

Friends of St Ed's

NEWSLETTER

Spring term I

As we begin this new term we hope that you have been blessed with a peaceful and Merry Christmas, and wish you all a very Happy New Year. We are approaching the end of the Christmas season, and will very soon return to "Ordinary Time" in the Church's year. This is a time when we can take what we have heard and celebrated through Advent and Christmas, and really let that grow within us. Of key importance this year is the declaration by Pope Francis of a "Jubilee Year" for 2025, and officially ushered in this year when he opened the main doors of St Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. The theme for this year is "Pilgrims of Hope", and will give us the opportunity to focus on our relationships, with God, and with others, and help us to reflect on how we can be "Pilgrims of Hope" in our world. There will be a variety of things happening in school to mark this Jubilee, so please keep an eye on this newsletter, and on the school's website/social media platforms for further information.

May God bless you on your journey through this new year, and inspire you to be people of hope! God bless, Rev Mick

Key dates this half term

- 7th Jan 2025 - Start of Spring Term
- 8th Jan 2025 - 5.00pm Year 9 Options Evening
- 10th Jan 2025 - 11.30am - 2.00pm Careers Fair
- 16th Jan 2025 - 3.45 - 6.15pm Year 11 Progress Evening
- 27th Jan 2025 - Holocaust Memorial Assembly
- 30th Jan 2025 - 3.45 - 6.15pm Year 12/13 Progress Evening
- 3rd Feb 2025 - Year 12 Work Experience Week
- 13th Feb 2025 Inset Day - Academy closed to students



Christmas hampers given to families in need in our community

Parent partnership update

We are thrilled to announce that in December, St Edmund's was awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award.

The award recognises how closely the academy works with parents. Effective and positive parent partnerships can have very real and lasting impacts on improvements in pupil behaviour, attendance and achievement. Research makes it clear that effective partnership with parents has a major impact on the learning of children and young people.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have taken part in one of the focus groups, coffee mornings, or have provided feedback via our parent surveys.



OUR SCHOOL HAS ACHIEVED THE

Leading Parent Partnership Award

Developing positive relationships with parents

2024 - 2027



Accredited by  OPTIMUS EDUCATION

Our next parent partnership opportunity will be held on Thursday 23rd January at 9am. Please join us for coffee, tea, biscuits and a chat. To reserve a spot, please email Mrs Letheren aletheren@stedmunds.org

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

WHAT ARE EDIBLES?

Edibles are food products that contain drugs, typically this is high concentration cannabis. It can be added to food through cannabis oil or infused into butter or oil used to make the food items.

Edibles can come in a wide variety of forms such as cakes, cookies, brownies, sweets, lollipops, yoghurt or tea among others. They can look very similar to branded products such as Haribo, Smarties and chocolate bars. They often have a THC (psychoactive component of cannabis) markings on the packaging. This is to highlight the fact they contain cannabis and will give the psychoactive effects of cannabis when consumed.

Due to being illegal in the UK, cannabis edibles are generally purchased through networks such as social media outlets including TikTok and Snapchat. This means that young people are able to access cannabis edibles at the touch of a button.

HOW CAN YOU IDENTIFY EDIBLES?

Cannabis edibles can be difficult to identify. Sometimes the packaging differs slightly from shop bought items. Differences are in the form of appearance, spelling or poor quality packaging. Below are examples of shop bought items and how they compare to cannabis edibles.



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

WHAT ARE THE DANGERS OF EDIBLES?

Often with 'edibles' there is sometimes no immediate feeling of the THC impact. This can lead to people then eating more and effectively, over-dosing. Eating one sweet is equivalent to smoking one cannabis joint. If your child consumes a product containing THC, they may develop symptoms such as:

- Excessive sleepiness
- Fast heart rate
- Difficulty breathing
- Feelings of anxiety, panic or paranoia
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness or weakness
- Poor co-ordination
- Seizures or coma (in rare cases)

In an immediate medical emergency call 999.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Have a conversation with your child/children about the importance of not buying or consuming anything that they do not know the ingredients of.
- Monitor food packaging/wrappers, looking for wording such as CBD or THC suggesting the items are cannabis oil infused.
- Be vigilant to any deliveries to your home address that you are not aware of or expecting.
- If you are made aware of any social media accounts advertising edibles, we ask that you report this information to the Police, School or Crime Stoppers.
- For support and information, you can go to the Talk to Frank website by clicking [here](#).

WOLVERHAMPTON 360 DROP IN SESSIONS

Wolverhampton 360 are offering anyone with concerns about their personal or a loved one's drug and alcohol use the opportunity to discuss this with a professional and get support for the entire family. Drop-In Clinics Near You:

Whitmore Reans (WV1 4AL) – 1st Thursday of every month – 1-5pm

Dove (WV8 1TX) – 2nd Thursday of every month – 1-5pm

Graisley (WV2 4NE) – 1st Wednesday of every month – 1-5pm

Bingley (WV3 OJE) – 2nd Wednesday of every month – 1-5pm

Private and confidential, free of charge, non-judgemental

St Edmund's Catholic Academy

To Love and Serve the Lord

Chaplaincy in Spring Term 1 2025

Liturgical Dates

Sunday 5th January

Epiphany

Sunday 12th January

The Baptism of the Lord

Monday 13th January

Ordinary Time begins

Friday 24th January

St Francis de Sales -

English Dept.

Sunday 26th January

Sunday of the Word of

God

Monday 27th January

Holocaust Memorial Day

Tuesday 28th January

St Thomas Aquinas

Sunday 2nd February

Candlemas

We are in **Christmastide** moving into
Ordinary Time from 13th January

Our Gospel Values for this half-term are

Humility and Gentleness

Livestreamed Mass and Adoration

Weekly mass taking place every Monday in the Chapel at 1:15pm and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday at 12:45pm will now be livestreamed for parents or carers. Follow this link to tune in: <https://www.stedmundscloud.co.uk/livemass/>

St Ed's Larder

The Larder is available to any families in need of supplies. To access, drop into school with a shopping bag or send us an email. You can also make cash donations for our termly food deliveries to our most at risk families via Parent Pay. We will then do the shopping on your behalf.

2025 - Jubilee Year - "Pilgrims of Hope"

Pope Francis has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and is a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. Watch your inbox for events for the Jubilee Year

Year Group Masses

On Monday 20th January year 10 will be celebrating their year group Mass.

On Monday 10th February year 9 will celebrate theirs.

Both of these will take place at 9am in the Arena, with Fr Alex as our principal celebrant.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

