

# Newsletter 13: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents,

We were delighted to receive a letter from Marie Ryan, the Director of the Diocesan Education Service, congratulating us on the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection. She says, "It must be very rewarding for all members of the school community to see St Edmund's described as 'a big family' and to have confirmation of this through the sense of gratitude which so many parents expressed." She has asked us to pass on her thanks and congratulations to the whole school community. To read the full report, please click [here](#).

**Singing under the Pepperpot** – children from KS2 are welcome to come and sing carols under the Pepperpot tomorrow, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Children should arrive by 2.35pm in time for the 2.50pm slot which has been given to us. Please take care to come dressed warmly, as it looks as though the weather tomorrow is going to be very cold. We believe Father David will be blessing the town crib at 3:30pm.



**Crib Building Service 5pm 13<sup>th</sup> December** – given the outbreak of the Norovirus at Ladywell Convent this week, we are waiting to hear whether or not this is going to go ahead. We will let you know as soon as we have heard anything.

**Dangerous turning** – we have received reports of some of our parents turning around along The Drive, using private drives in which to turn around and backing out of side roads. Our neighbours would probably not be happy about their drives being used in this way. Also, backing into or turning around in a busy road is dangerous. Thank you for your attention to this.



**Advent Boxes** – Mrs Gordon's Advent Boxes (one per class) are going well. Thank you to everyone who has contributed an item to their child's class Advent box which will be taken down to the Cellar Café soon. As you may know, the Cellar is a key facility in the centre of Godalming which reaches out to very local families in need.

**PSA Christmas Market** – a massive thanks to all the organisers, supporters and members of our community who helped to run and who attended our school's Christmas Market last Saturday. It was lovely to see so many people come together, have fun and get into the festive spirit. As much as the PSA is for raising funds to support our children's education, it is just as importantly about bringing the community together. We are delighted that the market has exceeded expectations by raising at least £2,500 profit, all of which will go to the school, plus the match-funding from Barclay's Bank via Mr Fitzpatrick (final totals are still being determined). For details on the PSA charity constitution, events, fundraising and spend, please visit [www.stedmundsschoolpsa.co.uk](http://www.stedmundsschoolpsa.co.uk) Please note that the next PSA meeting will be at school at 2.15pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Everyone is welcome!

**More from the PSA** – there will be a **Breakfast Bake Sale** at drop-off on 13<sup>th</sup> December. Then, for the Years 5 and 6 Christmas performance at 6pm on 18<sup>th</sup> December, the PSA will be running a mulled wine and bake sale.

**Headteacher's Blog** – every Friday Mrs Higgins writes and includes photos of what has been happening in school during the week in her Headteacher's Blog in the website. Do remember to have a look every week to keep yourselves up to date by clicking [here](#).

**Youth Mass** – always popular, the next Youth Mass will be at 6pm on 16<sup>th</sup> December at St Edmund's Church on Croft Road, Godalming.

**Clubs Spring Term 2018** – there are already some club booking forms on the school website, including Netball, Indoor Athletics, Drama, Judo, Yoga, Planet Sport, Tennis, Spanish and Sewing. Please continue to keep your eye on the website as clubs letters will be posted there as and when they become available.

**Threat to Faith Schools** – do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then make your voice heard. The Government is about to make a critical decision. In 2010 the coalition government placed a faith based admissions cap on new free schools of 50%, i.e. a maximum of only 50% of intake could be Catholic. In 2016 the Prime Minister reiterated that the cap should be removed, and the 2017 Conservative manifesto promised to do so. Now the Secretary of State for Education may be about to go back on this promise. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and had promised to abandon it. Now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics to remove the cap. Please visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.



**Messy Church** – on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, between 3pm and 5pm, there will be an afternoon of seasonal crafts and games for all the family based on the nativity story. It takes place at Godalming United Church (Bridge Road, GU7 3DU) and admission is free. However, a donation of £2 per child would be much appreciated.

**Pen Shop costs** – our new Year 6 children have been busy setting up the Pen Shop. They will be selling ordinary pencils 10p; push pencils 30p (KS2 only); rubbers 5p; short rulers 10p; long rulers 15p; handwriting pens 25p; glue sticks 30p; sharpeners 25p; reading records 25p; homework diaries 30p and highlighters 50p every Monday and Friday at lunchtime for the rest of the term.

**APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018 INTAKE**

The school would like to remind all parents of children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 that, if they wish their child to attend St Edmund's, they must ensure that they meet the application deadline of **15<sup>th</sup> January 2018**. For a copy of our SIF/application form please either contact the school office or go to or click [here](#). Information about completing the **Surrey County Council** application can be found on their website by clicking [here](#).

**DATES FOR THIS TERM (items highlighted are new)**

Sat 9 Dec Singing at the Pepperpot (2.35 for 2.50pm)  
 Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec **Second Sunday of Advent**  
 Tue 12 Dec 2pm KS1 Christmas Performance  
 Wed 13 Dec 9.30am KS1 Christmas Performance  
 10.45am singers to the Clock House, Milford  
 2.15pm Parents' Forum  
 Thu 14 Dec 6pm Y3+4 Service of Carols (**St Edmund's**)  
 Fri 15 Dec Christmas Lunch  
 3.40pm PSA Christmas Film Show  
 Sun 17 Dec **Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**  
 Mon 18 Dec 2pm Y5/6 Christmas Performance  
 NO CHOIR  
 6pm Y5/6 Christmas Performance

**DATES FOR THIS TERM (cont)**

Tue 19 Dec 9.30am End of Term Mass  
 2.30pm Musical Concert  
 Wed 20 Dec Class parties  
 Thu 21 Dec 1pm Carols in the hall; **2pm close**  
 Thu 4 Jan Children return to school  
 Thu 11 Jan Y6 to Surrey University for Science workshop  
 Mon 15 Jan SCC Application Deadline for YR Sept 18 intake  
 3.40pm RSE talk to Y6 parents

**THIS YEAR'S DATES (2017-2018)**

AUT: 4 Sep-21 Dec 2017 (half-term w/c 23 Oct)  
 SPR: 4 Jan-29 Mar 2018 (half-term w/c 12 Feb)  
 SUM: 16 Apr-23 Jul 2018 (half-term w/c 28 May)  
**INSET DATES** 30 Oct 2017; 4 June, 23 July 2018

**Ethos Statement 11:** I can work, play, rest and pray each day.

**We pray together:** Father, help us to do all things in your name: to work for you, to rejoice in moments of play and rest and to spend time with you in a special way when we pray. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

**The Pope Speaks:** The world greatly needs a heart which beats strongly to combat the virus of political corruption, destructive religious ideologies, the temptation to be blind to the needs of the poor, of the refugees, of the persecuted minorities and of the most vulnerable. The presence of God today is also called 'Rohingya' ...



**Money Matters: second half of the Autumn Term 2017**

**Dinners (KS2 ONLY):** £85.50 (38 days at £2.25 per day between Tue 31<sup>st</sup> Oct to Thu 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017)  
**Governors' Fund:** £20 per family per term, cheques payable to "A&B Diocesan Trust St Edmund's"  
**Outings:** Cheques payable to "St Edmund's School Fund" or pay online via PMX ParentMail

<b>Confused by educational jargon?</b>	Try our glossary or Frequently Asked Questions pages under "School Information"
<b>Still confused?</b>	Then <a href="mailto:info@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk">info@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk</a> or 01483 414497
<b>Dates for the year ahead</b>	<a href="http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/page/?title=This+Year%27s+Dates&amp;pid=91">http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/page/?title=This+Year%27s+Dates&amp;pid=91</a>
<b>Copies of the newsletters</b>	<a href="http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/news/?pid=3&amp;nid=2">http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/news/?pid=3&amp;nid=2</a>
<b>Clubs booking forms</b>	St Edmunds Catholic Primary School - Clubs and Activities