



St Edmund's Catholic Primary School

EXECUTIVE HEAD - MRS BARLOW

ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL - MISS LYONS

Email: office.stedmunds@cpswv.org Phone: 01986 892502

Website: www.st-edmundsrc.suffolk.sch.uk

18th October 2024

In the Gospel story of the rich young man, Jesus tells us how difficult it is to enter the Kingdom of Heaven when we have many possessions. In our assembly, children were encouraged to think about what is, and what is not, truly valuable in their lives.



"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

Mark 10:25



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

Children will understand that:

- Loving God and loving others is more important than loving things.
- If things can stand in the way of loving God or loving others – then it is better for us to let them go.
- By following Jesus, we build up treasures in Heaven.

Thank you to all who attended our Harvest Assembly at St Benet's it was a lovely occasion and the children did amazingly well with their readings and presentation. I look forward to St Edmund's one on Monday and hope as many parents as possible will join us for that. Please keep your foodbank donations coming in, we have done remarkably well so far with the collections.

It has been lovely to have our new priest Father Simon attend these celebrations and speak to the children, we feel privileged to finally have good links again with the parish.

We look forward to seeing you at parent/teacher meetings next week. Please remember if your child is on the SEND register to book a 20 minute slot instead of a 10 minute one. You can call the office anytime and they will let you know what appointments are still available. Our prospective parents open morning for St Edmund's is 6th November and for St Benet's is the 5th November, both start at 9:30 and will run to 11:30. Please share this with friends, family and neighbours. We are all so proud of our schools and would love to see it grow but many people say that they don't know that non Catholic children can attend our schools, as you know many of our children are not baptised Catholic. Please share Facebook posts and encourage parents to come and take a look at us. We are so unique and have so much to offer.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Barlow

Staffing

At St Edmund's we say goodbye to Mr Hackett who has decided to pursue alternative avenues with his career. We thank him for his support of the school and the children. However, we do welcome two new teaching assistants, both with a teaching background, Mrs Holden and Miss Barrett. They will be the new teaching assistants for Beech Class. Miss Lawson, is moving to three days as she pursues a University degree to further her journey towards becoming a teacher. We are really pleased that she is taking this step and fully support her on this pathway to what she so rightly deserves. This will mean that Mrs Rogers will step into Oak class in her place as the full time Teaching Assistant.

At St Benet's we say good bye to Mrs Tyler (MDSA) who was very sorry to leave but has found a job with more hours that suit her. She will be with us until the end of this half term. Therefore, we are looking for a replacement MDSA, if you know anyone who would be interested in this position please email the school.



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Attendance



Our school target again is 96%. We are still receiving requests for holidays in term time. The DFE guidelines now state very clearly we cannot authorise these. New regulations standardise the use of fines for unauthorised absences. Parents will face increased fines if their child misses five days of school without permission. The fines have been raised from £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days, and from £120 to £160 if paid within 28 days. From the autumn, only two fines can be issued to the same parent for the same child within a three-year rolling period. Any second notice will automatically be charged at £160. The flyer on the next page gives an overview of how this will work.

Well done to the year groups who have achieved 96% or better. It is rather concerning that both Year 6 classes have such low percentages. This is your final year of school and one that is really important for gaining the knowledge and skills to be high school ready. I really hope we can see this begin to improve over the coming weeks.

Year Group	St Benet's	St Edmund's
R	100%	95%
1	96%	99%
2	90%	98%
3	92%	97%
4	96%	95%
5	93%	97%
6	90%	92%

HOW ILL DO KIDS NEED TO BE TO NOT GO TO SCHOOL?



PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS CHANGING

1

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2

SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.

The following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after **19th August 2024**.

3

THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

Please follow the link for the Publication that will start from 19th August 2024.
www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance

Ten Ten - This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout October and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

After school clubs - These will change to gymnastics after half term, for both KS1 and KS2. These clubs are free, please join us! 😊

Halloween raffle - Tickets are £1 each and the winner gets this beautiful hamper of themed goodies on the last day of term. See any member of the PTA for tickets!



Y6 Hilltop payments - These are now due please



Forest School dates

24th October - Reception and year 1

Forest School will return in January

Other upcoming dates

Monday 21st October – 9.30am – 10am – Harvest assembly

Tuesday 22nd October – whole school photographs

If your child has PE on this day, please send to school in full school uniform with a change of clothes for PE

Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October – 3.30pm – 6pm – parents evenings

Friday 25th October – Halloween cake sale – to raise money for PTA funds

Please bring your cakes (shop bought or homemade) to the school office in the morning.

NO NUTS please and all ingredients *must* be listed.

Half term - Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Wednesday 6th November – 9.30am – 11.30am - open morning for prospective parents

Tuesday 12th November – Crucial Crew trip year 6

A national programme teaching Year 6 pupils about road and cycle safety, hand washing hygiene, fire safety, crime reduction and unknown substance awareness.

Tuesday 19th November – 2.30pm – Big Speech assembly

Are the best things in life free?



We're working towards Artsmark Awarded by Arts Council England



Heart of Gold



In Beech class the Heart Of Gold goes to Gianna for the value of Faith (trust). Gianna has demonstrated this through acts of kindness to new children joining our class and to her friends by helping them maturely inside and outside the classroom.

This week our Heart of Gold for Faith (trust) in Rowan class goes to Theo. He always

has faith in himself and will try his hardest even if he is not sure. Theo is trusted by his peers and has good relationships. It has been lovely to see him become more confident in himself already this year and that has shown not just in his work but his relationships with others. Theo trusts others and will always try his best to see the good in others. Well done!



In Oak class our Heart of Gold for the value of Faith goes to Marcell. Marcell shows faith in many ways. He never gives up, he believes in himself, he trusts in God's plan and he respects others opinions. Thank you Marcell.