



# THE ST. EDMUND'S NEWSLETTER

SAINT MARY'S STREET, BUNGAY, NR35 1AX

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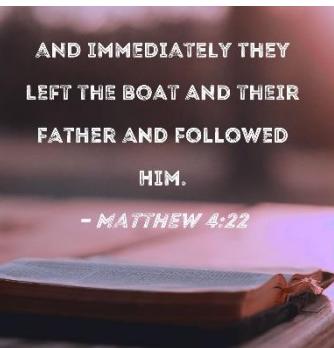
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Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026



## **FRASSATI - THE MAN OF THE BEATITUDES**

This week at St. Edmund's, our worship centred on Jesus' teaching of the Beatitudes and the inspiring life of St Pier Giorgio Frassati. The children explored what it means to live as people of God's Kingdom, learning that kindness, humility and faithfulness are powerful ways of following Jesus. Through prayer and reflection on the lives of the saints, the children were encouraged to recognise their own gifts and to place their trust in God, giving thanks for all He does for us.



## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SESSION**

A reminder that the next First Holy Communion session will take place on Saturday 7th February at 10:30am at St Benet's. There will be sessions for both children and parents, and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

## **ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL**

We have had an increase in parents not informing school on the days that their child/ren are absent due to illness. This creates an additional burden on our office staff who have to make contact to find out the reason for the absence. On each day your child is unfit to come to school, please report this absence by calling the school on (01986 892502) and leaving a message on the child absence line (option 1) to let us know. This is operational 24/7 so please ring at anytime of the day/night to inform us. In the message you must leave your child's full name and class and give the specific reason for absence. The information you give will be recorded on our official register.

## **ATTENDANCE MONITORING**

Our half-termly attendance monitoring will take place next week. This is where we analyse the attendance of all our children and write to parents whose child/ren are identified as 'persistently absent' (attendance is below 90%). Where required, the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer will become involved to support. Our current whole school attendance percentage is 94.6% which is just below the current National average and well below our school target of 97%. If you need any support in improving your child's attendance, please contact the school office.

## **LUNCH BOOKINGS**

Please can you make sure you book your child's lunch in advance of the day through our WisePay system. We have seen an increase in children requiring a meal who haven't pre-ordered one. Where meals aren't booked in advance, there is a chance a limited menu will be available for selection.

## **AFTER-SCHOOL BAKING CLUB – FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2026**

We're delighted to be offering a Paste and Art Ateliers After-School Baking Club on Friday 13th February 2026, running until 5:00pm. This fun, hands-on session will give children the chance to develop their baking skills, get creative and enjoy working together. Full details and booking information is available via Wisepay. We look forward to some delicious creations!



The Catholic Schools of  
the Waveney Valley



We're working  
towards Artmark  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

## **PTFA ST VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE**

The PTFA will be holding a St Valentine's Day Bake Sale on Friday 13th February, taking place after school on the playground. Both cash and card payments will be accepted.

If you are able to support the sale with donations, baked or shop-bought items are very welcome. Please bring any donations to reception in the morning, and if items are home baked, ensure ingredients are clearly labelled. Thank you for your continued support of the PTFA.

### **REMINDER – TESCO STRONGER STARTS BLUE TOKEN APPEAL**

A quick reminder that we are taking part in the Tesco Stronger Starts Blue Token Appeal. Every blue token collected helps boost our chances of winning £1,500 for our school.

Please continue to support us by choosing St Edmund's when shopping at Tesco in Beccles or Tesco Express in Southwold. Children can still take part in the token-collecting competition, with a prize for the child who deposits the most tokens. Thank you for helping us spread the word and for your continued support.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY**

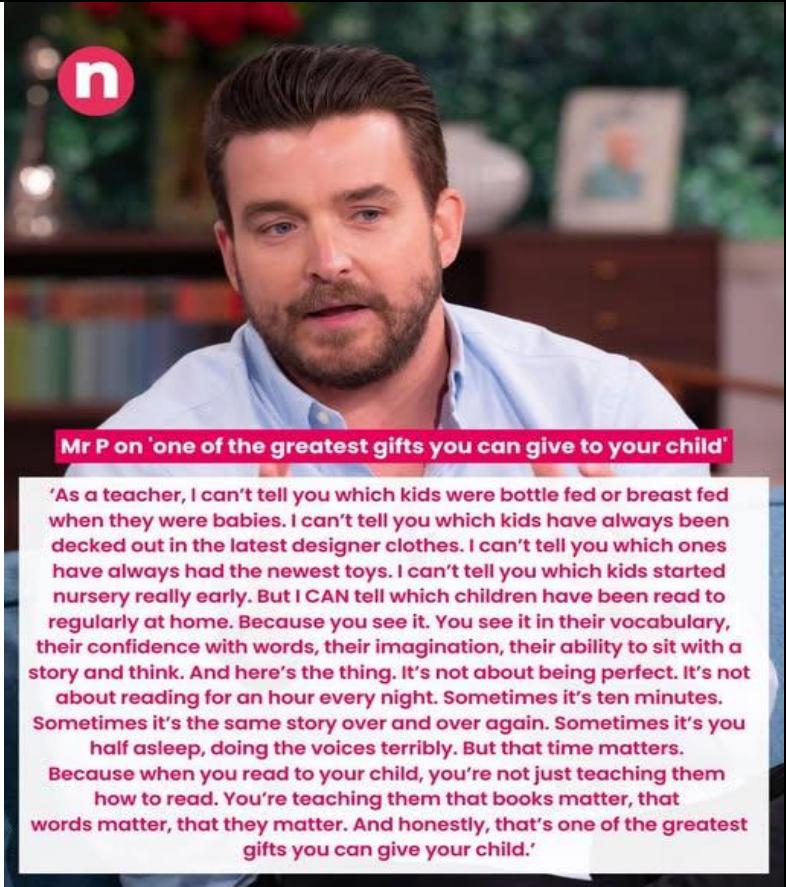
We will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 4th March, as Forest School will be taking place on Thursday. The day will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our love of reading and stories.

WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY

Children are invited to come dressed as a character from their favourite book, or they may choose to bring a book into school and wear their pyjamas, ready for a cosy bedtime story. A range of fun activities will be planned throughout the day to help bring books and reading to life for the children.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN**

This year we will be doing an increasing amount of work developing a love of reading in our children. As part of this, I just wanted to share this screen grab from social media with you. It comes from a teacher in the north of England who is quite prolific on social media. However, I can't underestimate the truth behind a statement he made a while ago. It's not about creating 'bookworms' or the next Einstein but opening children up to new worlds, ideas, concepts and vocabulary. It also develops your connection with them. Have a read of what he had to say, give it some thought and seize the opportunities you have to read to your child whilst also hearing them read as well... no matter what year group they are in!



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **FEBRUARY**

WB 9<sup>th</sup> – Children's Mental Health Week, NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Workshops and Safer Internet Day  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for the Half-Term Break  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – School Opens  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Distribution of Ashes Service – 2:30pm in Church  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – Y6

### **MARCH**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Stay and Pray – Oak Class  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day Celebrations  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – Y5  
– Rowan Class Mass – 9:15am  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Stay and Pray – Rowan Class  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – Y4  
– Beech Class Mass – 9:15am  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Stay and Pray – Beech Class  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – Y3  
– Oak Class Mass – 9:15am  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Meetings  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – Y1/2  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – School Closes for Easter Holidays

### **APRIL**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – School Opens  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Forest School – YR