your child is absent that day. This is because staff ratios will have been put in place. If you have any queries at all please contact us at office@edw.srscmat.co.uk or telephone (01283) 216721 to discuss.

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

Dates for your diary

Diary Dates

January 2023

Wednesday 4th January - Children return to school at 8.45am

Monday 9th January - Radio Derby broadcasting live from St Edward's

Tuesday 10th January- Choir attend Young Voices, Birmingham

Monday 16th January- Swimming restarts for Y4 & Y5

Wednesday 8th February - Y2 SATs Meeting 2.30pm & 5pm

Wednesday 15th February - Parents' Information Evening

Thursday 16th February - Break up for half-term at 3.15pm

Monday 27th February - School reopens

All dates can also be found on the calendar page of our website.

Community Hub

The Parish Centre between our EYFS building and the Church will be open every Monday and Friday morning from 8.30am to 11am. This will be a warm space serving tea, coffee and toast at no charge. Everyone is very welcome. We are also hoping to provide access to the uniform and food bank during this time. This is an initiative run by the Parish and the local St Vincent de Paul group. Please do considering popping in and bring a friend along with you. Pre-school children are also very welcome. It is a lovely warm space. On Friday 27th January, Anisha Smits from the Citizens Advice will be holding a drop in session. Anyone is welcome to come along to seek advice or be signposted to support services.



Radio Derby

We are very excited to be welcomingly Radio Derby in to school on Monday 9th January. They will be recording their Breakfast Show live from our Phiz Lab. Please tune in to the show on the morning.

> BBGRADIO Derby

Facebook and Social Media

In order to have a Facebook account, children need to be at least 13 years of age. We have recently found that some pupils as young as 8 have active Facebook accounts with fake ages. Please read the attached guidance that provides information about appropriate ages for social media accounts. Please take time to check your child's devices and their appropriate use of the internet. If you require any further support or guidance please do not hesitate to contact us.



Christmas Giving

Thank you for supporting our World Gifts. By not sending Christmas cards to each other across the school and through your donations you helped to raise £95 for Cafod. With this money we are able to buy:

> Two vegetable patches One tree for life One chicken for a village Two goats for two villages

Thank you to everyone that contributed. This is going to make a difference to families in developing countries and supports our sustainability campaign. Thank you also to our Earth Guardians and Mrs Farmer for all their hard work leading on this.

Illness

It is important that children attend each and every day if they are fit and well. However, you will have seen recent information on the news and in the press asking parents and carers not to send children in to school if they are unwell in order to stop the spread of flu, Covid, Strep A and other winter bugs. If your child has a fever or is unwell please do not send them in to school. If they are sick or have diarrhoea then they must not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode. Please report their absence on the first day and every day they are unable to attend by contacting the school office before 9am either via telephone (Option 1 to report an absence) or email office@edw.srscmat.co.uk

Please ensure all communication regarding absences and appointments is reported via the office and not sent to individual members of staff on Class Dojo or WhatsApp. Please also ensure you update your contact details at the office if you have recently changed your phone number. Thank you.



Christmas Raffle

Thank you for your amazing support with our Christmas Hamper Raffle. We raised a tremendous amount and together with our Christmas Bingo the total was £535.70. There were 6 lucky prize winners who were all provided with their prizes before the Christmas break. The proceeds will go towards resources for the library. Thank you again.

Admissions into Reception Class

2023-2024 Academic Year.

The deadline to apply for a place for your child is midnight on 15th January 2023. Please ensure that your applications are submitted before the deadline and all supporting evidence including the Supplementary Form. Please apply for your child's place through Derbyshire, click <u>HERE</u> to be directed to the page. The Supplementary Form must be completed and sent in to school together with any supporting evidence.

Even if your child currently attends our Nursery you will still need to apply for a place in our Reception class.

If you require any help with your application you can ring **Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190** or check the Derbyshire County Council Website for further information. You can also contact Mrs Murphy at school for any assistance or queries.

Parking

Please do not park in front of our Nursery and EYFS building as access is required at all times. Some yellow hatched markings have now been painted on the tarmac to ensure this area is kept clear at all times. Please also be considerate when parking and do not block the driveways of neighbours and local residents. Thank you.

