



St. Edmund's Catholic School

specialist college for the performing arts

December 2011 Newsletter
Committed to Excellence

Christmas Message

At the beginning of this week my six year old granddaughter, Annie, rang me to tell me all about her nativity play and how excited she was that the story was about the donkey that carried Mary to Bethlehem.

When Annie had finished telling me the story, I took time to reflect on the journey Mary and Joseph undertook and the courage and enthusiasm they had to make this long and arduous journey.

As we journey through this season of Advent, let us all ask for the courage and enthusiasm that Mary showed, so that on Christmas Day we can truly meet the Christ child.

May I wish you all a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Miss A Locke

Farewell

At the end of this term we will be bidding farewell to Mr J Keyes and Mrs M Sengupta as they head off to pastures new. We wish them every success in the future.

We would like to welcome Mr B Curd who will be working in the Maths department until June.

School Uniform

With the cold and wet weather here, please make sure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate coat or jacket and sensible shoes.

Outdoor coats must be **Plain Black or Navy blue** – no logos or patterns. Military style coats, badges, jeans, denims, sports and T-shirts are not allowed. Fabric “hoodies” are inappropriate as school coats as they are not water-proof, and they are not permitted in any colour.

Training, canvas and shoes with high heels are not acceptable for general wear around the school. Trainers are for use in PE only and should not be worn at any other time.

If your child has an injury where the doctor has recommended that they wear training shoes, would you please telephone the school to inform us, as they will not be able to go onto the playground for health and safety reasons.

School Uniform

Light blue school shirt

St Edmund's School Tie

Navy blue school blazer with school logo

Plain black school trousers

Plain black leather school shoes

Navy, black or white socks

Navy blue knee-length skirt

Optional - Navy blue school v-neck jumper
(sleeved or sleeveless) with school logo

Church School Awards 2012



St Edmund's Catholic School has been short-listed for the Church School Awards 2012. Open to all Church Schools, the Awards are designed to promote the fantastic and vital work done in the areas of community cohesion and global citizenship; the BIG SOCIETY in action! The Awards are an opportunity for everyone involved in Christian education to celebrate the unique and vital work that students, teachers, governors and staff do for their local communities, for our country and throughout the world. The Church School Awards Judging Committee will meet in January 2012 to select the 10 Regional Winners at both Primary and Secondary levels.

Christmas Concert 15th December

The Annual Christmas Concert, took place in the School Hall on Thursday 15th December. There were performances from the school bands, soloists from Year 7-13, dancers and a drama performance. This was a great evening with wonderful performances enjoyed by all.

Readathon

For two weeks in October, the whole of Year 7 took part in 'Readathon', a sponsored read which raises money for the 'CLIC Sargent' children's cancer charity, as well as for 'Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's charity'. Everybody entered into the spirit of the scheme and the English Department are proud to announce that our pupils raised £412.16: not bad for one year group!

A huge thanks to everybody who took part.

Mrs Pennington

Watersports Trip 2012 - 9th June to 17th June

There are still a few places left for Year 8/9 students to go on the water sports trip. The cost is £450 for a week of activities in Labeaume, France including a two day decent down the Ardeche River.

If your child is interested in going on the Watersports Trip, please get them to collect a letters from the PE department



Certificate Evening

We celebrated the magnificent achievement of last year's students from Years 11 and 13 on Tuesday 13th December. Many of the students returned from University courses after a challenging first term of a degree course. The guest speaker, Fr Jeff Cridland distributed prizes and certificates.

Golden Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome

To mark our Golden Jubilee, a pilgrimage has been arranged in celebration of this special mile-stone. Students current and past from across the Federation of Dover Catholic Schools, along with their families and our wider Christian community, are invited to join our pilgrimage. At a cost of £550pp (payable in agreed instalments), the five day pilgrimage includes air travel, airport transfers, half-board accommodation and entry to attractions. The pilgrimage will run from Monday 29th October - Friday 2nd November 2012 (Half Term). We hope the pilgrimage will reach its peak with the group attending the weekly Papal Audience in St Peter's Square on the Wednesday morning.

For further information or to book, please contact Mr J Devine on 01304 201551 or email jdevine@st-edmunds-dover.kent.sch.uk.

Large Indoor Boot Fair in 2012

Saturday 4th February

and

Saturday 3rd March.

Setup from 7am. Doors open 8am – 12noon

Tables available at £10

To Book please phone

Mr Devine on 01304 201551

or email

idevine@st-edmunds-dover.kent.sch.uk

Yu Gi Oh 2012

Yu Gi Oh has been organised to start at the beginning of Term 3. Wednesday lunchtime in The Lodge will see the start of this new club which has been organised by Mrs Russell with the help of Marcus Heafey Goodbourn in Year 10. Sessions will be broken up in Junior Yu Gi Oh starting at 12.30pm until 1.00pm and a Senior session starting at 1.30pm. We have had a donation of starter decks from Konami who have also sent score pads and pens if the club holds a tournament then Konami will have donated mats and DVD's of the Yu Gi Film 'Bonds Beyond Time' as prizes.

The club will start from Wednesday 3rd January 2012. Please see either Marcus Heafey Goodbourn or Mrs Russell in the Lodge if you would like to join in or you would like more details.

Aerosols

Please ensure that your child does not bring aerosol deodorants into school for Health and Safety reasons these are not allowed to be used. Should students wish to use deodorant after PE lessons they can use roll-ons deodorant instead.

Exam Invigilators Needed

Full support and training will be provided

Various times available during the exam seasons

Reliability is essential - Rate: From £7.50 / hour

Full details on our website, www.st-edmunds.com

or contact Mrs L Nunn

(if you do not have access to the internet)

Any offer of employment is subject to safeguarding checks

Information day and interviews January 2012

Severe Weather

We are writing to clarify arrangements for severe weather. School will stay open if at all possible when there is severe weather such as deep/drifting snow.

Parents need to decide if the journey is safe when severe weather affects transport and/or walking conditions making the journey unsafe. If your child has a disability and/or learning difficulty your decision to take the journey must take this into consideration.

In the event of the school needing to close following eg an overnight heavy snowfall, a message will go out on Radio Kent, Heart FM and Radio KMFM.

Late opening and/or early closure owing to extremely poor weather conditions will only happen if Stage Coach, on the advice of Kent Highways and the police, deem that it is necessary.

If conditions worsen in the school day and parents feel it is absolutely necessary to collect children, the school should, if possible, be contacted prior to collection.

Please avoid collecting children before the end of the day unless you feel their safety is at risk.

At all times the health and safety of students and staff will determine whether or not the school needs to close in the event of severe adverse weather conditions.



Christmas Recipe

This holiday, try using this quick method to make a quick and easy family treat

Ingredients:

- 125g butter
- 1 tablespoon golden syrup
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 225g digestive biscuits, crushed
- 50g raisins
- 150g milk chocolate, melted
- Silver balls/decorations

Method:

Melt the butter and golden syrup in a pan over a moderate heat. Stir in the cocoa powder. Add the remaining ingredients, except the chocolate and mix well. Press into an 18cm square tin and top with the melted chocolate. Sprinkle the silver balls/ decorations onto the melted chocolate. Refrigerate until set. Cut into 12 equal sized piece

Merry Christmas from Mrs Rowarth



High-Energy Drinks

Please note that High Energy Drinks are NOT allowed in school. These kinds of drinks are not suitable for children and can have an impact of behaviour. Any pupils found with High-Energy drinks will have them confiscated.

Young Carers

If your child is a young carer, please contact Mrs Wright, SENCO as we would like to discuss and improving the support available to them.

Student Learning Review Day

This years Student Learning Review Day for Year 7 to 10, 12 & 13 was a great success. Interim reports were issued and parents had the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with form tutors. Many thanks to everyone who helped during the day.

Dates for you Diary Term 3

Wednesday 4th January	Return to School
Monday 9th January	Exams Start
Wednesday 11th January	Year 7/8 Retreat
Thursday 12th January	Year 12/13 Consultations
Tuesday 17th January	Year 8 Art Trip
Thursday 19th January	Year 9 Subject Consultation
Thursday 26th January	Year 9 Learning Pathways consultation
Thursday 2nd February	Year 8 Subject Consultation / Exams Finish
Sunday 4th February	Boot Fair
Wednesday 8th February	The Wedding Singer
Thursday 9th February	The Wedding Singer
Friday 10th February	The Wedding Singer / Last day of term

School

Attendance

There will be occasions when your child will not be able to attend school, due to illness, unavoidable medical appointments or a sudden family crisis. It is important to contact the school **before 8.30am** of each absence. You are able to contact the school either by telephone and leaving a message or via email

attendance@st-edmunds-dover.kent.sch.uk