

Newsletter 1: 8th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school – how wonderful it has been to welcome you back to school after what we hope was a good holiday for you all. We extend a big warm welcome to Ademurewa (Y1), Ivy and Evelyn (Y3), Eva (Y4), Gaby (Y5) and Joseph (Y6) who joined us this week. Our new Reception Class children will be joining us from Monday 11th September. We also warmly welcome two new classteachers: Mrs Edwards and Mrs Field and Mr Roots who will be teaching PE.



A big thank-you to you all for the many gifts, cards and messages which were given to staff members at the end of last term. We do assure you that we never take these for granted and are always extremely touched by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Special Mass for the blessing of the new school buildings – you are welcome to attend a special Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Richard Moth at 10am on Monday 18th September in the school hall. This will be a lovely reminder of how blessed we are to have had such improvements made to our school, which will benefit us all.



Education Sunday – Father Jonathan is looking forward to giving a special blessing to all those attending Mass who are involved in education. It is an annual reminder of the special vocation and important role played by so many in the formation and education of young people.

“Meet the Teacher” – this will be held on Monday 18th September for Years 1-6 (3.25pm and 3.55pm) and on Monday 25th September for Reception (3.20pm). This is an opportunity for you to meet your child’s teacher and find out more about what they will be learning this year. There are two identical sessions per class for those with more than one child here. Just go to your child’s classroom after pick-up. Children of school age can be left in the hall where they will be supervised by Mrs Higgins. If you cannot attend, important information will be sent to you and also put onto the school website under School Information and then Meet the Teacher.

Clubs – club information is available below and also on our website, along with information about how to sign your child up for clubs.

DAY	WHAT	LEAD BY	FOR WHOM	TIME	FROM	END DATE
Mon	Choir	Mrs Higgins	Y3-6	3.25-4.25pm	11/09	16/01/24
	Football	Kickstart	Y1-2	3.20-4.30pm	11/09	27/11
Tue	Sewing	Marta Doroszkiewicz	KS2	3.30-4.40pm	12/09	12/12
Wed	Judo	Witley Schools Judo Ltd	Y3-6	8.00-8.45am	13/09	13/12
	Tennis	Tennis England	All	3.35-4.45pm	13/09	22/11
	Football	Kickstart	Y3-4	3.25-4.20pm	13/09	06/12
	Gymnastics	Planet Soccer	Y1-2	3.20-4.30pm	13/09	13/12
Thu	Basketball	Kidz B-Ballin’	Y3-6	7.45-8.45am	28/09	07/12
Fri	Running	Mrs Higgins	Y3-6	7.50-8.45am	15/09	08/12
	Football	Planet Soccer	Y5-6	3.20-4.30pm	15/09	15/12

Arbor Information – through your Arbor account, you are able (and encouraged to) ensure that the information we have about your child is accurate. Please take a moment to check that all the details are right, very particularly the telephone / contact numbers we have for you and anyone else whom you have listed as someone we could contact in an emergency

As we start the new school year, please be reminded that **you may only use the drop-off zone in the car park if your child is able to get out of the car independently**. If you need to get out of the car to help your child out, then please do not use the drop-off zone. We do thank you for your attention to this.

Dinner money – dinner money (KS2 only) for the first half of this term is £86.40 (32 days at £2.70; Wed 6 Sept – Fri 20 Oct). Please ensure that, if your child has school dinners that your Arbor dinner money account is kept up to date (it is Surrey County Council policy that dinners should be paid for in advance. We do thank you for your attention to this. Also, please note that if you wish to change your child’s dinner arrangements, two weeks’ notice must be given in writing to the school office.

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. Have a look every week to keep yourselves up to date by clicking on [this](#) link.

PARISH NEWS

Mass at 8.45am this Sunday The parish looks forward to welcoming families to St John's this Sunday. There will be Children's Liturgy during Mass; and after Mass all are very welcome to stay for coffee and chat. There are also Masses this weekend at 6pm at St Edmund's and 10.30am at St Joseph's.



- **First Holy Communion 2024** There will be a follow-up meeting on Tuesday 12th for parents wishing to prepare their children (Year 4 or above) for First Holy Communion next year but who were unable to attend the first meeting earlier this month. Please register for this via: <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/forms/vy3fvafx> Registration for the programme is now open at: <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/forms/vy3fvafx> If you would be interested in joining a small music 'band' at the FHC Masses, please email Frances at communionatsteds@gmail.com
- **Altar Servers** Anyone who has made their FHC and who would like to try out serving at Mass - please get in touch with Fr Jonathan.
- **Bumps & Babies** This weekly group starts back next week on Monday mornings from 10.30am to 12 noon at St John's; for more info please contact Eileen: eileen.hudson@gmail.com
- **A Day of Reflection for Grandparents** is on 26th September 11am-3.30pm at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley with Fr Stephen Ortiger. A day to explore the joys and sorrows and how we can see the hand of God in our lives. More info from: Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk
- **Macmillan Coffee morning** on Friday 29th at Ali's home at 122 Busbridge Lane. 9am-1pm. It's open house and all are welcome. Come for cake, a cuppa and browse the selection of artisanal gifts and treats.

IMPORTANT DATES

THIS TERM (new items in yellow)	TERM DATES
Sun 10 Sep Education Sunday	Thu 19 Oct Y4 to Chertsey Museum
Mon 11 Sep YR children start part-time (AM)	Parent Consultations
Mon 18 Sep YR children start full-time	Fri 20 Oct Y6 to Guildford Spike
10am Mass with Bishop Richard	3.20pm close for half-term holiday
3.25pm Meet the Teacher Y1-6	AUT: 4 Sept-21 Dec 2023 (half-term w/c 23 Oct)
3.55pm Meet the Teacher Y1-6	SPR: 8 Jan-28 Mar 2024 (half-term w/c 12 Feb)
Wed 20 Sep Y3 to Butser Farm	SUM: 15 Apr-19 Jul 2024 (half-term w/c 27 May)
Mon 25 Sep 3.20pm Meet the Teacher YR	INSETS and CLOSURES
Tue 26 Sep Individual photos	4 Sept, 5 Sept, 6 Oct, 4 Dec 2023, 15 Mar, 3 June 2024
Mon 2 Oct Y6 leave for Devon (back Fri 6 Oct)	Bank holidays: 29 Mar, 6 May 2024
Fri 6 Oct INSET – school closed	
Mon 9 Oct Life Bus in school for two days	
Tue 17 Oct Open Morning for prospective parents	
Parent Consultations	



Ethos Statements – each week you will see a brief 'Ethos Statement' in the newsletter. This is a statement about our school ethos upon which we will have focused that week. All classes spend time on Thursday morning discussing that week's Ethos Statement, thinking and talking about it and how it impacts upon our personal lives and our life as a school community.

Ethos Statement 1: We are all special.

We pray together: Father, as you see and love our uniqueness, help us in our turn to see and love the uniqueness of those around us, particularly those we have trouble liking. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

The Pope Speaks: Speaking at a centre for children with autism: *"Each of us is precious in God's eyes, and he loves us very much. This makes us feel the need to say to God, "Thank you!" We could also say, "Good Jesus, could you help mum and dad at work? Could you make grandma better because she's sick? Could you help children all around the world who don't have anything to eat? Or maybe, Jesus, I ask you to help the Pope to guide the Church well. If you ask with faith, the Lord really listens to you."*



Money Matters: first half of the Autumn Term 2023	
Dinners (KS2 ONLY):	£86.40 (32 days at £2.70; Wed 6 Sept - Fri 20 Oct)
Governors' Fund:	£20 per family per term, cheques payable to "St Edmund's School Governors Godalming" If setting up a Direct Debit online: 40-05-20; 21127306; "A&B St Edmund's Primary"
Outings:	Cheques payable to "St Edmund's School Fund"
PSA Website:	www.stedmundsschoolpsa.co.uk
Confused by 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

Safeguarding at St Edmund's

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If you are concerned about a child's welfare, please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who is **Mrs Higgins** or **Mrs Patrick**.

