



THE ST. EDMUND'S NEWSLETTER

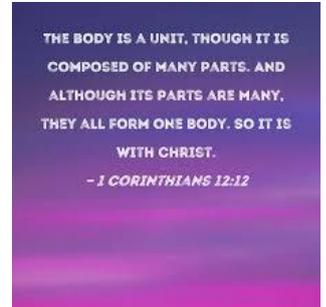
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WELCOME BACK!

It has been an absolute joy to begin my first week as Executive Head teacher and to meet all the children across both schools. They have been so welcoming and I am already starting to get to know their names, personalities, talents and interests. A heartfelt thank you also to the many parents and carers who have stopped to introduce themselves and offer such kind words of welcome – it really does mean a great deal.



On Wednesday in our welcome back assembly, we reflected on a reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians, where he reminds us that we are all part of one body. Each part is unique, each has its own role and yet together we make up something far greater. I shared with the children how this is a wonderful image for our school: one family where every child, every member of staff and every parent brings special gifts and talents that help our community to flourish.

Over the coming weeks, I will be sharing more dates and information about what we have planned for this upcoming year. One date to be aware of is our whole school Welcome Mass on Thursday 18th September at 9:30am in St. Edmund's Church. We hope as many of you can join us for this celebration.

After meeting with staff this week, I am filled with excitement and confidence about the year ahead. There is so much to look forward to, and I know that, by working together, we will achieve wonderful things for all of our children. If you need to speak with me at any time, I will be on the gates at the beginning and end of the day when I am at St. Edmund's or please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Many thanks, Patrick Kennedy, Executive Head teacher

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

Good attendance is vital to every child's learning and progress. Of course, we know that children will sometimes be unwell but please ensure you inform the school office by 9am each day of absence – our answerphone system means you can ring at any time. In line with government guidance, term-time holidays are not permitted. Absence request forms are available for special circumstances and will be considered in line with our policy and, where required, in consultation with governors. While we understand illness will occasionally keep children off, our aim is for every child to achieve at least 97% attendance across the school year. Thank you for your support!

UNIFORM REMINDER

It has been wonderful to see how smart the children have looked in their uniforms this week – they really do wear them with pride. Thank you for helping us keep our school looking so smart. That said, we have noticed a few children not quite in the correct uniform. We kindly remind all families that it is important every child comes to school wearing the full, correct uniform each day.

We have a small stock of good-quality second-hand uniform available free of charge at school. Please contact the school office and we will be happy to check what sizes we have for you. Our uniform is also available from Screens in Lowestoft. A reminder of our full uniform requirements can be found on our school website here: <https://www.st-edmundsrc.suffolk.sch.uk/uniform>



HANDWRITING GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

Earlier this week, an email was sent to parents with a copy of the Good Practice Guide for Handwriting. We are having a really big push on improving children's handwriting this year and so your support will be greatly appreciated in supporting your child(ren). If you have any questions about this guide, please speak with your child's class teacher.

CLASS NEWSLETTERS

Next Friday, we will be sending home copies of your child's class newsletter. This will detail lots of important information about your child's Curriculum, Homework Expectations, PE, Forest School and other useful information. Please make sure you look out for this and speak to your child's class teacher should you have any questions.

KEY DATES

Thursday, September 18th – 9.15am - School Mass – all welcome

Thursday, September 18th - 5 – 8pm - NDHS Y6 open evening

Monday, October 6th - 1:45pm - NDHS Y6 afternoon tour

Afternoon tours start from Main Reception for pupils currently attending St Edmund's, St Benet's and all other schools.

CLUBS

We are offering the following clubs this term:

Mondays – KS1 multi-sports Wednesdays – KS2 multi-sports Fridays – KS2 football

These are all available to book via Wisepay – please contact the school office if you need any assistance and we will be happy to help.

SCHOOL LUNCHESES

These are free of charge to ALL Reception – year 2 pupils with some children eligible beyond this.

We would like to encourage ALL children to try a school lunch. We have lots of options available daily including a hot option, jacket potatoes, tomato pasta and freshly made rolls as well as a dessert, yoghurt or fruit. Please feel free to also send your child to school with a packed lunch if they are feeling unsure about trying a school lunch. We are more than happy for them to have both whilst they try a few school meals.



Beech class children enjoying morning snack.



Beech class children first visit to the library.