



ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC FIRST SCHOOL

Parsonage Lane, Windsor, SL4 5EN

'We See Jesus in Everything We Do'

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19th December 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

Advent is a very special and important time in our school year, as we prepare our hearts for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. It has been wonderful to see the children fully embracing this season through their faith, their learning, their artwork, and their many talented performances of acting, singing and dancing – not to mention their glorious purple and pink attire on Mondays!

The staff and I are incredibly proud of every single child for their hard work and commitment in the recent productions of Whoopsy A Daisy Angel, Boogie Woogie Nativity, Year 1's Carols in the Courtyard, and our traditional Key Stage 2 Carol Concert. From our youngest children to our oldest, they all shone brightly, performing with confidence, joy and enthusiasm. Well done to them all.

Advent Penitential



This week, our Key Stage 2 children took part in a special Advent Penitential Service led by Father David, Father Liam from St Edmund Campion, and our wonderful Faith Friends.

A penitential service is a time of prayer and reflection, allowing us to pause, consider the choices we make, say sorry for times when we may not have shown love or kindness, and prepare our hearts for Christmas. It reminds us of the true message of Advent: hope, peace and new beginnings.

Father David commented on how impressed he was with the children, noting how focused, respectful and reflective they were throughout the service. We are extremely proud of the reverence they showed during this important time of preparation for the birth of Jesus.



End of Term Mass

Canon David celebrated a lovely end of term mass with us this morning. Please take note of the Mass times for Christmas below – I am sure Fr David would love to see you there!

Sunday 21st December – 4th Sunday of Advent

- St Mark's, (Dedworth Road SL4 4JS) 9:30am
- St Edward's (Alma Road SL4 3HJ) 11:00am

Christmas Eve Masses

- St Edward's 18:00pm (carols from 17:30pm)
- St Edward's 22:00 (carols from 21:30pm)

Christmas Day

- St Mark's 9:30am
- St Edward's 11:00am

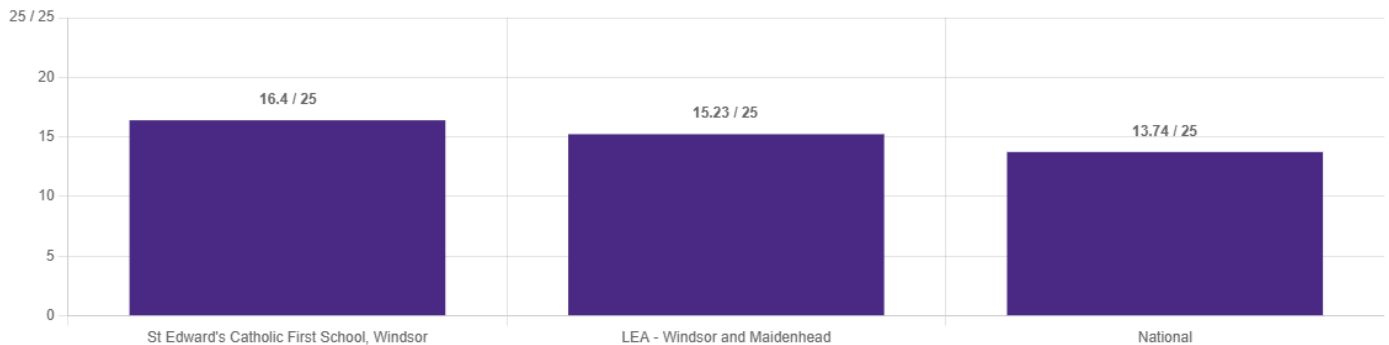
PE Kits

From the start of the Spring Term, we will be trialling a small change to our daily routine. Children will be asked to come to school each day in full school uniform and bring their PE kit into school in a separate bag.

On PE days, children will change into their PE kit in school for their lesson and then change back into their uniform afterwards. This trial aims to maintain a smart school appearance while ensuring children remain comfortable and ready for physical activity. Thank you for your continued support.

Fledglings parents are asked to note that from January, children should continue to wear their PE kit to school on Fridays. PE kits can be ordered online and should include black shorts, a white T-shirt, plimsolls or trainers, and a plain black tracksuit (no hood or zip) for outdoor lessons. Please ensure all items are clearly named.

Times Tables



As a school, we continue to prioritise the teaching and learning of times tables to ensure strong mathematical foundations. I am delighted to share the excellent results from our recent times tables assessment.

Our Year 4 pupils outperformed both borough and national averages, which is a fantastic achievement. We are incredibly proud of our bright sparks and of the dedication shown by both pupils and staff.



Pantomime



The children had a magical time watching the Aladdin pantomime. From the very beginning, they were completely captivated by the colourful performance, joining in enthusiastically with the audience participation and laughing along throughout.

It wasn't just the children who enjoyed the experience – our staff had great fun too, especially when they became part of the performance, much to the children's delight! It was a truly joyful shared experience that created lasting memories.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have already paid to cover the cost of the pantomime.

If you have not yet done so, we would appreciate your support in completing this payment.

Christmas Jumper Day



We thoroughly enjoyed a wonderfully festive Christmas Jumper Day this week, which coincided with our pantomime visit and Christmas lunch. The school was filled with colour, sparkle and festive cheer.

Thank you for your generous donations to Save the Children; your kindness is very much appreciated. The payment is still live if anyone has forgotten!

Fledglings' Nativity



A huge congratulations to our Fledglings and their staff for a fantastic Boogie Woogie Nativity. The children sang, danced and performed with such enthusiasm and confidence, and we are immensely proud of the effort they put into making the performance so special. Thank you to all families who came to support them. Your encouragement meant so much to the children and helped make the occasion truly memorable.

Y1 Carols in the Courtyard



A huge congratulations and thank you to all of our Year 1 children and staff for a truly beautiful Carols in the Courtyard. The children performed beautifully, singing with joy and speaking with such confidence—it was a delight to watch. Their hard work and enthusiasm shone through and made the occasion very special for everyone who attended. Thank you also to the Year 1 staff for their dedication and support in creating such a memorable celebration. What a wonderful way to share the spirit of the season!

KS2 Christmas Carol Service



A heartfelt thank you to all of our Key Stage 2 children for a wonderful Carol Concert Service. This is always one of my favourite events at St Edward's, and once again it did not disappoint. The children sang beautifully, spoke with confidence and behaved impeccably, acting as true ambassadors for our school. I am incredibly proud of them and grateful that we can share such a meaningful celebration with our wider community.

Christmas Lunch



The children all thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas lunch this week, which was a truly festive and joyful occasion. A huge thank you to Wilson Jones for providing a delicious spread that everyone loved. We are also very grateful to our dedicated staff team who worked so hard to manage and serve the dinners, ensuring everything ran smoothly. Thank you to Browns' in Windsor for kindly donating crackers for the children to enjoy, adding an extra sparkle to the day. Most importantly, well done to all of the children for their excellent behaviour and impeccable manners—you made the lunchtime a pleasure for everyone.



Y4 Christmas Carols at Mountbatten Grange



A big thank you to our wonderful Year 4 children who visited Mountbatten Grange Care Home to share Christmas carols. The children behaved beautifully and were a credit to our school, impressing everyone with their lovely singing, polite manners and warm smiles. The nurses and staff praised the children for being so courteous and joyful, and it was clear how much their visit meant to the residents. Savannah summed it up perfectly when she said she felt happy to be able to bring some joy to the elderly this Christmas. We are very proud of you all for spreading kindness and festive cheer in our community.

Thank you!

Mrs Reston, Mrs Lansley, our Gardening Club, and I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Leone family for kindly covering the cost of the broken greenhouse panel. Your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated.

Reflection

As we come to the end of the calendar year, we can look back and see that 2025 has been another truly successful year for St Edward's First School. Aside from all the recent productions and performances, our children have worked really hard and have achieved so much.

My thanks, and those of the children, must go to all the fantastic, hardworking (and currently very tired) members of staff: teaching, support, administration, lunchtime cover, cleaners and kitchen, all of whom show such dedication and commitment to all the children. We are very lucky to have them.

Thanks also to Canon David for his time and commitment to our school, to the Friends' Association for their tireless work to enhance the education and provision for the children, to the Governors, and to you, the parents, for your continued support and for continuing to trust us with your precious children. It is not a responsibility we take lightly.

Without everybody pulling together, St Edward's First would not be such a caring and loving school. Here's to 2026!



At the heart of our Advent preparations has been living out our Mission statement: to see Jesus in everything we do and to act as God's children and, through our words, actions, faith and prayers, touch the lives of others. Let's all work hard to continue this throughout 2026.

A reminder that school closes at **1:30pm today** and that the Spring Term begins for the children on **Tuesday 6th January**.

All that remains is for me to thank you, on behalf of the entire staff, for your kind and generous words, gifts and cards, and to wish you all a joyous Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.



*Holy and gracious God,
During this blessed time we remember the birth of Your Son,
the Light who entered our world to guide our steps.
May the humility of the manger teach us gentleness,
and the joy of the angels fill our hearts with hope.
Let the love of Christ, born for all,
shine in us and through us today and always.
Bless our homes with peace,
our hearts with gratitude,
our lives with compassion,
and our world with Your renewing grace.
Amen.*

God bless, see you all on Tuesday 6th January,

Mr Keohane & the St Edward's First Team

Attachments

- Eton Christmas Trail
- Chorister for a Day Invitation 2026
- Let's Play Christmas Fun Days
- Super Star Sport Soft Archery Club

Dates for the Diary

School Dates Calendar – Spring Term

January	
Monday 5 th	School Closed to pupils – Teacher Training Inset Day
Tuesday 6 th	All pupils back to school

Our calendar reflects events as of 19th December. We try not to change events but sometimes we have no choice. Thank you for your understanding with this. We regularly update our school calendar on [our school website](#).

