

Newsletter 13: Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents,

Christmas performances – well done to all the children in Years R, 1 and 2 who put on two beautiful performances of 'Mary's Knitting' last week. They all did really well thanks to their hard work, and that of their Classteachers and support staff.

Key Stage Two Carol Service – on Monday it will be the turn of the children in Years 3 to 6 to perform for us when they will lead us through a Service of Carols and Readings at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Guildford. Children should arrive there at 5pm. There will be plenty of parking in the York Road car park, which is right next door. The service starts at 6.30pm.



Lots of gratitude! – a big thank-you to

- everyone who wore a Christmas Jumper today and for the donations which have amounted to £225.95 for the Meath's Yule Fuel Appeal
- the Sisters of Ladywell Convent for welcoming us so warmly to their convent yesterday for the Crib Building service. It was lovely to see so many of our children there this year
- our wonderful school cook, Josefine, for the delicious Christmas lunch which we all enjoyed today
- you for supporting the PSA Christmas Fair which raised an excellent £2,624



Admissions Consultation 2025-2026 – please click [here](#) to refer to our mandatory consultation process for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Hoping for a place in Reception next year? – [it is imperative that you complete \(and return to our school office\) our school Supplementary Information Form SIF](#)



Here to Help! – our parish has a Saint Vincent De Paul (SVP) group. The SVP's vision is to help individuals and families who are in any form of need so that they can have hope. The SVP offers practical help through befriending and support. The support can range from practical help with everyday matters and concerns to visiting the housebound and lonely. The support can be financial, but money is never given directly to people. If you or if you know of someone who would benefit from help from the SVP please contact us on 07379 108009

Planet Soccer Clubs – the Planet Soccer clubs for next term are now live on their booking system. They will be running clubs as follows: Y1+2 Gymnastics, Y5+6 Football and, a new club, KS2 Dodgeball. Here is the link to make your booking. [Planet Soccer Clubs 2 - Booking by Bookwhen](#)

Creative Writing Club – last week we sent home to the parents of KS2 children details of a new Creative Writing Club to be run after school next term. The flier has been loaded onto our website (School Information/Clubs and Activities).

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.

ADMISSIONS

Reception 2024 – if your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you will need to apply for a school place between 1st November 2023 and 15th January 2024. You must do two things before 15th January 2024:

- complete and return (to the school office) the **school SIF** which can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website (School Information/Admissions then scroll down to the PDF called 'St Edmund's Godalming SIF 2024-2025').
- complete the **Surrey County Council online** application

You can find out all you need to know about school admissions and apply online at

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>



Help for Ukrainians – this is a message from a friend of Mrs Kap: *“This is the Nazarenko family from the Kyiv region in Ukraine. As a family, we are hardworking, active and cheerful. We love sports and travelling. However, now we want to travel not for fun, but because of war and the dangers around us. Attacks by enemy missiles and drones do not allow us to live, work and study as usual. Our anxiety levels are off the charts, and it is hard to live like this. That is why we would like to find temporary shelter in the UK as part of the Home for Ukrainians programme. In Ukraine I have worked as an English teacher. My second speciality is design and making clothes and other items, such as furniture and accessories. I want to work, use my skills and be helpful. The Ukrainian people are sincerely grateful to every Briton who has supported our people at this difficult time.”* If there is a family who could help the Nazarenko family, please contact Miss Kap via the St Edmund’s school office (info@stedmunds.surrey.sch.uk)



PARISH NEWS

- **Parish Advent Carol Service** is at Ladywell convent at 2pm on Sunday 17 December in the main chapel. The Sisters will be handing out bags of homemade mince pies at the end of the Service!
- **Children’s Liturgy at 8.45am Mass** The last session of the year is on Sunday 17 December, and sessions start again on Sunday 14 January. There is **Coffee after Mass** on 17th – please come and join us.
- **Bumps & Babes** this is now finished for this year; it starts again on Monday 8th January.
- **Wintershall Nativity** Tickets are still available for some performances on 16, 17 & 18th. Book tickets asap: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk>
- **Christmas Mass times** Christmas Eve: **5pm Vigil Mass of Christmas** (St Joseph’s) Children are invited to wear nativity themed fancy dress if they would like to; **7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas** (St Edmund’s); **10pm Mass of Christmas Night** (St Edmund’s). Christmas Day: 8.45am Mass at St John’s and 10.30am Mass at St Joseph’s.



IMPORTANT DATES

THIS TERM (new items in yellow)	INSETS, CLOSURES & BANK HOLIDAYS 4 Sept, 5 Sept, 6 Oct, 4 Dec 2023, 15 Mar, 3 June 2024 Bank holidays: 29 Mar, 6 May 2024
Mon 18 Dec 6.30pm KS2 Carol Service at St Joseph’s GUILDFORD Wed 20 Dec Class parties Thu 21 Dec 1.10pm Carols around the Tree 2pm close for Christmas	TERM DATES NEXT YEAR 2024-2025 AUT: 2 Sept-20 Dec 2024 (half-term w/c 28 Oct) SPR: 6 Jan-4 Apr 2025 (half-term w/c 17 Feb) SUM: 22 Apr-18 Jul 2025 (half-term w/c 26 May)
TERM DATES 2023-2024 AUT: 4 Sept-21 Dec 2023 (half-term w/c 23 Oct) SPR: 8 Jan-28 Mar 2024 (half-term w/c 12 Feb) SUM: 15 Apr-19 Jul 2024 (half-term w/c 27 May)	INSETS, CLOSURES & BANK HOLIDAYS 2 + 3 Sept, 4 Oct, 2 Dec 2024, 14 Mar 2025 Bank holidays: 5 May 2025

Ethos Statement 14: I try to follow our school and classroom rules.



We pray together: Father, you give us rules to keep us and others safe and close to you. Help us to do our very best to be obedient to both your rules and the rules at school. We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

Thought for the Week: Happiness cannot be travelled to, owned, earned, won or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude. *Denis Waitley*



Money Matters: first half of the Spring Term 2024	
Dinners (KS2 ONLY):	£67.50 (25 days at £2.70; Mon 8 Jan to Fri 9 Feb)
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; account name as above
Clubhouse:	£6.75 am session; £14.50 pm session
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**.

