



1<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Re: May Letter to Parents**

We are now into the summer term and hope you, like us, are looking forward to this term. It is going to be a busy one; this term we see pupils across Key Stage 2 in the last stages of preparation before they make their First Holy Communion this summer term; pupils are preparing for exams and transition into the next year group and secondary school.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**, our Year 6 pupils sit their **KS2 SATs**. I congratulate them on their hardworking and totally committed attitude to their learning. They really are a credit to you and the school. Our best wishes go to all our year 6 pupils. I want to thank Year 6 parents for your continued support. Please keep the year group in your thoughts and prayers during their SATs and indeed the summer term as they prepare for Key Stage 3.

As mentioned earlier, pupils across school are preparing to make their first Holy Communion. The Sacrament of Reconciliation just before Easter was lovely. A very big thank you to the parish catechists and teachers supporting our pupils with the programme and to Mrs Gardner and Fr Tom for the organisation of this programme. We pray for all families and pupils as they continue the final preparations for this special sacrament.

*Live, Love, Serve*

Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Brown

St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QS  
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Year group summer curriculum newsletters were sent out to you to keep you informed of teaching and learning, events and updates for the summer term. Any queries you have about any of the information in the newsletter this term please get in touch with your child's teacher.

### **Faith Space:**

We returned to school celebrating the joy of the Risen Christ at Easter. Even our nursery children have been learning songs with the special word 'Alleluia' to praise Jesus and celebrate His new life!

We are continuing to support the Genesis Project. Some of our Y4 pupils have been able to visit their gardens and learn more about how the project grows their own food items. Our collection for the Genesis Project is today Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May. You will be informed of the next collection... We would appreciate any donations of tinned meat or vegetables, laundry tabs or powder or any hygiene/sanitary items. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

We are preparing to spend time to spiritually invigorate our faith in our whole-school retreat. This is going to be inspired by Pope St. John Paul II's message to young people: "Do not be afraid to be the saints of the new millennium!" Please remember our 'Saintly Dress up Day' on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May as part of this. The original letter contains easy suggestions for outfits based on everyday items you may have at home already!

Our next Family Mass is on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** at the Holy Name of Mary at 10:30am. It would be lovely to see you there. It is lovely to see the pupils at church any weekly Sunday or Saturday mass- please continue to do this, it is great to say hello to the pupils.

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Upcoming feasts: The English Martyrs - *Feast* - 4<sup>th</sup> May; **The Ascension of the Lord - Solemnity - 9<sup>th</sup> (Holyday of Obligation)**; Our Lady of Fatima - 13<sup>th</sup>; Pentecost - 19<sup>th</sup>; Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest - *Feast* - 23<sup>rd</sup>; St. Bede - 25<sup>th</sup>; The Most Holy Trinity - *Solemnity* - 26<sup>th</sup>; The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - *Feast* - 31<sup>st</sup>

### **Year Group News:**

**EYFS Nursery:** Five tiny and hungry caterpillars arrived on the 8th April and have been growing fast - we're expecting them to start turning into chrysalises soon. Pupils have been raising money for their class charity Mission Together by submitting their entries to the 'Name the Caterpillars' competition. Pupils have been learning about symmetry by creating butterflies using printing, folding and sticking. Nursery has been having fun playing parachute games using the nursery rhymes they have been learning this term too.

**EYFS Reception:** Pupils have had some caterpillars delivered in the first week of term and they have grown so big already! The children are waiting patiently for them to turn into chrysalises and then butterflies.

**Year 1:** The year group have been focusing on the events leading up to Pentecost. They also created artwork linked to the celebration of Pentecost. They have celebrated Earth Day, linking this to their current science topic - 'Looking for ways to care for our planet.'

**Year 2:** The pupils have been focussing on team work in their PE lessons to learn skills of Orienteering and have been very proud of codes they have cracked together. Friendships have grown and the children have been so respectful of one another. Pupils have explored different Vocations and have thought about the question 'What is Religious Life?' The children have also been inspired by

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local artist Lucy Pittaway to create images relating to the Good Shepherd in RE work.

**Year 3:** pupils visited Teesmouth to support their Science topic- Rocks and Fossils. The pupils identified and classified the different types of rocks then conducted some investigations about the different properties of each rock.

**Year 4:** The pupils, in small groups, have been visiting the Genesis Garden where they have learnt how this project grows fruit and vegetables to help to support our community. The classes are reading 'Operation Gadget Man' and are loving the espionage, cracking codes and finding clues. They also have enjoyed learning about the south west of England in our UK study and learning about different kinds of rocks!

**Year 5:** Bikeability has been a big focus for pupils in this year group and the children have enjoyed their swimming lessons.

**Year 6:** Year 6 visited Eden Camp to further enhance their understanding of the war topics they are studying as part of the history curriculum. Referee Tony Harrington visited Y6 to speak to the children about being a professional referee.

### **Autism Awareness Month:**

April is Autism Awareness but on May 3<sup>rd</sup> we have dedicated this day to celebrate Autism Awareness. Mrs Harris Matthews has sent a letter to you informing you of this. The pupils have been invited to wear own blue clothes- it will be a non-uniform day.

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As we head into the final term, please be reminded of **Leave of Absence** during term time- the notice below- plus a reminder regarding parking.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006**

Amendments to the 2006 Regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Headteachers should determine the number of days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted.

**Please do not book your holiday during term time or until you have requested authorisation.**

I know that the busy location of our school makes parking difficult at dropping off and pick up times of the day. Please could parents respect the local resident's parking spaces when parking in the vicinity of the school.

May I remind you that the school car park is for staff only.

For Nursery parents only, and in the interests of health and safety, please be reminded that when dropping off or collecting children from Nursery that you use the footpath through the small gate to enter Nursery. To keep your child safe, please do not walk through the school car park. Thanking you in advance.

**For Nursery parents only-** a reminder that Nursery will be closed on **Thursday 2nd May** for the Combined Elections.

**A reminder that the whole school will be closed for the Bank Holiday 6th May.**

**KS2 SATs- year 6 pupils: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May-Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

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**Year 1: Statutory Phonics Screening Check will take place Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June-Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June with all Year 1 pupils.**

**Year 4: Multiplication Tables Check will take place Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June-Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June with all pupils.**

**Breakfast and After Club:**

Please remember the following:

- that all bookings must be made prior to the day of sessions needed.
- payment must be made at the time of booking.
- children must be collected **before 4.30pm or prompt at 4.30pm** if this is your preferred session or collected **before 6pm or prompt at 6pm** if this is your preferred session. After school provision closes at 6pm; we should not have any pupils after 6pm, this links with safeguarding. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, please can you keep in your prayers all our families who, so far, this academic year have experienced and are still experiencing bereavement, sickness and sadness in their lives. Thinking of you all-you are constantly in our thoughts.

As always thank you for your support- much appreciated. I shall be in touch before we break up for half term on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Best wishes,  
Mrs M.D. Brown

**Executive Headteacher**

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