



St. Edward's NEWSLETTER



WELCOME
BACK
TO
SCHOOL

Dear Parents/ Carers and the St Edward's Family

A really big welcome back from all the staff to our parents, families and our children.

I am really excited and hopeful that, this year, we will be able to hold some of the wonderful activities and events that make St Edward's so special. We did start to hold events in June and July, such as the Y6 prom, and you will see some lovely photos included in this newsletter.

I do realize that we will continue to face a changing situation, but I pray that we will be able to keep all of our children in school every day, to be able to learn and enjoy St Edward's school life.

I am personally delighted that I am finally getting the chance to meet with you in the playground at hometime. Plus, I am looking forward to seeing you at class assemblies and themed weeks.

One of the main features during last year was the rapid rise of communication through technology. As you are aware, we invested in School Ping and other software for Parents' Evenings. Plus, our Governors sanctioned the widespread purchase of Chrome Books for use across the school during daily lessons. We have now commenced a big push on switching to 'Google Classroom' and I'm sure that your children will be leading on the wonderful opportunities available through this technology. We will continue to offer you the chance to speak with us digitally, commencing with some planned Parent Information Sessions next week.

Last year at St Edward's was totally unique. I am so proud of our whole school community on how we coped and even moved forward in 20/21. Your generosity and sacrifices helped us to keep going against tremendous disruption. Overall we stayed together as one family and now we can continue to grow as an 'Outstanding' school.

I would like to offer encouragement and inspire confidence at this time through the words of Pope St John Paul II.

'Whatever may be your interior or exterior difficulties, which the merciful Lord knows, remain faithful... If the Lord has called us to work in his field, he is with us through his Spirit.'

God Bless

Paul Underwood

Headteacher

HEADLINES OF THE MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS YEAR 2020-21

- *St Edward's offered an engaging, dynamic remote learning with the breadth and depth of the curriculum being explored.*
- *The school's technology has improved and developed drastically in one year. This includes a full wireless infrastructure, new school website, the implementation of chrome books in classes, use of Microsoft and Google as learning platforms and providing all vulnerable pupils with a home learning device, which has enhanced children's learning.*
- *Despite covid restrictions, school celebrations and events have still continued such as prom, graduation, sports day, the Father Dennis Cup and Thorpe park*
- *All Governing Body meetings have taken place this academic year and the school is working closely with the Multi Academy Trust*
- *All pupils have been assessed and monitoring of attainment and progress has enabled gaps in learning to be identified and interventions put in place.*
- *Pupil voice has been strengthened this academic year through the implementation of subject ambassador teams as well as existing teams of the school council, house captains and the teaching and learning committee.*
- *Mental health and well-being were a school priority. Children were part of Mental Health week, NSPCC workshops and the new implementation of the Rising Stars well-being surveys enable quick identification of pupils who need further support in these areas.*



Diocese of
Brentwood



Healthy School



GOLD AWARD



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Gold

'Following Christ we reach our goals'

"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

COVID Update September 2021

The school year has started well and children are getting back into a more normal school routine. As always, our children have been fantastic and have adapted to the continuous changes very well. Following government advice we will be operating as follows:

- The school gates in the playground will open at 8.45 am - children can start coming into school at that time and will go straight to their classes.*
- All children should be in school by 8.55 am. The school gates will be locked by the latest at 9.00 am.*
- We ask that parents/carers drop their children off and leave the school gates clear.*
- If children are late, they will have to go to the front gate in Green Street with their parents/carers and inform the office staff who will ensure that children come into school and go to their classes.*
- Children in EYFS and KS1 can be collected at 3.10 pm*
- Children in Years 3, 4,5 and 6 can be collected at 3.15 pm*
- We will continue to ensure that hand washing/sanitising takes place frequently throughout the day and surfaces are cleaned regularly*
- The school will be well ventilated throughout the day*
- Parent meetings will remain virtual*
- Visitors will be kept to only those who are essential*
- A copy of our updated risk assessment is on our school website*

Please note the following procedures should anyone in your family have symptoms of COVID or test positive for it.

- If your child has symptoms please keep them at home for the required period of 10 days and get them tested.*
- If a lateral flow test shows a positive result then follow this up with a PCR test within 2 days of the lateral flow test. If the PCR test result is positive then your child will continue to isolate. If the PCR test is negative then your child can return to school. We will need to see evidence of a test result before allowing the child back to school.*
- If a positive case is received and the school are informed then only the child who is positive will isolate - the rest of their class or year group will not need to isolate.*
- If someone in your family other than your child tests positive for COVID then your child does not need to isolate and can continue coming to school as long as they do not have symptoms.*
- Please continue to monitor your children regularly.*
- If your child develops symptoms whilst at school then they will be put into isolation and wait there until the parent/carer arrives to collect them.*
- If you wish for your child to be tested at school then we will need your permission to do this with a lateral flow test as this gives an instant result.*

2021 NEW STARTERS

*A big warm welcome
to
St. Edward's family!*



We welcome all our new pupils who started in Reception and Nursery this week and meet our new staff.

Miss G Bernard
Teacher
Trainee



Miss L De Gouveia
Teacher
Trainee



Miss S Miller
Teacher
Trainee



Mr A Read
Teaching
Assistant

*We sadly had to say goodbye to some of our amazing staff.
We wish them all the success as they embark a new chapter!*



Mr Karwinski



Ms Mullane



Ms Elisa



Ms Hutcheon

"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

What is It's Good to Grow?

We understand that the more kids know about how food is grown and made, the better they'll eat, now and in the future.

It's Good to Grow is a token collection scheme that allows schools to collect for free gardening equipment to get kids outdoors and growing. Between 6th September and 24th October 2021 for every £10 spent in store or online at Morrisons customers will automatically receive one Grow Token to donate to your chosen school.

You'll need to be a MyMorrisons customer to take part so make sure you download the app and select a school to donate your Grow Tokens to.

Finally, don't forget to scan your app or MyMorrisons card at checkout every time you shop to receive your Grow Tokens. Once you've selected a school, you'll be able to donate your Grow Tokens to them.

From 24th October, they'll be able to redeem the Grow Tokens they've collected against a range of growing and gardening equipment for school.



Collect free gardening equipment for your school



Blue PETER BADGE gained

Japneet completed the Plastic, Power and Plant pledges over a period of two weeks which earned her the Blue Peter Badge!

She has also made and distributed posters to raise awareness of climate change and is keen to achieve 'Net Zero' and tries to have a 'Digital Detox' every Sunday.

**WELL DONE FOR YOUR HARD WORK JAPNEET!
KEEP IT UP!**

Mrs Dourado-Alfonso and the Mini Vinnie's will be holding their annual Cake Sale to raise money for the MacMillan Cancer Research on 24th September 2021.

We welcome your donation of cakes (preferably individually wrapped) for us to sell on the day.

Please can you leave them in your classrooms or at the school office for the attention of Mrs Dourado - Ash Class

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

NOTICE TO PARENTS

CALENDAR 2021-2022

August 2021							September 2021							October 2021							November 2021							
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Important Dates!

School opens to children	2nd September 2021
Parent Information Session	21st September 2021
Autumn Half Term	25th to 29th October 2021
Christmas Break	22nd December to 4th January 2022
Spring Half Term	14th to 18th February 2022
Easter Break	11th to 22nd April 2022 finish
Bank Holiday - Labour Day	2nd May 2022
Summer Half Term	30th May to 3rd June 2022
End of Academic Year	15th July 2022 finish @ 1.15 PM

NOTICE TO PARENTS

Teddy looking for a new home

The iconic Teddy replica that is displayed outside Mr Underwood's office is looking for a new home. We are planning an auction with a starting bid of £10 for anyone who would be a good new owner.
Look out for the ping!



Medication

Please ensure that your child's medication is handed into your class teachers i.e. allergies, asthma or any other health conditions that need medication in school. Please contact Mrs Adjei if you have questions.

Uniform

Children are required to wear the correct uniform each day.

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

- *Hair decorations should be a simple style and in the colours blue, grey or white.*
- *Hair should not be dyed, or have any patterns shaved into it.*
- *Children should not wear make up or nail varnish at school.*
- *Jewellery is not allowed apart from watches in Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only.*

At St Edward's we wish for all children to be proud of their school uniform and our community. If you are experiencing any difficulty, please let us know as we may be able to help. We want all pupils to feel happy at school and not feel uncomfortable through no fault of their own.

Lost Property

It is the pupil's responsibility to look after their property in school. Please remind your child/ren to ensure that they always take care of their stuff in school. If they misplaced their items, we have a lost property area at the back of the school where children can go to.

Please liaise with your child's teacher if needed.

Thank you

"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

Finally, here's a recap on celebrations that the school enjoyed during summer term....



Following the triumphant England game in the semi-finals St Edward's staff and children were high in spirits and enjoyed a non-uniform red and white clothes day in support of our England football team getting through to the finals. This is a historical moment and we wish to celebrate it in style!

We may have missed bringing the Euro cup home but our girls were victorious and brought the Fr Denis Football cup to St Edward's! Well done Football teams!



"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

Our Year 6 leavers had amazing end of year celebrations despite the current climate.



"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"



St Edward's sent teams to three Newham staged sporting events. The teams picked up trophies for both the Quad Kids Athletics and Tennis and were placed second in the Cricket.

Trophies were awarded to both the year 5 and 6 Quad Kids teams for finishing 1st in the partnership's virtual competitions. Every pupil had to run 75 metres, 600metres, a long jump and throw a vortex. They each collected points according to how far or how fast they completed the events with the top four competitor's scores counting for the team's entry.



"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

ST. EDWARD'S SPORTS DAY LOCKDOWN EDITION 2021

Our traditional sports day had been one of the casualties of the changes we adjusted because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Unfortunately, we couldn't invite everyone to this celebration however, our children still managed to continue with the fun with their teacher and year group bubbles. Everyone had an amazing time! Well done to the St. John Bosco team for the overall win!



"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"

OUR WONDERFUL POLICE FORCE

We were very lucky as we had Suzy from the Metropolitan police in school to meet with the children in each year group. Suzy works with all schools in Newham and delivers workshops about internet safety, personal safety, road safety, people who help us and informs children about the dangers of becoming involved in gangs. The children had a fantastic day and also learned about the role of a police officer and what children or adults can do if they need help. Please take a look on our website for more pictures.



SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT

Mr Johnson and Mrs Mehmet started a school garden project which we aim to continue on our return in September. The children enjoyed growing vegetables from seeds, seeing the seedlings grow and planting them in the garden. Everyone got to try something and there was always lots of children waiting for a sample at breaktimes and always lots of volunteers for watering the garden. We managed to grow tomatoes, radishes, lettuce, beetroot, carrots, beans, strawberries and some herbs. It was lovely to see the children so interested in the garden and in some cases seeing how vegetables grow. We will be continuing this project as we think it's valuable that the children know about where vegetables come from, sustainability, organic gardening, recycling, etc. We will be growing Autumn vegetables at home during the holiday ready to plant in September. If anyone is growing any vegetables or herbs we would be very grateful for any seedlings. We hope this project will expand and, excuse the pun but continue to grow.



A Weekly Gift to you and your family from your Catholic School

THE Wednesday
WORD**SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL
WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES****Dear Parents and Carers,**

A warm welcome to you and to your family as we begin this new school year.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that, during his time on earth, Jesus was many things to many people. He was a teacher, a healer, a leader and, to some people, simply a very good person. But Peter finally realises the truth about Jesus and professes his faith in him as the Christ – the Son of the living God.

Wednesday 8th September 2021

Even though the disciples had witnessed Jesus' many miracles, they were still slow to understand Jesus' true identity. For us too, it takes time to get to know who Jesus really is, just as it takes time to get to know other friends.

Make a great start to this new school year by listening to your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **JESUS**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough

To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org – Parents' Pages – Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 12th September 2021

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way Jesus put this question to his disciples, "Who do people say I am?" And they told him. "John the Baptist," they said; "others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets." "But you," he asked, "who do you say I am?" Peter spoke up and said to him, "You are the Christ." And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again.

Adapted from Mark 8:27-35
The 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church – all are warmly invited.

"Each encounter with Jesus fills us with joy, with that deep joy which only God can give."

Pope Francis**"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"**



Jesus assures us that when two or three of us gather together in his name, he will be with us. This special *Five Minutes Family Time* is a great opportunity to be with Jesus, and to enhance family life together throughout this new school year.

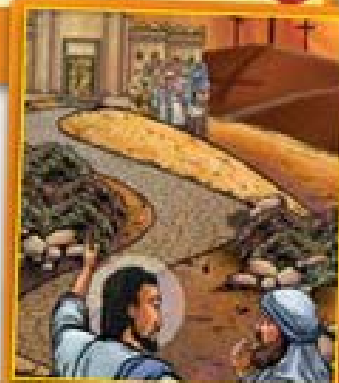


1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Jesus and his disciples left for a village in the North. On the way Jesus asked his friends, the disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered, "Some say you are John the Baptist; others say you are one of the prophets who died a long time ago and has come back to life." Jesus then asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" It was Peter who spoke up. "You are the Christ," he said. Then Jesus began to teach them that he was destined to suffer, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again.

What two questions did Jesus ask his disciples? Which words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



2 Wednesday's Word is ...

JESUS

3 Loving God & Each Other

"Jesus is not a figure from the past: he continues now and always to light the way for us." *Pope Francis*

The name 'Jesus' in Hebrew means 'God saves'. Jesus came to save us from doing wrong - to show us and to teach us how to live good lives. Ask your child how they think of Jesus. Is he distant like a stranger, or close like a friend? Was he simply a good man, or is he the 'Christ' - the Son of the living God? Does your child have a favourite story about Jesus? What does your child like about Jesus?

"Jesus loves us without limits. He wants to help us, always." *Pope Francis*

Each of you choose something to do at home or at school to be more like Jesus for each other throughout this new school year. Perhaps you can: try to be patient with others; be a good listener if someone is sad and wants to share their problems with you; be more generous and loving; forgive others; find regular time to pray for guidance, remembering to ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?" and then try to do the same ourselves.

Dear Lord **Jesus**, please help us to understand and to know you - to listen to your words and to follow your way. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

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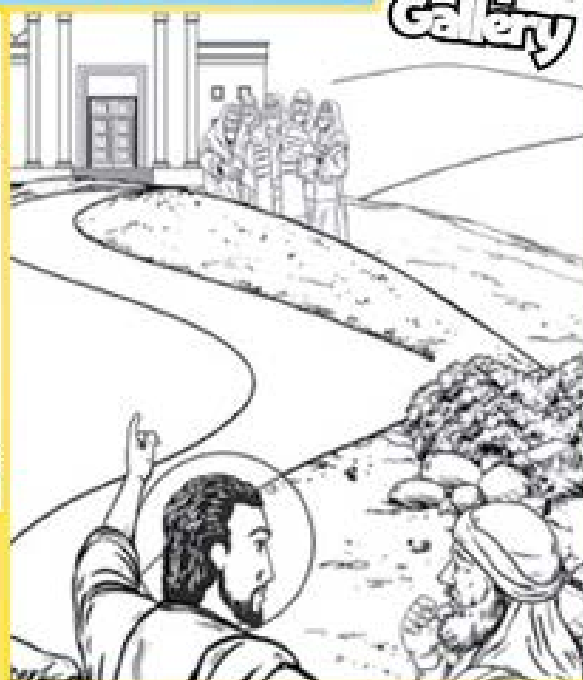
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WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- ☒ JESUS ASKED
- ☐ DISCIPLES REPLIED
- ☐ PETER SPOKE
- ☐ CHRIST GOD

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **u b n** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

sabidun Puenterb uspobken Cubhrinst

It was _____ who _____ up.

"You are the _____," he _____.

Schools throughout the world have been founded in honour of Jesus and that includes our school too. Let's say a quiet prayer today, and every school day, to thank Jesus for our school and for all the people who have given their lives to serve Jesus through teaching and helping us to know him.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...



Did you know? This Sunday we celebrate 'Education Sunday'. Find out more at: catholiceducation.org.uk

"FOLLOWING CHRIST WE REACH OUR GOALS"



GOSPEL - MARK 8:27-35



27 Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?'

28 And they told him, 'John the Baptist, others Elijah, others again, one of the prophets.'

29 'But you,' he asked them, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.'

30 And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of man was destined to suffer grievously, and to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again;

32 and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter tried to rebuke him.

33 But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are thinking not as God thinks, but as human beings do.'

34 He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.'

35 Anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Prayer for the Start of the School Year

Loving God,

Our creator, our saviour, our companion,
bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake today.

Refresh our souls and renew our spirits
as we embrace the beautiful ministry you have called us to.

We welcome those who are new to this community and
ask that you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given them.
Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of students to this school,
and may you guide them to return with open hearts and minds eager to learn.

We ask this in Your name,

Amen