



**ST. EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY  
& NURSERY SCHOOL**

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**Head teacher: Mr P Ward**

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*We carry the light of Christ as we love, live, learn and look after others.*

## **January News 2018**

**Dear Parents,**

**May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy and healthy New Year!**

There are lots of exciting opportunities for the children this term which include: gymnastics, cross-country, swimming, badminton, cheer leading, computer club, gaelic football, netball and soccer to name a few. Hopefully the children will remember to tell you about some of their activities because when they say they have done nothing at school .....it's not quite true!

**Parents' Evenings (Including Nursery):** These will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to use the booking system and will advise when the booking text will be sent.

**School Fund:** If you have overlooked spring's school fund please use ParentPay to continue to support us in this way. School fund is an invaluable source of income for us and allows us to provide in a multitude of ways for the children and we are grateful for your continued support.

**Uniform:** For the New Year can I remind you that the school uniform consists of: Grey shorts/skirt, light blue polo shirt, burgundy jumper or cardigan, black school shoes (no trainers) and black/white pumps for indoor use. Y5/6 may wear long grey trousers and do not need pumps. We have bags of unnamed uniform that was left in school, so please label all uniform. Long hair should be tied back, but no hair ornaments. White socks for PE please!

**Hand Writing Pens:** Children in years 4, 5 and 6 use pens for their written work. Blue Gel Pens and blue ink pens are the most suitable for them to use.

**Parking:** Can I ask Parents to please respect our neighbours – the residents of Packington Lane and Hawkeswell Lane when parking to collect children or when attending school events such as: The Show, Sports Day and Parents Evenings. Parents have recently been blocking residents driveways and parking on double yellow lines causing obstructions. Parents are also reversing into the school gateways when children are accessing the pedestrian gates behind their cars! Some Parents are even parking in front of the school gates blocking access to school. We are continuing to meet with the local council and local schools to try and improve access and parking arrangements. In the meantime, the children's safety is of paramount importance.

**Holidays in term time:** Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in not taking holidays in term time. Guidance from Government does not allow for holidays in term time to be authorised. There is no way a teacher can recreate the teaching time missed and there are times when a subject may not be revisited again for several terms, which can lead to gaps in the children's knowledge and loss of confidence. Please consider your requests very carefully, thank you.

**Attendance for the Winter Term:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Year 1 – 96.2% 2<sup>nd</sup> Year R – 95.8% 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 3 – 95.1% 4<sup>th</sup> Year 2 – 95.0% 5<sup>th</sup> Year 4 - 95.0%  
6<sup>th</sup> Year 6 - 94.9% 7<sup>th</sup> Year 5 – 94.2%**

**Social Media:** Can I remind parents that if they have any questions about their children's education, the school planner or a phone call to school would be preferred, rather than open discussion on "Whats App" or "Facebook"!

**Staffing:** I would like to thank Miss Harrison for helping cover Mrs. Flanagan's maternity leave in year 1 last term. She will continue to help out in different classes this year as the need arises. Mrs Osbourne is due back from Maternity leave in the summer term. We have managed to maintain at least one full time Teaching Assistant in every class this year despite drastic cuts in government funding. This is not the case in many schools!

**Retirement:**

At the end of this academic year in the summer, I will have completed 40 years teaching service. The last 28 years at St. Edward's School. I have informed the Governors of my decision to retire as Head teacher at the end of this school year giving them time to appoint a new inspirational Head teacher for September 2018.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- ✚ 16<sup>th</sup> January - School Mass led by year 5 in the hall at 9:15am.
- ✚ 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Football Girls Y4 and 5 at Coleshill 3:15pm-16:30pm
- ✚ 24<sup>th</sup> January - Dodgeball years 3 and 4 9.30am.
- ✚ 25<sup>th</sup> January - Year 1 trip 9am.
- ✚ 26<sup>th</sup> January - Celebration Assembly 2.30pm.
- ✚ 30<sup>th</sup> January - Cross Country Race at Polesworth 4pm start.
- ✚ 31<sup>st</sup> January - Netball Skills 1.30pm years 5 and 6
- ✚ 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Cricket years 5 and 6 Coleshill 12.45pm to 3pm
- ✚ 5<sup>th</sup> February - Girls' 4 a-side years 4 and 5 at Coleshill.
- ✚ 7<sup>th</sup> February - Netball league matches.
- ✚ 13<sup>th</sup> February - Football 4 a-side years 5 and 6 at North Solihull.
- ✚ 14<sup>th</sup> February - Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15am in the hall.
- ✚ 15<sup>th</sup> February - Disco 3:15pm to 4:45pm
- ✚ 16<sup>th</sup> February - Break up for half term.
- ✚ 26<sup>th</sup> February - Children return to school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February.
- ✚ 28<sup>th</sup> February - Netball league matches.
- ✚ 1<sup>st</sup> March - St David's Day House Celebration.
- ✚ 1<sup>st</sup> March - Cross Country Race at Warton 4.30pm start.
- ✚ 5<sup>th</sup> March - Holy Communion Meeting 7pm year 3.
- ✚ 6<sup>th</sup> March - Lent Mass led by year 2 in the hall 9:15am .
- ✚ 7<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening (Times to Follow)
- ✚ 8<sup>th</sup> March - Parents Evening (Times to follow)
- ✚ 9<sup>th</sup> March - Mother's Day Sale by PTFA 9.15am
- ✚ 13<sup>th</sup> March - 4 a-side Football at North Solihull years 5 and 6.
- ✚ 16<sup>th</sup> March - St. Patrick's Day House Celebration.
- ✚ 18<sup>th</sup> March - Sunday Sacrament of Reconciliation for Year 3 at Church at 3pm.
- ✚ 20<sup>th</sup> March - Netball Tournament
- ✚ 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Easter Eggstravaganza 3:15pm to 4:45pm
- ✚ 27<sup>th</sup> March - Silver Snake - Lenten Charities
- ✚ 27<sup>th</sup> March - Disco 3:15pm to 4.45pm
- ✚ 28<sup>th</sup> March - Swimming Gala at Kingsbury KS2 1pm to 4pm.
- ✚ 29<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Mass at 9:15am. All are most welcome.
- ✚ 29<sup>th</sup> March - last day of term, toy day, school closes at the normal time.
- ✚ 16<sup>th</sup> April - School Re-Opens.
- ✚ 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Confirmation 7pm. for Year 6 children

*With very best wishes,  
Patrick Ward and staff*