

Saint Edmund's and Saint Thomas' Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Love Learn and Live Like Jesus

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5th November 2021 Issue 5

Dear Parents, Carers

Fireworks Event Thanks

Many thanks go to the PTA, Miss Sharrock and school staff who volunteered to help during the evening to make this event such a success. The response highlighted the strength of our school family community and indeed it was wonderful again to see so many adults committed to providing for our children. Many helped out whose children have long completed their primary years with us and, as ever, this is highly valued by the team.

Year Group Masses and First Communion Y4

Fr Dominic Curran has been celebrating Mass and collective worship with groups of our children and we thank him for his commitment in a busy term. First Holy Communion Enrolment forms and a letter from Fr Dominic have been issued for Year 4 children for the sacramental programme January to Easter 22 and returns are coming into school. Anybody of a child in Year 4 or older who wishes for them to be part of the programme, please fill in the enrolment **NOW**. **The first meeting will be on either Monday 10th January 4.00pm Our lady Star of the Sea or Tuesday 11th January St Edmunds Church at 6.30pm**

Cross Country

The Sefton Schools Athletics Association (founded by this school two years ago) has its next cross-country race meeting at St Mary's Crosby Field L23 2TQ on **Tuesday 9th November 2021**. These events require an enormous amount of organisation to make them a success and they have been such prior to the Covid closedown of school sports events. Ms Pritchard, Deputy Headteacher will always gratefully receive offers of help from volunteers to act as race marshalls etc. You do not need to have a child competing if you would like to help out. If you want to offer any help from 3.30pm - 5.00pm on 9th November, please contact Annie Hoban by Monday 8th November 9.30am. Thank you.

Year 1 and 2 Local Park Trip

Year 1 and 2 classes have visited the Victoria Park today to support them with their Geography and English curriculum. Our local environment with parks and coastline provide a great stimulus for work in school and we are pleased that we are beginning to be able to access the again, What a phenomenal turn out of parental support to escort the children!!

Year 5 and Year 6 trips

Children in Years 5 and 6 have a fabulous trip planned to Western Approaches in Liverpool City Centre where they will learn much to support their historical understanding of World War II. These trips are scheduled for 16th and 18th November for Year 5 and Year 6 respectively.

Curriculum Meetings

Thanks to all parents who attended curricular and parents' meetings during the last half term. I note that parent meetings by Zoom which took place a fortnight ago has had the half term holiday in between but I do want to know that every parent has met with their class teacher via Zoom. I will follow up with my colleagues with any missed appointments / technical issues as each class aims for 100% attendance.

School Football

The school football team put on a great display of effort and commitment at a 0-0 away draw with Great Crosby. The team went close on a number of occasions to snatching a goal and both teams defended well. Well done to all the team and thanks to Coach Rose for their organisation. The next match will be against Forefield School at home.

Changed your mobile number? Have you kept your emergency contact arrangements up to date with our school office?

Coach Rose Sports Club

Coach Rose Sport Camp ran a programme over the half term again and the children had a great time in spite of challenging weather .

School Photographer Visit Monday 15th November 2021

The school photographer will be coming into school on **Monday 15th November 2021** to take individual photos and family photos of the children.

Health Team

The health team will be in school on **Friday 12th November 2021** to administer the nasal flu spray to all the children. You have received two letters about this, (the second of which was a reminder) with an opt in /out choice via a link to the health team. Should you need any further contact with the team to update them in any matter, please contact Sefton Immunisation Team **0151 247 6130**.

Please note Joanne Windsor School Nurse is no longer available on Thursday drop-in session for parents until the New year as she is now involved in the vaccination programmes. The contact number through Prince Street Clinic is 2476354

Planned Works Nursery

We were due to have some minor refurbishments to our relocated Nursery Classroom during the Summer holiday and due to circumstances outside of the school's control, this did not happen. However, we have been given indication by the appointed diocesan building services that the project will start this term. The early years team of teachers are committed to managing the changes whilst works go on and we want to notify you that there will be inevitably be some temporary changes to the use of the early years block. As soon as we have met with the building services early next week, we will have an idea of what changes need to be made. Great teamwork and great co-operation will overwhelm short term disruption and the end result will be improved facilities for our children! Thank you to all the Early Years parents for your commitment.

Reading and Curriculum Matters

Large investment has been made in reading and we have asked you to support reading at home particularly in Key Stage One. Children who leave new phonic linked books at home on a regular basis delay their progress in class We will continue to send text reminders where children have not returned books and we ask you to sign the reading log books so we know that they have spent some time being listened to at home.

We are intending to issue another pupil progress report at the end of term which, like last year, will be in addition to the end of year report. It will focus on the core subjects of English and Mathematics and how are children are recovering in their learning from the last eighteen months.

Staffing

Year 5 6 H parents will know that their teacher Miss Hannah has been signed off on ill -health for an extended period of time and we are all concerned that she makes a good recovery.

Replacing staff has become a very significant challenge for all schools in this next stage of the pandemic. Teaching supply agencies are struggling to meet demand. However, I am pleased to say that we have managed to appoint Mrs Aideen Haughey to teach Miss Hannah's class from next Friday. Mrs Haughey is an experienced teacher and I look forward to her joining our teaching team.

We are currently in a recruitment exercise for Mrs Tyrrell and Mrs Morgan who begin their maternity leave in January and the end of this month respectively.

School Nativities

There has been much speculation about school traditional nativities this year and Covid. When one thinks of the *bursting at the seams* school hall scenario filled with parents and grandparents, angels and shepherds, schools are adapting. It is our intention to have four performances; **Early Years** (Nursery and Reception); **Key stage 1** (Years 1 and 2) ; **Lower Key Stage 2** (Years 3 and 4) and **Upper Key Stage 2** (Years 5 and 6). The venue will be in Church, **not** in the school hall. Date and times will be confirmed shortly by Key staff and we will then inform you of audience arrangements.

K A Loftus Headteacher

A Pritchard deputy Headteacher

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