# ST. EDMUND'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY – WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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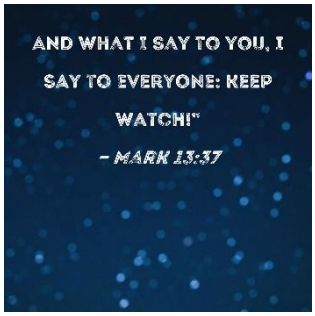
**Friday 27th November 2026**

## HOW AM I FAITHFUL? – A SEASON OF HOPE




This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent, a special time in the Church calendar when we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Through the Gospel of Mark, we have been exploring Jesus' message about staying awake and being ready. The children have been encouraged to think about what it means to be faithful in the everyday things they do and how their actions can help bring God's love into the lives of others.

Our Heart of Gold value for this week is Hope. At this time of year, we are reminded that hope brings light, even when things feel difficult or uncertain. It gives us the confidence to look ahead, to keep trying and to believe that we can make a difference. Whether through a kind word, a helping hand or taking responsibility for our actions, we can all share hope with those around us as we journey through Advent together.

**We have the first of our Stay and Pray sessions this Monday afternoon, starting with Beech Class. Any parents wishing to attend should come to the main entrance at 2:30pm. Thank you for your support.**

## NURSERY TASTER SESSION – WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

We are delighted to invite prospective children to a Nursery Taster Session on Wednesday 2nd December, from 11:00am – 12:00 noon. If your child is already 3, or will be turning 3 before the start of the Spring Term, we would love to welcome them along to experience a little of what our lovely nursery has to offer. If you know of any other families who may be interested in securing a nursery place, please feel free to share this invitation with them. If you would like your child to attend, please contact our school office, using the details above, to let us know.

Kind regards, Nursery Team

## PANTOMIME TRIP!!

A quick reminder that payment for our whole-school trip to see Snow White at the Marina Theatre on Friday 11th December is due on Monday 30th November, unless an alternative payment plan has been agreed. The cost is £16.50 per child. Thank you to everyone who has already paid so far.

## PTA BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION

Thank you to our PTA for organising the Bag2School Collection at the beginning of this week. We will be in touch later this term to let you know how much this initiative raised for our school.

## JOIN US AT BECCLES JUNIOR PARKRUN THIS SUNDAY!

This Sunday morning at 9:00am on Beccles Common, Mr Kennedy and Mrs Huxtable (from St. Benet's) will be heading down to Beccles Common to complete the Junior ParkRun! We would love as many St. Edmund's families as possible to join us for a morning of fresh air, activity and fun. Whether your child is a regular runner or has never taken part before, everyone is welcome. If it is your child's first time, simply find out more and register for free at junior parkrun. We hope to see lots of you there!

## SCHOOL GATE OPENING TIME

We aim to open the school gates from 8:35am each morning, rather than 8:30am. If your child is walking to school on their own, please make sure they don't arrive at school before this time. Thank you for your understanding.

## PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR AND ENTERPRISE STALLS

Advanced notice that on Thursday 17th December, our PTA will be holding a Christmas Fair and Enterprise stall after school in the hall. This event will enable us to raise vital funds for our children within school. We hope you are able to join us for this. Please look out for more information to follow.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE – SCHOOL MEALS AND OUR NEW CATERING PROVIDER**

From January 2027, TaylorShaw will be replacing Aspen's as the catering service provider across our Trust. The Trust is currently in the early stages of the transition process and further updates will be shared with families as we move into December.

As part of this change, we will be moving from the current Select payment system to a new online platform called SchoolGrid. It's important to note that you shouldn't add any further money to your Select account unless it is to clear current debts. This system will be replaced by SchoolGrid and we will share further information about the arrangements for transferring to the new platform as soon as we have confirmation.

**INTRODUCING SCHOOLGRID**

SchoolGrid is a new online system designed to make choosing and managing your child's school meals easier. Once introduced, it will allow parents and carers to:

- View the school menu online.
- Choose your child's meals in advance.
- Manage meal choices from home.
- View allergen and dietary information.
- Manage school meal payments.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Families will receive an activation email inviting them to set up their SchoolGrid account. Instructions will be provided to help you activate your account and create a password. Once activated, you will be able to select your child's meals online. Please note that children receiving free school meals will also need to have their meal choices selected through SchoolGrid.

We appreciate that this is a change to the current arrangements. At this stage, the school does not yet have all the details about the transition but we will keep parents and carers informed as further information becomes available. If you need help with SchoolGrid once you receive your welcome email, their support team will be available to help with any queries or difficulties: Telephone: 01506 300310 or Email: support@schoolgrid.co.uk

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this transition.

**WAVENEY VALLEY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE**

Please see below a poster advertising the Waveney Valley Christmas Craft Fayre taking place in St. Edmund's RC Parish Hall on Sunday 6th December from 10am – 3pm. You are invited to come and warm yourself up and see if you can buy any last-minute gifts. There will be gifts, sweet treats and special keepsakes which have been created by local business and makers. Tea and coffee will be available throughout the day.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## NOVEMBER

Monday 30th – Beech Class Stay and Pray at 2:30pm

## DECEMBER

Monday 7th – Rowan Class Stay and Pray at 2:30pm
Thursday 10th – Whole School Advent Mass at 9:15am
Friday 11th – Snow White Panto Visit to the Marina Theatre
Tuesday 15th – Christmas Dinner Day
– Oak Class Stay and Pray at 2:30pm
Wednesday 16th –Whole School Nativity at 2pm
Thursday 17th – Christmas Fair and Enterprise after school
Friday 18th – School Closes for Christmas Holidays

# WAVENEY VALLEY

# *Christmas Craft Fayre*

**Sunday 6th of December**

**10:00 - 15:00**

**St Edmunds RC Parish Hall, St Mary's Street, Bungay, Suffolk**

Come warm up at our second ever Christmas Craft Fayre and see if you can find that special last-minute gift.

Gifts, sweet treats and special keepsakes all lovingly crafted by local businesses and makers.

Teas and coffees served throughout the day.



