



# St Edward's Newsletter

19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers and all the St Edward's Family,

It has been the most wonderful year at St Edward's and I wanted to thank you for all your support on behalf of all of our staff. I am delighted to announce fantastic results for our end of year examinations across the school. A special mention must be the officially published data, such as our great SATS results in Y6 and in Y2, our phonics results in Y1, our Multiplication Test results in Y4 and the Reception profile scores. Indeed in Y6, our children averaged a pass mark of between 88% and 95%, compared to a national average of 70%.

Our children continue to be an inspiration to us, and this year we have given out more Gold letters, more postcards, more house-points and more Gospel Value bookmarks than ever before. Our ambition remains that every child will receive a whole host of rewards for excellent behaviour and effort throughout the year.

There are too many highlights from this year to mention all of them, but we must note our Commonwealth Choir children performing for HRH Princes Anne and our fabulous visit to the school by Roberta Moore (Bobby Moore's daughter), which featured on ITV News and the Daily Mirror Newspaper. We have also had the wonderful class assemblies, the fabulous school reports, the beautiful masses, the Rocksteady Concerts, the Family Fun Day with special guest appearances by 2 West Ham footballers, the countless sporting trophies, the continued upgrade of our school library, the new partnership with Green Street Library and the new Reading Eggs programme, the Y6 Graduation attending by the Rt Hon Sir Stephen Timms MP, the Achievement Awards presentation in the presence of Bishop Alan, the Art trips, our themed Weeks including Aspirations Week, our Inclusion Quality Mark Award, our Summer Soiree, our Y6 Leavers' Assembly and this list goes on .....

Going forward, we want to continue to build on our excellent partnership with you the parents and carers and our Parish community. We are delighted that our Chaplaincy Team, our Pupil Parliament and our Mini-Vinnies have a big contribution to our school this year. Plus, we had our Cafod appeal, our Citizenship programme and our continued activities with all of our Trust schools. Plus, we had our coffee mornings and curriculum based evenings to keep you all fully informed.

We would like to thank our PTA for all of their marvellous efforts this year in fundraising and creating great experiences for the children. They are already working on a great list of events, so we look forward to another amazing year. A big thank you to all of our fabulous staff and Governors, who have worked so hard once again this year, creating our brilliant young learners.

So we will continue to grow together, working in partnership with you and the parish, towards an even greater St Edward's.

God's Blessings

Mr Underwood and all the St Edward's staff

*'Following Christ we reach our goals'*

# Brentwood Citizenship Award

Adam in Year 6 was the recipient of the Brentwood Citizenship award. The children chosen for this award are someone who displays good character, kindness and service to others.

Throughout the year, Adam has shown these values and proven what a well-mannered and respectful young man he is. Many adults and children have commented on his confident but calm manner. He is helpful to adults and takes time to look after peers both in his year group but also in other year groups. Well done Adam on receiving this most prestigious award.





# Edwardian's Programme

Our Edwardians have been taking part in a number of different activities as part of their programme. They went to Gilwell Park Scouts Centre on Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July and participated in climbing the Jacob's Ladder which helped build teamwork skills as well as overcoming fears. Last week they also had the opportunity to work with Nurse Rui from the Newham Surgical Team who taught the boys about CPR, what to do when someone is choking, if someone is losing blood and if someone faints. All the Edwardians passed with flying colours. A big thank you to Mr Morgan who set up this programme and has been supporting the boys throughout.



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# Father Denis Cup came home

**Well done to all the children who took part in the Father Denis football event. This tournament is held annually in memory of Father Denis Hall. Both the girls and boys played very well and our St Edward's boys achieved first place after playing other schools in our trust. Congratulations to them all!**

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CLASS	Summer 1	Summer 2
Iris	Ezra D	Mazel
Poppy	Carter	Ezrah S
Lily	Seanna	Hendrick
Rose	Jaime	Michael
Ivy	Alicija	Isabella
Fern	Alex	Nehemiah
Thistle	Ethan	Rosiebelle
Heather	Japneet	Alise
Ash	Sophia	Jack
Beech	Emily	Orestis
Elm	Saim	Grace
Oak	Chloe Y	Kaiden

Well done to our Scientists of the term for Summer 1 and Summer 2. These children were chosen for their efforts or great work in class during Science lessons. In their lessons, children research scientific facts but also undertake scientific enquiry where they conduct investigations, make predictions and evaluating outcomes. Congratulations to our budding scientists.







Illustrations by Natelle Quek. Logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024



## Marvellous Makers

Summer Reading Challenge 2024 is here.

Get creative this summer and collect rewards for your reading.

#KeepUpTheChallenge at any Newham Library

**WE ARE NEWHAM.**

## The Summer Reading Challenge Returns to Newham Libraries!

The eagerly anticipated Summer Reading Challenge is back at Newham libraries, bigger and better than ever.

From June to September, children in Newham are invited to dive into a summer of fun, rewards, and reading adventure. For every book they read, they will earn stickers and prizes and can rate and review their books in a special collector folder.

Upon reading six books or more, they will be awarded a Marvellous Maker medal and a certificate in the autumn term. All primary school children in Newham are automatically enrolled, so they just need to visit their local library to #KeepUpTheChallenge.

In addition to reading, kids can enjoy free activities such as arts and crafts, theatre, and creative coding sessions. To sign up for these summer activities, visit

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/libraryevents>.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for your children! Stop by your local Newham library today to kick start the Summer Reading Challenge and create unforgettable memories this summer.

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# Teddy Bears' Picnic




On Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, our Nursery children enjoyed a Teddy Bears Picnic at school. The sun was shining and parents/carers came along to be with their children for fun, games and delicious food. Thank you to the Nursery staff and our PTA for working together to set everything up and ensuring that the children had a wonderful day.



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# Lily Class Assembly

Lily class were very proud to share what they learnt in Geography to their parents and the school. They went on a magical tour of the world discovering the wonders of the world and why they are so special. They were very confident in sharing information about the Great Wall of China, Mount Erebus, Golden Gate Bridge, Christ the Redeemer, Suez Canal and the Louvre in France. They also sang a song they learnt in RSHE lessons about being part of the wider world. Well done Lily class, you were superstars and performed brilliantly on the day.



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# Chestnut Class Assembly

Chestnut class put on a wonderful performance for their class assembly by telling the story of The Gruffalo. The children looked wonderful in their costumes and had learned all their lines. There was lovely singing and dancing too and the family and friends that came along had a brilliant time. Thank to Ms Ellul and all the staff who worked with the children to get them ready for their show.



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## A great day out at London Zoo!

Year 1 enjoyed a fabulous day out at London Zoo as part of their Science learning. Both the children and staff got to see a range of different animals in their natural habitats.

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Achieving excellence through faith, collaboration and opportunity

**Did you  
know?**

Our school is part of a  
Catholic Academy Trust

**OUR LADY OF GRACE  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST**



**What does that  
mean for  
our school?**

Our school leaders work closely with the staff at the Trust and with the leaders of other schools in the Trust. We are supported in managing our school so that we can deliver the best outcomes for our pupils. We can continue to improve and provide more opportunities for our children to grow in faith and succeed.

**Which other  
schools belong  
to the Trust?**

There are seven Newham Catholic primary schools in the Trust: St Antony's, St Edward's, St Francis', St Helen's, St Joachim's, St Winefride's and St Michael's. We enjoy taking part in activities together, sharing resources and training.

**Keep a look  
out for Our  
Lady of Grace!**

Keep a look out for the distinctive Our Lady of Grace logo. Trust staff work in and around our school and we'll be sharing the Trust's newsletter with you so that you can learn more about what's going on in the Trust and its other schools.



[olog.org.uk](http://olog.org.uk)

**FOLLOW US**

[@ologtrustnewham](https://twitter.com/ologtrustnewham)

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✦ SUMMER ✦

# Soirée

Our Year 6 parents/carers put on a Hollywood style Summer Soiree for their children. Even the rain could not dampen anyone's spirits and the glitz and glamour shone through. The children looked beautiful in their outfits. Everyone had a fabulous time at one of Year 6 children's last celebrations as before they move onto secondary school. A huge thank you to all the parents/carers for all their efforts and to the PTA for the photography and entertainment. Please look on our school website for more photos.



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# Pupil Parliament Awards

A special assembly took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July for members of our Pupil Parliament who were awarded for imparting valuable contributions during Pupil Parliament meetings. These pupils were given awards for adhering to the Pupil Code of Conduct. This means that they demonstrated consistently positive behaviour for learning, respectfulness, being a role model, good manners, constantly demonstrates concepts of kindness, understands sharing and shows patience.

They ask politely for something or to do something, pay attention, listening when others are speaking and not talking out of turn. Even when they may have had a tiny bump in the road they got straight back on track and corrected their wrongdoing immediately, not to be repeated, clearly learning their lesson. Well done to all the children who won these awards. Congratulations!



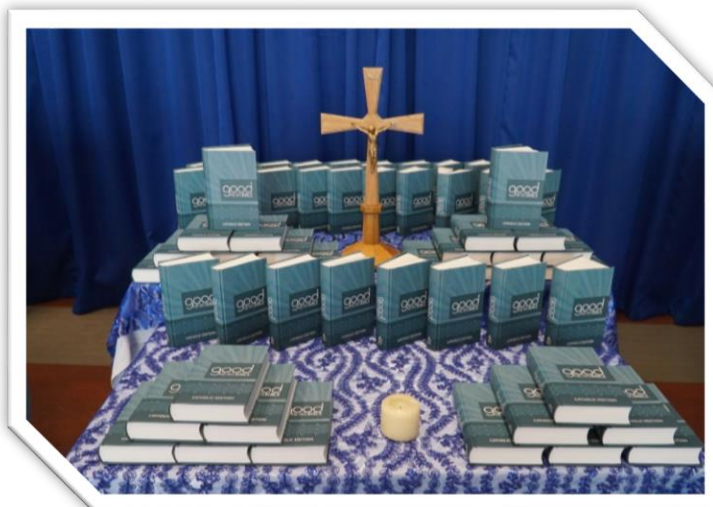
*'Following Christ we reach our goals'*





# Awards Afternoon

We were very honoured to be joined by Bishop Alan, Father Angelus, our CSEL Ms Cashell and some members of our Governing Body for our annual awards afternoon. A number of children from each year group won awards for hard work, effort, resilience, determination or for being a good friend and showing kindness. Congratulations to all the children who won awards. Please go to our website for more photos.







# Year 6 leaver's Assembly

*Our Year 6 children put on a fabulous performance for their leaver's assembly 'Mission Implausible' on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> of July. The children acted out their roles brilliantly and sent an important message. The photos shared at the end brought a tear to everyone's eyes. We are all extremely proud of our Year 6 children and we wish them every success and happiness as they move forward onto secondary school. You are most welcome to come back and see us, and remember you will always be a St Teddy!*

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# **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Children in Years 1 to 6 return to school  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Children in Reception staggered start  
dates given to parents**

**Children in Nursery staggered start  
dates given to parents**

**Whole School Mass – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**FURTHER DATES TO BE SENT IN  
SEPTEMBER 2024**





# End of Year Raffle

**Congratulations to our end of year raffle winners. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and took part. The sale of tickets raised over £600 so a big thank you to our PTA once again for organising this event. There were some fantastic prizes and the winners are as follows:**

**Top prize –Nintendo Switch – Dawid in Iris class**

**Adventure Island – Nubia in Rose class**

**Babylon Park gift card – Nicole in Poppy class**

**Flip Out in Canary Wharf – Sai in Nursery**

**Tower Bridge experience – Sean in Oak class**

**Toca Social – Isabella in Poppy class**

**Pottery painting sessions - six prizes**

**Zora – Thistle class**

**Zuzanna – Reception class**

**Emily – Iris class**

**Shenaye – Beech class**

**Nicole – Poppy class**





## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 12:1-8**

At that time Jesus went through the cornfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck ears of corn and to eat. But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath." He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him to eat nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. And if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

## **Gospel Reflection**

Religious practices and traditions, rules, and injunctions are good and needed. They manifest the spirit of piety and devotion. They show in concrete how much we care about God. They open us to insights and inspirations. They act as balms for consolation, guidance, and strength. They discipline us and guard us against possible aberrations.

However, their fruit and effect cannot be limited only to the spiritual domain. Any true devotion must eventually lead one to a concrete life of fraternity in acts of charity. Acts of devotion without acts of benevolence are deficient and incomplete. Piety without fraternity is shallow. Adherence to the rules is important but not at the cost of neglecting the need of the other.

This shallow religion is seen in the Pharisees. The hungry disciples of Jesus pluck grain and eat on a Sabbath day. The Pharisees vehemently blame them for breaking the Sabbath. They interpret plucking the ears of corn as part of harvesting, a work forbidden on the Sabbath. How narrow-minded and perverted they were!

They do not bother about the hunger of their fellow humans; rather they over-bother about the law. They forget the fact that human well-being is more important than the mere keeping of the law. Jesus then had to remind them two things: that the "Son of Man is lord of Sabbath" and this means that all the laws are subservient to him and no law is above him. Second, "God desires mercy and not sacrifice".