

Newsletter 15: Friday 18th December 2020

Return to school on 4th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your support this term, for getting the children back to school and following the ever-changing guidelines! We hope that you will be able to enjoy Christmas in your bubbles and that everyone stays safe and well, before our return to school next year. **If your child receives a positive test result before Christmas, please contact Mrs Higgins as soon as possible: head@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk**

We wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas rejoicing in the birth of Jesus.

Thank you – for the very kind gifts which have come into school for the staff; your thoughtfulness and generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Beautiful banner – a huge thank-you to Jacob and Noah's granny, Mrs Woodcock, for the gift of this beautiful, hand embroidered banner. It is has been especially made for us by Mrs Woodcock and her fellow parishioners in Liverpool. Everyone has been admiring it and we feel very lucky to be the proud owners!



Pick-up times today – please be reminded that the children are leaving school earlier today:

YR (no siblings)	St Matthew	St Mark	St Luke	St John
1.45pm	1.45pm	1.50pm	1.55pm	2.00pm

Changes to drop-off and pick-up from January 4th 2021 – morning drop-off: parents will be able to drop children off at any time between 8.40am and 8.55am. Year 1 and above may still use the drive-through drop-off only if children can exit the car independently. **Afternoon pick-up:** Year R without siblings will remain the same, i.e. 3.15pm. However, for the other year groups the times will change as follows.

St John	St Matthew	St Mark	St Luke
3.15pm	3.20pm	3.25pm	3.30pm

Christmas Cards – thank you to all the children in KS2 for creating Christmas cards (right) in partnership with the parish. These lovely hand-drawn cards were handed over to the parish last week and will be included in the hampers which the parish is preparing to give to elderly or lonely parishioners for Christmas.



Applications! – as the deadline for applications approaches, we wish to remind all parents of children born between 01/09/2016 and 31/08/2017 that, if they wish their child to attend St Edmund's, they must complete the SIF and apply online to Surrey County Council by 15th January. You are free to submit the SIF and apply online at any time before then.



Christmas Masses – the parish is getting ready to welcome as many as possible to Mass over Christmas. These are usually very popular and to help manage numbers the parish is running a booking system and making use of the whole Christmas period between Christmas Eve and Sunday 27th December. There is a simple form which asks for your preferences. It is probably best if you complete one form for all those in your linked household ('Christmas bubble') who would like to come to Mass with you.

After Sunday 13th December it will be used to allocate places and let people know. After that, any remaining places will be on a first-come first-served basis. The form can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y3bd6jy3>

Parent Governor Election – promptly in the new term we will be running the election of a Parent Governor using ParentMail Forms. This will be a very quick and efficient way of sending you all the information you need and also of receiving your votes. We want to take this opportunity to reassure you that your vote will come to the school anonymously. Please watch out for further information about this important election in due course.



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.stedmundschool.co.uk/blog/?pid=14&nid=10>



Take a moment for peace and quiet – it is a wonderful thing that Fr Jonathan can resume celebrating of public Masses. If you wish to attend Mass, a booking system is in place. Please refer to the parish website (<https://stedsgod.com/>) or contact the parish (01483 416880) if you need help. St Edmund’s church on Croft Road remains open every day from 10am to 4p for quiet personal prayer.

IMPORTANT DATES	
<p><u>THIS TERM’ DATES</u> (new entries in yellow)</p> <p>Fri 18 Dec Early close (see timings above) for Christmas Holiday</p> <p><u>NEXT TERM</u></p> <p>Mon 4 Jan Children return to school</p> <p>Wed 6 Jan 2.15pm Epiphany Mass Y4+6</p>	<p><u>THIS YEAR’S DATES (2020-2021)</u></p> <p>AUT: 1 Sept-18 Dec 2020 (half-term w/c 26 Oct)</p> <p>SPR: 4 Jan-1 Apr 2021 (half-term w/c 15 Feb)</p> <p>SUM: 19 Apr-21 July 2021 (half-term w/c 31 May)</p> <p><u>REMAINING KNOWN INSET DAYS & CLOSURES</u></p> <p>30th Nov 2020, 26th Feb, 15th March 2021</p>

Ethos Statement 13: I try to love others as I love myself.

We pray together: Father, you command us to love others to the extent that we love ourselves. Grant us the grace to do this, especially for those with whom we don’t get on. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN

The Pope Speaks to us: We should open our hearts to other people’s sorrows and fears. It is necessary to pray, especially for those who suffer, who don’t know how to pray or have lost their way in life. Prayers of intercession are, in fact, an essential duty of every Catholic. While the whole Church has the mission of interceding for all, this duty falls particularly to those in positions of authority, such as parents, teachers or priests.



Money Matters: first half of the Spring Term 2021	
Dinners (KS2 ONLY):	£72 (30 days at £2.40; Mon 4 th Jan- Fri 12 th Feb 2021)
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.stedmundschoolpsa.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.stedmundschool.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1,2,3&pid=14&viewid=1
Copies of the newsletters	http://www.stedmundschool.co.uk/page/?title=Newsletters&pid=93
Clubs booking forms	http://www.stedmundschool.co.uk/page/?title=Clubs+and+Activities&pid=34

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, “Courage! Do not be afraid! Look, your God is coming; he is coming to save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.
Isaiah 35:1-10

