



Dear Parents /Guardians,

December 2025

We now end on a very busy but productive Autumn term... I would like to thank you very much for your continued support. Thinking back to September when the pupils started their transition in to school, who would have thought it would pass by so quickly! Here we are now ready to relax, reflect this Christmastime, prepare for the new year of 2026 and indeed for a whole new academic spring term. All in all, a very busy but successful term/year and long may it continue!

This letter today is to inform you of a couple of updates:

**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  
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## **Parking Notice- important updates**

I know that the busy location of our school makes parking difficult at dropping off and pick up times of the day.

The residents of a road near school have made me aware that parents are parking over their driveways. Please could parents respect the local resident's homes when parking in the vicinity of the school. Please do not block their drives.

A reminder that the **school car park is for staff only** and for deliveries.

## **Teaching and Learning (T&L)**

A great term's work and indeed year's work with teaching and learning. Our curriculum is knowledge rich and sequential which allows for progression throughout the year ensuring gaps are closing. You will receive the spring term curriculum newsletter when we return in January. If you have any queries about the curriculum, do please get in touch with your class teacher who will only be too happy to discuss this with you.

Pupils from our leadership groups have been very busy this term and again this academic year. With our mature and hardworking Head Girl and Head Boy, Iris and George, the pupils met with one of our governors yesterday. All pupils were and continue to be incredibly articulate and are very sure of the strengths of school and next steps to further develop. Well done to all pupils involved in leading groups and well done when speaking with our governor.... he was very impressed.

The performances in school and church were truly magical. The singing, reflections, prayers and dancing were inspirational and just beautiful! Nursery pupils were a delight! Considering their age they did well!! All performances allowed us, for a short time, to forget about the rush of Christmas and absorb the innocence and pride of the children in each year group telling us how to prepare for Jesus' birth in the most wonderful way. Lots of positive comments and praise for all involved. The hall and church were busy with very proud families...thank you for your support. Well done to our pupils and staff.

Talking of your support, I am blessed to have such generous families! You have helped the pupils fundraise for many causes- Iris and George organised the 'Winter Warming'- donations of clothing were requested and you provided so many!! Iris and George were able to donate 12 large bags to the Genesis Project and the Salvation Army.

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Cause Hampers were amazing- you donated so many items; over 60 hampers were sent to the community! There have been so many fundraising events led by the pupils that it would be impossible to name them all. Your children are so thoughtful, kind and considerate and your generosity is amazing. Huge thanks to you all.

As I finish this letter, can I take this opportunity to ask you to think of all our families in the school and parish community who are going through difficult times at present and to keep them in your prayers and hearts in the run up to Christmas. Thank you.

### Dates

Just a reminder that school breaks up for the end of term **today Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** at the usual time of 3.10pm.

There is a training day on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January therefore school will be closed to pupils. The pupils **return on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

I would like to wish you a safe, peaceful and relaxing Christmas with your family and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Best wishes for 2026.

Mrs M Brown

**Executive Headteacher**

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