



# St Edmund's Catholic Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

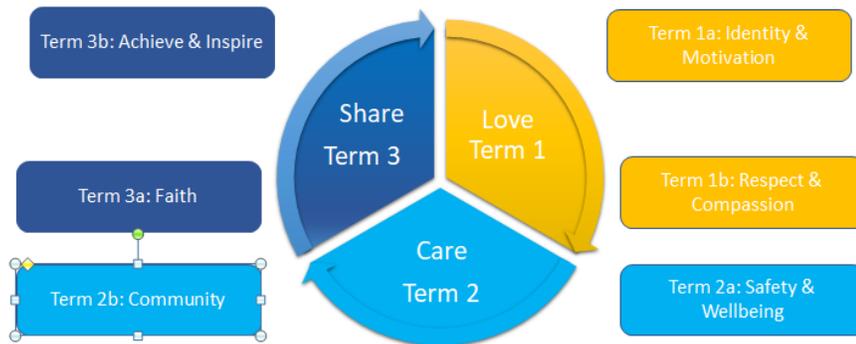
### RE Newsletter - Autumn Term 2022

#### Welcome:

Dear Parents and Carers, I am delighted to bring to you our first Religious newsletter. These will be released termly with the intention of informing you all about what is happening in our school in regards to our religious life and education.



#### Love, Care, Share – The St Edmund's Way:



As I have mentioned in my previous communication, I am an ex-pupil and teacher here at St. Edmund's and the school motto of Love, Care, Share. has always resided in me and has become a way of life. I now want to impart this to all of the children and staff of St Edmund's so that it becomes central to their lives. In order to

achieve this, to bring the motto to life, I have divided its three words into the three terms of the school year. Therefore, our assemblies contribute towards the focus of the term, which can be seen in the diagram above. As you can see, this term is dedicated to 'love' with the first half term focusing on loving ourselves (setting goals, not giving up, making the right choices) and this current half term focusing on loving others as we prepare for the coming of Jesus this Advent and Christmas. I have also launched a special certificate that can be awarded to both children and staff if they show that they are truly living 'The St Edmund's Way' by going above and beyond to show they are living the motto and displaying selflessness, love and care for others.

## **Bishop John Sherrington Visits St. Edmund's:**



On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, we were extremely privileged to welcome Bishop John Sherrington to our school. The main purpose of the visit was to give myself a blessing, as the new head teacher. This was an absolute honour for me and it felt truly special to be granted the blessings of God to lead this wonderful school into the future filled with the energy of the Holy Spirit. The day passed by extremely successfully with Bishop John having the opportunity to meet many of our parents in a coffee morning which was also attended by our two previous head teachers Mrs Hanley and Mrs

Johnstone. The liturgy itself was also really well observed by the children who also contributed by singing beautifully. Additionally, the audible gasp from the children and the look on their faces when Bishop John entered the hall in his complete attire, including his mitre and crozier, was a truly special moment and something I'm sure the children will remember for a long time. Indeed, Bishop John remarked, himself, what a lovely moment it was. You can see more photos of this special day on our school website: <https://www.st-edmunds.enfield.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=3&qcatid=6&albumid=58>

## **Rosary Reflections:**

It was wonderful to open our doors and welcome so many parents into our school to join their children in prayer for the Rosary reflections that took place during October. These were impeccably observed by both children and parents, which, in turn, created a beautiful, prayerful atmosphere. It really served as a calm and peaceful way to start the day. Since these reflections, many parents have asked whether we can make this a regular occurrence and this is certainly something that we are considering. We shall be sending out a survey next week and one of the questions in this will be to gauge some feedback on the reflections. Your feedback on this will be very much appreciated.



## **All Saints Mass:**



On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, we celebrated the feast of All Saints by attending church. It was the first time we have had a whole-school mass (except Reception) since before the outbreak of Covid-19. Once again, the mass was observed outstandingly with the children contributing with their prayerfulness and singing. The mass was led by Year 5 and the children who read did so loudly and clearly. Both Father Noel and myself have received compliments and praise from the wider public regarding the children's excellent singing and behaviour. Well done everyone!

Before half term, KS1 and KS2 separately attended the church's morning masses on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> respectively.

### **Harvest Liturgy:**

On October 6<sup>th</sup>, Year 3 led our Harvest Liturgy. This was a wonderful service in which the children read and sang beautifully in front of the children and a fantastic turnout of parents. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous donations, which were brought over to the church to be offered at their food bank. This is truly appreciated by all in our community considering the current financial situation that we find ourselves in.



### **Reception Liturgy:**

On the afternoon of Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September, Father Noel led us in prayer as we welcomed our youngest and newest children and families to St Edmund's Catholic Primary School. It was so lovely to see the children together in prayer for the first time in their St Edmund's lives. The first of many...

The pictures below show Father Noel presenting the children with a special gift of Rosary beads and a prayer card.



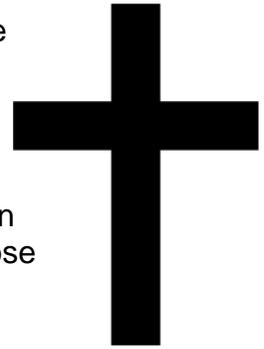
### **Weekly Visits:**

Every Friday, a year group takes it in turn to visit the church, where either Father Noel or Father Walter spend some time with the children to help teach them in more depth about whichever study of work the children are working on at that time. This has been crucial in building the links between school and the parish and ensuring that the children and the priests build stronger relationships.



### **November: The Month of Remembrance:**

As November is the time of year when we remember our loved ones who have passed on to heaven and pay tribute to those who have lost their lives either serving for their country or due to the impact of war, St Edmund's are organising the following events:



- On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Mrs Pearson along with some Year 5 children shall be leading an assembly to remember war veterans and those whose lives have been lost because of war. The assembly will pay particular attention to the 40 year anniversary of the Falklands War. This will be followed by the whole school observing a minutes silence at 11am.
- On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November, Remembrance Sunday, Mrs Pearson will be taking the same Year 5 children to the war memorial statue to lay a wreath as part of the Remembrance Sunday parade.
- From November 4<sup>th</sup> until November 11<sup>th</sup>, our red tie children have been selling poppies and other merchandise at both school gates. Thank you very much for your generosity.
- We have opened a book of remembrance for our children to write the names of any loved ones they know that have died. As of Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, we will also be opening a book of remembrance for parents to record the names of your loved ones who have passed away. This will be found in the school office.
- At the end of November, date and time to be confirmed, there will be a special reflection in order to remember the people who have been recorded in the book of remembrance. A letter with more details on this will be sent in due course.

### **St Edmund's Day:**



This year, St Edmund's Day, November 20<sup>th</sup>, falls on a Sunday. Consequently, as a school, we shall celebrate this on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November. This will include a mass for the whole school at 9.30, which will be led by Year 6. All parents are welcome to attend this. The afternoon will be a fun afternoon in which classes will be having parties and having a snack.

### **Important Dates in December:**

December is arguably the best month in the primary school calendar and here at St. Edmund's is no different. The school will be full of Christmas cheer and lots of tinsel! Also, just like the whole school masses, we are delighted to be opening our doors for you to join us for some of our festivities:

- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 Nativity to Year 2 parents at 2.15pm
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Nativity to Year 1 parents at 2.15pm
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Nativity to Reception parents at 2.15pm
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Carol Concert in the church at 7pm

More correspondance about these events will be communicated in due course.

## Our Mission Statement:

Please see below our mission statement and, when possible, share this with your children to remind them of the ethos and culture that we set out to implement here in our school.

*St. Edmund's Catholic Primary School is a community of faith where we aim to keep Christ at the centre of everything we do. We celebrate the uniqueness of every individual, nurturing them to achieve their full potential. Our understanding and experience of the love of God grows through our way of living, behaving, learning and teaching, which is inspired by Jesus.*

*Love, Care, Share*

## The Impact:

As I mentioned at the start of this newsletter, I would like our motto to become a way of life for the children of St Edmund's. The assemblies and introduction of the St Edmund's Way certificate are already starting to have an impact as proven by the poem below written by Olivia Luscombe in Year 6.



## The Power of Love, Care and Share



### LOVE

Loving isn't just about loving you,  
Loving is about caring for more than two.  
If you share love, love will spread,  
People in the world don't get fed.  
Love is a virus that spreads like flu,  
When you show love it will come back to you.  
Jesus showed love wherever he went,  
When you smile happiness is sent.

### CARE

Caring is about showing kindness and care,  
And about being loving and fair.  
St Edmund didn't give up hope when he was about to die,  
Caring for people is when you hear a cry.  
Showing care comes in different ways,  
Caring can go on for loads of days.  
Millions of people show care every hour,  
The gift of caring is a true power.

### SHARE

Sharing isn't always about giving stuff away,  
It's about giving love in every way.  
You can give your clothes to a girl or boy  
Just a comment, thought or even toy.  
Even sharing a smile would be okay,  
A small little comment would make a day.  
Sharing can happen in a snap of a finger,  
A sharing vibe will always linger.

Always Love, Care and Share

BY OLIVIA LUSCOMBE 6.1

**Final Prayer:**

**As we approach St Edmund's Day, I thought it would be apt to include a prayer written by St. Edmund himself:**

*Prayer of St Edmund*

*O Lord, into Your hands and into the hands of Your holy angels, this day I entrust my soul,  
my relatives, my benefactors, my friends and enemies,  
and all Your Catholic people.*

*O Lord, by the merits and prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all Your saints,  
keep us today from all evil and unruly desires,  
from all sins and temptations of the devil, from a sudden and unprovided death, and from the  
pains of hell.*

*Enlighten my heart with the grace of Your Holy Spirit.*

*Grant that I may ever be obedient to Your commandments.*

*Let me never be separated from You, O Jesus, who live and reign with God the Father and the  
same Holy Spirit forever.*

*Amen.*

*St Edmund*

Please be sure to continue to look on our website <https://www.st-edmunds.enfield.sch.uk/> which will keep you updated with all of the important news, including religious dates and events, as well as plenty of lovely images of St Edmund's daily life.

Many thanks for your support in helping to make St Edmund's Catholic Primary School the wonderful school it is.

Mr Abrahams  
Headteacher