



28th January 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Here we are... almost half way through the first term of 2025! The pupils have settled back into school very well since the Christmas break. Great to see!

This is just a short letter to inform you of important dates for your diaries and more importantly updates and gentle reminders of the procedures/systems in school so that together we keep your child safe and happy with the start of a new year!

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. NPCAT is monitoring the attendance alongside the school. Please ensure your child is in school every day and punctual. Gates close at 8.50am.

Live, Love, Serve

Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Brown

St Edward's Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QS
Tel: 01642 819507 | Email: enquiries@stedwards.npcat.org.uk | Website: stedwards.npcat.org.uk

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Dates for your Diaries:

Parent Consultations: More details later

Tuesday 18th February: 9am-6pm-Y3 and Y4

Wednesday 19th February: 9am-6pm-Reception, Y1 and Y2

Thursday 20th February: 9am-6pm-Y5 and Y6

KS2 SATs test week for Y6:

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May

Phonics Check Week for Y1 (and some pupils in Y2):

Monday 9th June - Friday 13th June

KS1 Teacher Assessment's administration begins in May for the whole month

Multiplication Tables Checking assessment for Y4 pupils

Monday June 2nd- Friday June 13th

We will keep you informed of any changes to the above information

Important reminders:

A few pupils are wearing earrings for school...jewellery should not be worn due to Health and Safety reasons. This is stated in the NPCAT and School Uniform policy. This policy is on the website for you to read.

We have been informed that a few pupils are wearing **watches with cameras**. Please be aware that should the watch be worn in school, the watch will be confiscated and collected at the end of the day to take home. Perhaps it would best if the watch stays at home on school days. This is safeguarding your children. If any other type of watch is worn, please ensure your child is not wearing their watch on PE days. This again is stated in the Uniform Policy. Many thanks for your support.

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Please ensure your children, especially the EYFS and KS1 pupils, are with you at all times when exiting the school premises across the KS2 playground.

A reminder that parking is not allowed in the curial car park. This is a private car park for the diocese. Similarly, the school car park is for staff only.

Please be aware of the apps and games online your children are accessing on iPad's or mobile phones. In school, during lessons and in particular Safer Internet Day which will be held on February 11th, the pupils are constantly made aware of the importance of online safety. Together we can make sure your child is aware of all the dangers regarding online activity in this ever-changing world of technology. The theme for Safer Internet Day is: 'Too good to be true...Protecting yourself and others from scams online.'

We have been recently developing further our 'Culture of Excellence' with regard to assertive discipline and positive recognition; routines and procedures in school and tweaks to the behaviour procedures/rewards to ensure the pupils understand and remember what the expectations are and have always been in school, in the classroom, accessing the inside and outside environment and what is expected of each other.

The pupils are always well behaved, extremely well-mannered and polite and this has, over the years, been commented on. Since returning, I have noticed a calm environment with high expectations evidenced across each Key Stage, pupils being supportive of one another and working and playing together as a team. Well done to all pupils! They are mature, friendly and eager to learn.

Please encourage your children to discuss with you what is expected in school so this continues as the term progresses.

You will receive the curriculum spring term newsletter from your child's year group. Please take a note of the curriculum content and coverage; any information you need regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

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A reminder that Stay and Pray sessions continue to be organised for you this term and next term. Please see the website for the times and dates of these. We have organised our next Family Mass for **Sunday 2nd February at 10.30am at The Holy Name of Mary. It would be wonderful to see you and the children there.**

Letters to you will be sent through email. The letters will also be uploaded onto our website in the parent's section and on latest news. Please check daily for any updates. Classes will post events and activities of school life on Facebook too so look out for these. If you would like a hard copy of the letter, please just inform the school office and it can be sent home with your child.

A warm welcome to the Nursery parents and pupils beginning their journey with us in St Edward's. The pupils started Nursery at the beginning of January and have settled really well, I have to say!

I wish to congratulate Mr and Mrs Melvin (nee Miss Maltby) on their marriage which took place during the Christmas break. Many best wishes for the future and huge congratulations from us all.

Thank you for your support with the arrangements for exiting school on Friday 24th January due to the extreme weather conditions. I have to say the pupils were exemplary and coped really well with the change in some of the structures and systems of the school day. A credit to you and the school.

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ST EDWARD'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded PGQM for our work with Geography in school.

Please see the comments from DfE Regional Director, North East, Katherine Cowell in a letter of congratulations we received at the end of December.

Dear Mrs Brown Re: Gold Primary Geography Quality Mark - St Edward's Catholic Primary School

I was delighted to be informed recently that St Edward's Catholic Primary School was one of only 103 schools across the country to have been awarded the Gold Primary Geography Quality Mark by the Geographical Association. I recognise the hard work that has gone into achieving this. Thank you for all the effort that you, your staff and pupils at St Edward's have put into achieving the award. Please pass on my warmest congratulations. I am copying this letter to Hugh Hegarty at Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust.

Wonderful news and comments indeed!

Finally, please as always keep in your thoughts any families experiencing bereavement, illness or generally difficult times. Many thanks for this.

May your 2025 be healthy, happy and all that you wish for.

Best wishes,
Mrs M D Brown
Executive Headteacher

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