



May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

What a quick and productive half term it has turned out to be from pupils completing tests in school- fingers crossed for you for great results- to pupil voice decisions and discussions; parent Stay and Pray sessions and finally a wonderful two-day retreat with pupils and staff reflecting together - A great way to end the half term!

**A quick reminder that school breaks up Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May; pupils return Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.**

**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.**

Please make sure you are aware of the above notice regarding term time requests.

*Live, Love, Serve*

Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Brown

St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QS  
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The pupils making their First Holy Communion in June are continuing to enjoy their catechist meetings with the parishioners. We continue to pray for you all as you journey into the final preparations for this special sacrament.

I have been absolutely blown away by the generosity and kindness our pupils across school have shown this year. Many pupils support one another in class, support and encourage friendships during breaktimes, give kind words of advice to their peers, produce prayers and thoughtful words to help others and many pupils want to lead and support initiatives of their own for the community.

Children plan their own ideas for fundraising, organise the event, carry these out (whether in school or out of school), raise funds and then plan what to do next with the funds. I have to tell you they keep very quiet about it!! They are so modest and unassuming when discussing with me the outcomes of their ideas. I say it all the time, but what a credit they are to you and the school.

The PTA members are looking for more parents to join their successful group. It would be great for you as parents (if you are available) to support us with the organisation of the events for the children, especially for the final half term and indeed moving forward to the Autumn term 2024.

This half term I have met with some of the pupil leadership groups. The discussions have been very informative and the pupils have expressed their delight with all going on in school. They have spoken to visitors in school and these visitors have spoken about how confident, articulate and above all, happy and safe the pupils feel they are. The pupils have been discussing their vision for next academic year.

Many competitions are being planned for next half term. I want to congratulate the children who have taken part in this half term's competitions.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all our year 6 pupils who are preparing for their final half term in St Edward's and their transition into secondary school. They are a joy to teach and their secondary schools are lucky to be welcoming them in September but until then.... let's make this final half term a wonderful one of many happy memories.

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**School Uniform:** School uniform will not change- there will be another letter on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June with reminders outlining what the uniform consists of for September 2024. However, what is changing is the provider. 'Ross' unfortunately will no longer be providing the uniform, so after much research and discussion the company 'Lollipops' will. You will find their prices very competitive. The company will be sending samples of the uniform for you to see w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> June and they have assured us that the uniform will be ready for September.

We are proposing for September 2024 a slight change from white t-shirts for PE to **navy t-shirts**. Therefore, the PE kit would consist of **navy t-shirt**, usual navy shorts, (navy tracksuit bottoms in winter) and a navy hoodie (if needed). Lollipops do provide navy t-shirts, again these will be part of the samples from 3<sup>rd</sup> June, but you do not need to purchase from the company should you not wish to do so.

The children are allowed to come to school in their PE kits on the day for PE so by wearing a navy T-shirt, it would be consistent with the usual day to day school uniform and continue our high standards and expectations across school.

As always, we would have a transition period if you have already bought white t-shirts. More details in a Uniform letter Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June explaining all the information regarding 'Lollipops' and we would welcome your views regarding the change of the PE t-shirt before making changes. Thanking you in advance of your support.

The two-day retreat was absolutely wonderful. The classes 'Secret Mission' consisted of newsletters, liturgical dance, prayer, singing...the list goes on. Each child decorated a candle and dressed as saints or inspirational people- many chose you! Each child had an individual art task to complete. Just wonderful! Thank you, Mrs Gardner, for the huge organisation of this- we are truly grateful.

As always, please keep in your prayers and thoughts those in our community and the local area experiencing sadness, bereavement and illness at this particular time and I would like thank you to you as parents for your support and kindness

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during the academic year so far and look forward to working with you all in the next half term.

I wish you a very happy, safe and relaxing holiday with your family and friends.

Until Monday 3rd June when we return, please take care.

Mrs M Brown  
**Executive Headteacher**

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