



St Edmund's Catholic Primary School

Autumn Term 2,

21st December 2023

St Edmund's News

We have been very busy at St Edmund's during Advent, making many preparations for Christmas.

We have a beautiful tree in the hall, 'travelling cribs and donkeys' help us think about the journey that Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem. Our Advent display, shows the angel, sheep and shepherds on the hillside outside Bethlehem, all carefully made by the children.

Last Friday, we held our Christmas Jumper Day. Children brought in donations for The Meath Epilepsy Charity, raising £233. We all enjoyed our delicious Christmas lunches too! Well over two hundred dinners were served with crackers and Christmas music to add to the festivities.

Yesterday afternoon, we had a very important visitor during our Christ-

mas parties. He made a special visit to each class with a gift for the children.

Very sadly, today, we say goodbye to Mrs Pepper. She has worked at St Edmund's for 14 years and is an integral part of our school. We will miss her very much and want to thank her for everything she has done for the children,



staff and whole school community during her time here.

We wish you all a very peaceful, Happy and Holy Christmas and a wonderful, healthy start to 2024.



Golden Assembly: Thank you God for our gifts and talents



The following children received special Headteacher's Awards during our Golden Assemblies on yesterday. There were great awards given for personal achievements and excellent manners, reading,

maths and attitudes to learning and school life:

Yr R: Charlie, Sophia M, Bruno

Yr 1: Lola, Janey, Imogen

Yr 2: Fearne, Joshua, Raphi

Yr 3: Claire, Grace, Teddie

Yr 4: Nala, Eva, Ruby

Yr 5: Blake, Emilia, Delilah

Yr 6: Joseph, Emily, Mia E

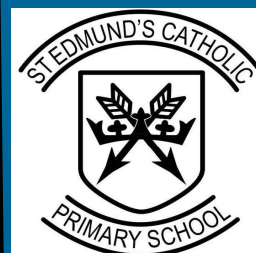
The House Points Winner this half term is St John's House with 1155 a great points! Very well done everyone.



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- Happy New Year- 2024
- Back to school Monday 8th January 2024



Year R

It has been a long haul to the end of term but the children have been enjoying the period of Advent together. This half term we have been working really hard with our phonics and, as well as learning our first few digraphs, have been developing our blending and reading skills. We have also learnt, practised and performed our first St Edmund's nativity with great aplomb. Reception played the parts of the donkey, sheep, camels, pages, dancers and musicians as well as performing a

song by ourselves and joining in all the other songs. This together with our wonderful visit to Wintershall has helped us focus on our preparations during Advent. At Wintershall we met Mary, Elizabeth, a shepherd, a king and some sheep and donkeys. They all helped to tell the story as we collected little mementoes from each person to help us remember the true meaning of Christmas. What a fabulous time we had, including a trek up the hill and lunch outside in the beautiful sunshine with a magnificent view. We will go

home on the last day of term with a chocolate reindeer, a glittered robin, a self-decorated bauble, a stained glass style lantern, a decorated cracker and a hand-made card. Wow, what a term.



Year 1

It has been such a busy and exciting half term in Year 1, reflecting on the exploration of our many learning adventures. From the beautiful Nativity play to our immersive discovery of the Christmas story, we have delved into diverse culture and lands, expanding our understanding of the world around us. This led us to reflect on the Christmas journey of Mary, discovering the annunciation right up until the birth of Jesus, which the children greatly enjoyed getting to learn and explore

Mary's journey. The children have been learning about our earth and reflecting on how other cultures celebrate Christmas and the geographical differences between the UK and neighbouring countries. The children have been deeply engaged in writing this term, crafting their own animal fact files and writing about our personal heroes. Hands-on activities brought out Year 1's artistic flair as we crafted vibrant 3D pictures using an array of media. This continued into science, learning about everyday materials as the children took on

design challenges thinking about the most appropriate materials and exploring how they change. We hope you all have a restful and peaceful Christmas.



Year 2

We have had a very busy half-term in Year 2. We carried out lots of different experiments to test the properties of different materials. We learned about meerkats and wrote information reports to share our learning with others. We all loved learning about the United Kingdom in geography, we are now very good at locating different parts of the UK. During our RE topic, we have been learning

about the importance of preparing, especially during advent. Finally, we spent a lot of time rehearsing for our school nativity, we felt very lucky to share this special story with our families.

Well done Year 2, you have all been fantastic! I hope

you and your families have a wonderful and restful Christmas.





Year 3

Wow! What a busy and exciting half term! We were very proud of our performance in our Stone Age assembly back in November, where we sang, spoke and danced enthusiastically and with confidence. In our English and Geography lessons we have learnt about the remote village of Skara Brae and created stories using story mapping and boxing up to plan our ideas. In Maths we have used resilience to set out column addition and subtraction calculations. In Science we have been investigating magnetic forces,

made paperclips fly and even took some iron filings for a walk! By working together as a team, we successfully filled our Crazy Bone treat jar.

Therefore we enjoyed a brilliant Pre-historic Day where we baked cheesy Stone Age rocks and watched a funny film. We created AMAZING patterned paintings inspired by the colourful artist David Hockney and made woven bas-

kets like the weaver

Dat So La Lee. We wish you a very healthy, safe and peaceful Christmas.



Year 4

"What a performance!" Year 4's half term has been! The class worked wonderfully together on their assembly to deliver five Greek Myths in the space of 30 minutes! Everyone in class had something special to bring to the performance. In addition, the class all took part in rehearsals for the Carol Service and rose to the occasion on Monday evening, singing beautifully, with some children reading too. We also had lots of fun on Greek Day in early December, with some great costumes and lots of enthusiasm for An-

cient Greek bracelet and pitta bread making. The class also did a small project focussing on local history combined with the theme of Remembrance when we looked at the work of Sir Edwin Lutyens. In maths, there has been a real focus on multiplication and division facts, which the children seem to have got to grips with. We hope this will help them to feel more confident when using TT Rockstars. In R.E., Year 4 have developed their understanding of what it means to be 'Called by God' – making booklets about Confirmation and learning

about Sean Deveraux's Christian calling. They celebrated St. Edmund's Day and now in the run up to Christmas, they have been reading and interpreting stories from the Bible about The Gift of Jesus from God.



Year 5

This half term we have enjoyed reading the book "The Girl of Ink and Stars" and listening to all the adventures. It has been good to read an exciting book that sets tension and the part at the end was really dramatic and made us want to read on and also inspired us to write a similar book. We also got some of our predictions wrong at the start which made the story better.

We have also enjoyed our art work and learning about Magritte who was a surrealist artist. We were able to make pictures with two things in one and even changed things around. This made good pictures from our imaginations. We then tried to draw the False Mirror and we put new things inside the eye. We used art in RE as well and looked at The Light of The World painting, which was really interesting as there were so many different symbols that represent different parts of Jesus' life.

This term we designed and made balloon race cars and they were fun to make, even though some didn't work.

By
Emilia,
Maxi,
Iona,
Rafi,
Edward,
Alma,
Ava





Christmas Fun!

Merry Christmas everyone!



Looking for some Christmas holiday reading ideas?

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/>



Year 6

This half term has been fun and we all feel that we have grown both academically as well as socially and emotionally. The Christmas Run and supporting Meath Charity has been a wonderful way for us to spread the Christmas cheer.

In English, we have been working way through writing balanced arguments. This has helped many of us see both sides of an argument. It has also helped us to be more empathetic towards others and to know and understand that asking for help is not a sign of weakness.

Our highlight has been our RE lessons as there have been so many opportunities to present our work

creatively and visually to share our learning.

We have also really enjoyed our learning in maths and science as all of learning overlaps and it has helped to understand how we use our maths skills in science.

Wishing you and your families a

blessed and safe Christmas from all of us in Year 6.

Written by Yocchan, Olivia M, Tabby and Archie



We hope you have enjoyed reading our half-termly newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions for things you would like to see in future issues please let us know!