

Newsletter 12: Friday 27th November 2020

Reminder: school will be closed on Monday 30th November

Dear Parents,

How time flies! Sunday of this weekend marks the start of **Advent** and therefore the start of a new liturgical year in the Church's calendar. The colour purple reminds us that we are now entering into a time of serious preparation and reflection.



Advent workshops – this morning the children in Years R, 1 and 2 have enjoyed workshops led by Lucy from Wintershall. Each class has followed the journey to Bethlehem and created a beautiful Advent wreath.

Helping local families – we have been asked by Godalming Town Council to pass on information about helping those living in the Godalming and villages area who have been financially affected by Covid-19. The Godalming & Villages Community Store in the town centre has food, toiletries and household items for emergency assistance. It looks just like a normal shop to walk around and choose what you need, but you have a private appointment and there is no till. We have been asked to assure you there is a warm welcome! Contact details to organise a visit are as follows: email: office@godalming-tc.gov.uk or phone 01483 523575

Covid! – until Thursday 3rd December we are still under lockdown restrictions and everyone must follow the rules around social distancing, especially at the school gates, if schools are to remain open. If any child or family member receives a positive Covid test result, please let Mrs Higgins know as soon as possible by emailing her on head@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk



Christmas cards – this year, as we want to reduce the amount of items brought into school from home, we are asking that, rather than sending Christmas cards to friends and teachers in school, families make a donation to charity. As an alternative, perhaps you would like to make a donation to Mrs Nicholls' charity, Les Amis-Burkina Faso (www.les-amis-bf.org.uk). Normally, at this time of year, we have a collection in aid of the charity after each Christmas performance but unfortunately this will not be happening this year. Last year, we raised over £550!



Our Christmas Tree – the PSA would like to thank Oxenford Farm for kindly subsidising this year's Christmas tree for the school hall. Also, the PSA will be **collecting donations for the Godalming Community Store** on Tuesday 1st December at morning drop off; there will be a box at the gate. All in-date, unopened tinned and packaged food items, sanitary products and domestic cleaning products are very much appreciated. Please visit <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/community-store/> for an up-to-date list of items they would like to receive.



PSA Raffle Tickets – thank you all very much for the raffle tickets which have so far been bought. The deadline for buying / selling tickets is **7th December**. If you need extra tickets please get in touch with the school office.



Elf Run for The Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice – on Monday 7th December all children should come to school wearing their PE kit. The children should have brought home their sponsor envelopes this week. Everyone is excited about the run which will take place on Monday 7th December in the afternoon. Please do support this event if you can.

Christmas Jumper Day (11th December) – this year we hope that everyone will wear Christmas jumpers to support The Meath Epilepsy Charity. By taking part in our Christmas Jumper Mufti Day, your donation will help The Meath to sustain & maintain the life-enriching services on offer. You'll be helping the incredible people who are supported by The Meath to keep smiling throughout 2021.



To find out more visit www.meath.org.uk

School Meals – we are extremely grateful that the kitchen is now up and running again as the children have enjoyed having a nice warm meal at lunchtime. If you wish to change your child's meal arrangements, please remember that one week's written notice is required by the kitchen.

Lost property – as parents are unable to come in to school to check the Lost Property box, here is a photo of the unnamed items which are currently in the box. If you recognise any of the items, please email the office and we will reunite them with your child. Please ensure that all items which are sent in to school are clearly named. We will always endeavour to return named items to the children.



Headteacher's Blog – every Friday Mrs Higgins writes about 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 on this link.

<https://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/blog/?pid=14&nid=10>



Take a moment for peace and quiet – St Edmund's Church is open every day 10am - 4pm for people to drop in, light a candle for those who are sick or who have died, and to pray. Whilst there isn't Mass in public at the moment, there are times of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at both St Edmund's and at St Joseph's. For more details see the parish newsletter <https://stedsgod.com/>

APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 INTAKE – the school would like to remind all parents of children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 that, if they wish their child to attend St Edmund's, they must ensure that they meet the application deadline of **15th January 2021**. Applicants need to do two things before that date:

- complete and return (to the school office) the **school SIF** (application form) which can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website (School Information/Admissions).
- complete the **Surrey County Council online application** (<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>) which is open from **2nd November 2020**.

IMPORTANT DATES

THIS TERM' DATES (new entries in yellow)

Mon 30 Nov **School closed**
 Mon 7 Dec Elf Run for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice
 Thu 10 Dec CAFOD 'Light of the World' assembly
 Fri 11 Dec Christmas Jumper Day
 Christmas Lunch & PSA Raffle
Thu 17 Dec Christmas Class Parties
 Fri 18 Dec 2pm close for Christmas Holiday

NEXT TERM

Mon 4 Jan Children return to school

THIS YEAR'S DATES (2020-2021)

AUT: 1 Sept-18 Dec 2020 (half-term w/c 26 Oct)
 SPR: 4 Jan-1 Apr 2021 (half-term w/c 15 Feb)
 SUM: 19 Apr-21 July 2021 (half-term w/c 31 May)

REMAINING KNOWN INSET DAYS & CLOSURES

30th Nov 2020, **26th Feb**, 15th March 2021

Ethos Statement 10: I think before I make choices that affect my health.

We pray together: Father, you created us to look after ourselves that we might be strong and steadfast workers for you. Help us to do our best to keep ourselves well by making the right choices. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

The Pope Speaks to us: We were not created to dream about holidays or the weekend, but to make God's dreams come true in this world. Trivial choices lead to a trivial life; great choices, to a life of greatness. Indeed, we become what we choose, for better or for worse. If we choose to steal, we become thieves; if we choose to think of ourselves, we become self-centred. To choose life is to live, and we were born to live, not to just get by.



Money Matters: second half of the Autumn Term 2020

Dinners (KS2 ONLY): £81.60 (34 days at £2.40; Mon 2nd Nov-Fri 18th Dec 2020)
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
PSA Website: www.stedmundsschoolpsa.co.uk

Confused by educational jargon?	Try our glossary or Frequently Asked Questions pages under "School Information"
Still confused?	Then info@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk or 01483 414497
Dates for the year ahead	http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1,2,3&pid=14&viewid=1
Copies of the newsletters	http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/page/?title=Newsletters&pid=93
Clubs booking forms	http://www.stedmundsschool.co.uk/page/?title=Clubs+and+Activities&pid=34

Attachment: larger picture of the lost property