



ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC FIRST SCHOOL

Parsonage Lane, Windsor, SL4 5EN

'We See Jesus in Everything We Do'

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24th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and joyful start to the summer term it has been. Although the sunshine has been a little shy, our recent Easter Bonnet Parade brought a wonderful sense of brightness and celebration to the week. Our courtyard has also been transformed as the tree comes into blossom, adding a welcome splash of colour to the school grounds. We are very grateful to Mrs Reston, Mrs Lansley and our dedicated Gardening Club for their continued care and hard work in keeping our outdoor spaces looking so beautiful.

Yr 1 Visiting St Edward's Church



Our Year 1 children recently enjoyed a very special visit to St Edward's Catholic Church on Alma Road. During their trip, they were warmly welcomed and given a fascinating tour by Deacon George, who shared his knowledge and helped bring the church to life for the children. The pupils learned about what makes our church such a special place within our community. They were particularly interested in hearing about the meaning behind different features of the church and how they are used in worship. A highlight of the visit was seeing the beautiful Paschal candle and the flowers on display, arranged in celebration of Easter, which helped the children to better understand this important time in the Church's calendar.

In the coming weeks, our Fledglings will also have the opportunity to visit. We are proud to share that, very soon, every child in our school will have experienced a visit to our church. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Monsignor David, Deacon George and Deacon Stephen for their continued support and for so kindly accommodating these visits. Their time and dedication are greatly appreciated.



Young Catholic Artist of the Year

The Catholic Young Artist Award is open to primary school aged children, with this year's theme being 'Forgiveness'. The award will be judged by Margaret Mizen, Founder of the Mizen Foundation. The winner, to be announced before the end of the academic year, will receive a cash prize and runners-up will also be recognised.

Parents, guardians or teachers wishing to submit an entry should complete the application form and send scanned artwork to info@catholicunion.org.uk with the subject title: Catholic Young Artist Award. The closing date is 22 May 2026.

Please include our school and/or parish, along with your child's first name and school year, when submitting entries. For further information please visit <https://catholicunion.org.uk/2026/01/young-catholic-artist-award-2026/>

Prayer Garden



You may have noticed the beautiful new statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus now proudly placed within our courtyard. This special addition provides a peaceful focal point for reflection and prayer, and we are delighted to share it with our whole school community.

We are also incredibly proud of our Gardening Club, whose hard work and dedication have been recognised through the RHS Gardening Awards. This fantastic achievement has led to the school receiving vouchers, which will be used to further develop our prayer garden.

We look forward to seeing this special space continue to grow and flourish, creating an even more welcoming and reflective environment for our children.

Happy Bag Collection



A huge thank you to all of our families who donated to our recent Happy Bag collection.

We are pleased to share that the bags weighed an impressive 299kg, raising a fantastic £134.35 for our school.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Our next Happy Bag collection will take place on 15th July, so please keep any unwanted clothing and textiles ready to donate.



HCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes



We are delighted to share that five of our children recently had the wonderful opportunity to visit Lourdes as part of the HCPT programme. This was a truly special experience, filled with faith, reflection and joy.

During their visit, the children explored many important and meaningful sites, including St Bernadette's home and the grotto behind the chapel. They also took part in a very special moment by lighting an HCPT candle, creating lasting memories of their time there.

The children were thrilled to bring home souvenirs, including statuettes and key chains, to remember their pilgrimage.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our parents and carers who generously donated to our Christmas Jumper Appeal and supported our recent Lenten Enterprise stalls. Without your kindness and support, this incredible opportunity would not have been possible.

Autism Awareness Month



As part of April's Autism Awareness Month, a member of our school community is taking on the incredible challenge of running the London Marathon. We are proud to share this inspiring effort and wish them every success with their fundraising and marathon challenge. If you wish to support, please do so here:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/kirsty-bruce-2?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=FB



Under the Sea



Our Fledglings have had a fantastic, fully immersive underwater experience this week, with all of their learning centred around an exciting 'Under the Sea' theme.

Using the story of The Rainbow Fish as their inspiration, the children have taken part in a wide range of innovative and engaging activities. They worked together to create a beautiful class Rainbow Fish, with each child designing their own unique scale to contribute to the final piece. The children also explored the wonders of the deep ocean by making a variety of imaginative sea creatures, showing great creativity and enthusiasm. In maths, they enjoyed themed activities such as counting jellyfish tentacles, making their learning both fun and meaningful. It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged in their learning, and their underwater adventure has certainly made a splash!

Easter Gardens and Easter Bonnets



Thank you for supporting your child with creating their beautiful bonnets and glorious gardens as part of our Easter celebrations.

It was very special to come together as a school to celebrate the children's creativity. KS1 took part in an Easter Bonnet Parade, while KS2's gardens were displayed as part of an Easter Garden Gallery. All classes had the opportunity to view and appreciate each other's work.

Mrs McElroy and Mrs Craig had the difficult task of selecting winners. One winner from each class was chosen and received an Easter book and chocolate eggs.

Congratulations to all of our winners, and a heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part, as well as to parents and carers for your continued support.

May – The Month of Mary

In our liturgical year, the month of May is dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus. During this special time, we reflect on her love, faith and kindness, and ask her to pray for us and our families.

As part of our celebrations, we will hold a Crowning of Mary, where a crown of flowers is placed on her statue to honour her as Queen of Heaven.

We would be very grateful for any donations of flowers to be brought into school on Friday 1st May, so that all children can take part in this special occasion.



First Holy Communion

Many of our Year 3 children will be making their First Holy Communion in the coming weeks, an important and joyful milestone in their faith journey. These very special Masses will take place at St Edward's Church at 10am on Saturday 9th and Saturday 16th May.

The children have been preparing for this sacrament over a number of months through prayer, reflection, and learning, and this celebration marks a meaningful moment for them, their families, and our whole school community.

All are warmly invited to come along and support the children as they receive Communion for the first time and share in this special occasion if you are able to.



Little Red Riding Hood



Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed developing their English work through cooperative outdoor play. The wolf puppet was a fantastic way to engage everyone, and the children loved using the tree as a prop for the wolves to hide behind before surprising Little Red Riding Hood. They are now looking forward to developing their own creative versions of the story next week, building on their imaginative ideas.

Celebrating Success

We were delighted to hear some fantastic news about Arabella's recent football success. On Saturday 18th April, Arabella and her team, Maidenhead Kites Under 8 Girls, reached the Berkshire County Cup Final—an outstanding achievement after finishing in the top two out of twenty-eight teams.

In a thrilling final, Arabella scored a last-minute equaliser to make it 2-2, sending the game to penalties. Arabella confidently scored her penalty, and although the team were narrowly defeated, they finished as proud runners-up.

This is a wonderful achievement for Arabella and her teammates, who have also remained undefeated in their league for the past two seasons. We are incredibly proud of Arabella and all she has achieved. Well done!



Ufton Court



Year 2 recently enjoyed an exciting and immersive trip to Ufton Court, where they stepped back in time to experience life in the Tudor period.

The children took part in a range of hands-on workshop activities, bringing their classroom learning to life. During Tudor Games, they discovered how children in Tudor times had fun, playing traditional games without modern technology. In Tudor Military Manoeuvres, the pupils became soldiers for the day, learning basic combat techniques and working together as a team. They also explored Tudor Skills, where they experienced what life was like for Tudor servants, trying out important everyday tasks such as spinning and weaving.

The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their historical understanding in a fun and engaging way, while also building confidence, teamwork and curiosity. The staff at Ufton Court were particularly impressed with the excellent behaviour displayed by our pupils, which we are very proud of.

We would like to say a huge thank you to our parent helpers who supported the visit—we greatly appreciate your time and help in making the day such a success.

Bikeability



We're thrilled to share that a group of our brilliant Year 4 children have successfully completed their Bikeability (Level 1) last week!

Throughout the day, the children learnt vital road safety skills through the Bikeability programme, including how to check their bikes, signal clearly, and navigate junctions safely. With the support of our wonderful instructor, they've grown more confident and capable on two wheels.

Despite a few wobbles and the typical British weather, every child showed great determination, teamwork, and enthusiasm. The instructors were especially impressed with their listening skills and positive attitude.

A huge well done to all our Year 4 cyclists who took part — you're now ready to ride safely and sensibly. Keep wearing those helmets and remember to look, listen, and signal!

Welcome Back Mrs Egleton!



We are very pleased to welcome back Mrs Egleton, our school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). An ELSA supports children with their emotional wellbeing, helping them to understand and manage their feelings, build positive relationships and develop confidence. Mrs Egleton has been busy developing our Rainbow Room, which is now a calm and nurturing space used for ELSA sessions. This dedicated environment provides a peaceful setting where children can feel further supported and secure.



We are delighted to have Mrs Egleton back and know that her work will continue to have a positive impact on our pupils.

Playtime Equipment




We would like to say a big thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our recent Great Athletes initiative. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to purchase a wide range of new playtime equipment for the children to enjoy.

The excitement was clear to see when the large delivery arrived, and the children have since spent the week exploring and making the most of the new resources. It has been wonderful to watch them so active, engaged and happy during their playtimes.

The swingball has certainly been a standout favourite so far! Thank you once again for your continued support—it really does make a difference to the experiences we can provide for our children.



Sun hats and sun cream

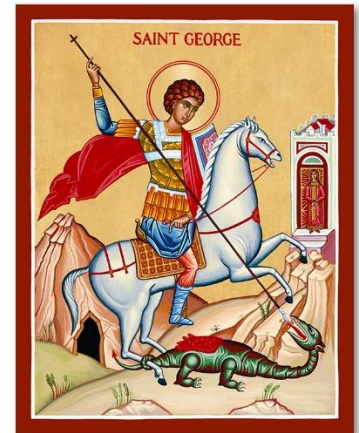
	<p>As the weather improves please ensure your child has a NAMED water bottle in school each day. All children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day (no squash or fizzy drinks please).</p> <p>Please provide a NAMED sun hat for break times and if required please apply sun cream to your child before coming to school.</p>
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Reflection

Yesterday, we also marked St George's Day, as our children arrived proudly showing a touch of patriotism by adding a splash of red or white to their uniforms. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and community spirit as we celebrated together.

*St George, brave and faithful servant,
Pray for us that we may have the courage to stand up for what is
right,
To live with faith and kindness each day,
And to follow the example of Christ in all that we do.
Amen.*



God bless, see you all on Monday,

Mr Keohane & the St Edward's First Team

Attachments

- Christ the King Parish Newsletter
- Families of Faith April
- Ten:Ten Parent Newsletter - April
- The Queen's Commonwealth Writing Competition 2026



Dates for the Diary

April	
Thursday 30 th	Year Three Woodpeckers swimming 10:30am
May	
Friday 1 st	The Crowning of Mary (flower donations appreciated)
Friday 1 st	Year Three Trip – Living Rainforest
Sunday 3 rd	Family Mass St Mark's 9.30am St Edward's 11:00am
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 th	Careers Week Starts (volunteers to share encouraged)
Thursday 7 th	Year Three Woodpeckers swimming 10:30am
Tuesday 12 th	KS2 SATS Week starts (Middle School)
Saturday 9 th	First Holy Communion Mass at St Edward's Church (Alma Road) 10:00am
Wednesday 13 th	Adoration of the Holy Sacrament - 1:30pm – pupils only
Thursday 14 th	Fledglings visiting St Edward's Church in school time
Thursday 14 th	Year Three Woodpeckers swimming 10:30am
Friday 15 th	ME Awareness Day – wear something blue
Friday 15 th	Prayer Space & Time – Parents Assembly Hall 8.30am
Friday 15 th	Five to Thrive Parent Workshop 2:00pm to 3:00pm
Friday 15 th	Icon of St Edward blessing – St Edward's Church – 6:30pm
Saturday 16 th	First Holy Communion Mass at St Edward's Church (Alma Road) 10:00am
Monday 18 th	Walk to School Week begins
Wednesday 20 th	RBWM Road Safety Workshops – pupils in school
Thursday 21 st	Summer DFE Census - Menu Change
Thursday 21 st	Year Three Woodpeckers swimming 10:30am
Friday 22 nd	Sports' Day
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May Half-Term	

Our calendar reflects events as of 24th April. 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](#).

