



St Edward's Newsletter

December 2025

Wishing you all a happy, holy Christmas

Christmas is almost here! With nativity plays, Mass, Christmas jumper day, Christmas Bingo, Santa visits and much more ... it's been a busy end to the year! At St Edward's we love this time of year, but don't lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas; remembering the birth of Jesus Christ. I wish all our children, staff, families and members of the St Edward's community a merry Christmas and a happy new year! I can't wait to greet you all in 2026!



Mrs Methven



Dates for the diary

Friday 19th December 2025

Carols 'round the tree

1.30pm in Church

Monday 5th January 2026

Return to school

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Epiphany

Thursday 15th January 2026

First Holy Communion Classes Start

3.30 - 4.30pm in the Y4 class

Friday 16th January 2026

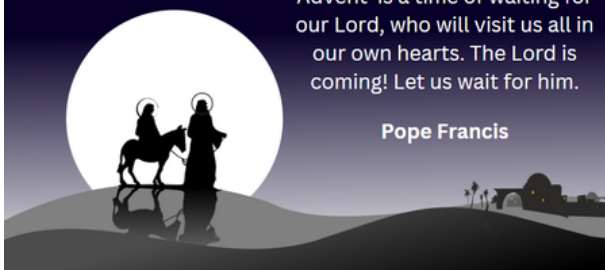
PTFA Coffee morning 9.00am in the hall

Friday 13th February 2026

Break up for half term

Advent is a time of waiting for our Lord, who will visit us all in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for him.

Pope Francis



Advent Liturgy

A huge thank you to everyone who came to celebrate our Advent Liturgy with us in church! The children did an amazing job to lead our liturgy; reading clearly, acting enthusiastically and singing with all their heart. It is always one of the highlights of our liturgical year at St Edward's and it did not disappoint! We wish to thank Miss Prabatani, Mrs Methven and Mrs Kwiatkowska for organising the liturgy and supporting the children with their readings and acting. In Advent we prepare the way for the Lord, this liturgy gives us the chance to prepare a place for Jesus in our lives. We are all busy, all running from one thing to the next. But I hope this Christmas we all make a quiet moment for ourselves. It is in these quiet moments that we can prepare ourselves and our hearts for the one person who truly understands us; Jesus.



A goodbye and a welcome back!



Mrs Moyes is returning from maternity leave after Christmas. We are delighted to welcome her back to Nursery!

Sadly, Miss Isbern will be leaving St Edward's at Christmas. We wish to thank her for all the love and care she has shown towards the children in nursery. We wish her all the best for the next step in her career!

True mind, true heart, true spirit; as we grow in the image of Christ.



Christmas Bingo

Eyes down! Spirits up! Our Christmas Bingo was another huge hit this year! Astonishing prizes were won for lines and full houses, with Mrs Cashmore taking home to final prize in the sit down ticket! Another awesome performance from our professional bingo caller Roger kept everyone on their toes. Our PTFA arranged and ran the whole event and we wish to thank them for all the amazing work they do supporting school, raising money and enriching the experiences of our pupils. The Christmas Bingo raised a staggering **£670!** Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the bingo and to all those who came and played! We look forward to welcoming you all back at Easter for our next bingo bash!



Advent Hope Retreat

On Monday all children had the opportunity to take part in a retreat led by Mr Ward. They explored what hope is and how we can spread hope during this time of Advent. The retreat culminated in a period of quiet prayer in our St Edward's chapel led by the Eddie's Angels.

As a school we are very excited to launch the Derbyshire County Council SMILERS campaign. Smilers is an acronym to help us remember the things we can do to improve our own mental health. Positive mental health is an essential part of everyone's overall health — it links with physical health and your ability to succeed in school, at work and in society.

We are a **SMILERS** School.

We promote a whole school approach to wellbeing.





Scan me for more information.





True mind, true heart, true spirit; as we grow in the image of Christ.



Christmas Plays

Our Christmas plays were a huge success this year! Reception and Nursery guided us through a heartfelt retelling of the nativity story packed with joyful singing and brave acting! Year 1 and Year 2 were in the middle of an alien crash landing! The children told the aliens about the nativity story with confidence, beautiful singing and clear narration. We wish to thank all the pupils and staff who worked so hard on the performances and all the parents who came to join in the festive fun!



True mind, true heart, true spirit; as we grow in the image of Christ.



Pantomime

All the children in KS2 had the opportunity to visit the Derby Arena on Thursday to enjoy watching Dick Whittington! Oh no they didn't ... **OH YES THEY DID!** They had an amazing time and we were immensley proud of how they behaved. It was such an amazing experience! We wish to thank Miss Winspeare for organising the event and all the staff who came to support the children!



Communication

All communication from school is sent out via the **Arbor**, **ClassDojo** or **Tapestry**. It is **vital** that parents and carers keep up to date with these messages. This is the main way that your family will stay connected with St Edward's and know what is happening. Important messages regarding your child will be sent via these systems. Along side this, all **Newsletters** contain key information, dates and celebrations. These newsletters can be found on our school website.

If you wish to report an absence, inform school of an appointment, make changes to who is collecting your child or inform school that your child is unwell and unable to attend school you **must** contact the school office. This can be via a phonecall or email. Messages regarding your child and their attendance should not be sent directly to teachers via ClassDojo or Tapestry. All messages received by the office will be passed onto the relevant staff at school.

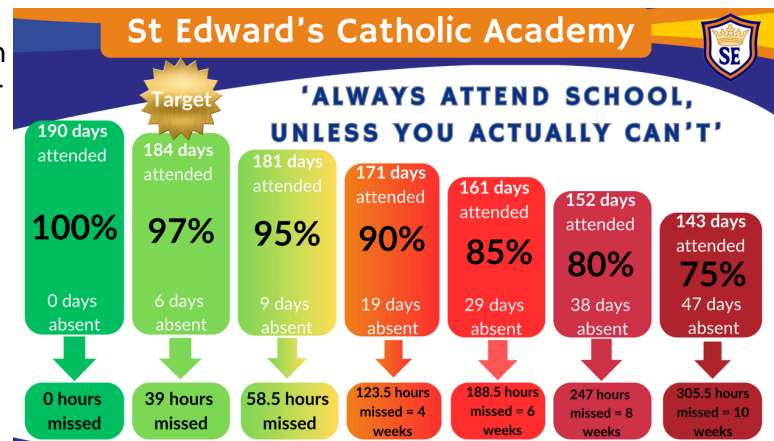


Arbor



Attendance

At St Edward's Catholic Academy we believe that **consistent** attendance plays a vital role in your child's academic success and personal development, which is why we want to work with you to improve attendance. It has come to our attention that a lot of families are requesting holidays during Term time. This is not permitted and can lead to a fixed penalty notice of up to **£160 per parent**, per child for the first offence, then again **£160 for the second offence** and should there be a third offence within three years, fines can be up to **£2500 per parent**, per child with the possibility of a custodial sentence. Please be aware that if a child's attendance drops below 90%, they will be classed as a persistent absentee. Once classed as a persistent absentee, you will be contacted by our attendance team, as we believe in a support first approach. However, if you do not engage with the attendance team, we may have no choice than to request the Local Authority consider legal action under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996. Our updated attendance policy and the latest guidance can be found on our Website. You can monitor your child's attendance via the Arbor App. Please be aware that we will be contacting you, should your child's attendance fall below 90%. If you wish to discuss your child's attendance further, or are having difficulties that impact attendance, please contact either Mrs Gibbs our Family Support Worker / Attendance Lead, or Mrs Murphy Business Manager / Attendance Lead.



Santa Visit

On Tuesday afternoon all the children had a special visitor.... SANTA! Santa came to meet all the children and to gave them each a selection box! Every child was so excited to see Santa and very grateful for their gifts! Thank you to the PTFA for helping Santa by providing the selection boxes.



True mind, true heart, true spirit; as we grow in the image of Christ.



Join Our PTFA Family!

Make a Difference, Your Way!
Whether it's a one-off event or a long-term project, every little helps!



One-Off Fun!



Scan to Register Your Interest

Ready to help?

stedwardsptfa.treasurer@gmail.com



True mind, true heart, true spirit; as we grow in the image of Christ.