

St. Edmund's School Newsletter

March 2009

OFSTED Inspection - February 2009

I hope that like me you were delighted to read the OFSTED Inspector's recent report.

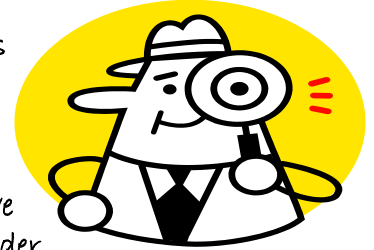
As I hope you will know already, I am very proud of the achievements and behaviour of our youngsters, the commitment of our staff, Governors and volunteers and the extremely positive relationships we nurture and enjoy with parents, carers and the wider community. We take nothing for granted and continue to work as hard as ever to maintain our warm and friendly relationships with the community.

It was particularly pleasing therefore that the Inspector noted that "Respect and consideration for others are central to the work of the school and lead to outstanding behaviour and caring pupils who get on well with each other."

In his lovely letter to the children you will have read that - having previously undertaken more than 300 inspections Mr. Yates said that children "benefit from good teaching, where teachers work hard to make lessons interesting so that children make good progress. The school looks after children extremely well and makes sure that each child is valued. All the staff and Governors work hard to improve the school."

I am extremely grateful to you all for whatever you contribute to the happiness and success of our school and its pupils.

You can see the full report on the school website at www.stedmundswestlancs.co.uk



DINNER MONEY INCREASE

We have been advised that the price of School Meals must increase by 10p per day and regular dinner money payments will increase to £9.00 per week with effect from the start of the Summer Term 2009.

Please remember to send your weekly payments in to school on a Friday morning in a sealed named envelope. 'MONEY POCKETS' are available from school ~ £1.00 for 30. Cheques should be payable to L.C.C. with your bank card details on the reverse.

Don't forget that the School Cook will happily make a **PACKED LUNCH** instead of a hot meal if you wish. If children need to stay for an occasional meal, please ensure the £1.80 payment is paid on the day.



School now has a mobile phone
07748 226 648

&

You can now text any messages re
absence/late collection, etc.,
if you cannot get through on the
school phone, or leave a message on the
school answering machine.



EASTER RAFFLE

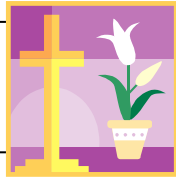
Tickets are still available
to sell if you want some
more for family and
friends.

The draw will be held at
Assembly on the 3rd April.

Please remember to keep your emergency contact details held in school (especially mobile phone numbers) up to date.



Don't forget, we break up for Easter on the 3rd April. Children return on Monday 20th.



Our Non-Uniform Day/Dress up as a Book or Comic Character raised £ 162.00 for COMIC RELIEF.

Well done !

Sports News!

Taking inspiration from Liverpool's outstanding performance against Real Madrid,

our footballers played extremely well last week to finish their league season in fine style with two wins and a draw against strong teams from Hillside, Crow Orchard & Delphside respectively. Congratulations to our lads who have given 100% in every match and always behaved as fine ambassadors for our school wherever they've travelled. With all games now having been completed their final league position was 4th.



Our swimming team were also in action last Thursday evening for the Skelmersdale Schools' Annual Gala at The Nye Bevan Pool. Once again our representatives can feel extremely proud of their achievements.....Several members earned places in the finals of their event with the team finishing fourth overall.

Taking huge inspiration from Liverpool's crushing defeat of Manchester United at the weekend,

our Rugby team played some marvellously exciting, attacking, powerful, well-organised rugby against strong teams from St. Teresa's and Bishop Martin Schools. Although we lost both games I am informed by Head Coach, Mr. Hennigan, that the team played well and that the large crowd were very well entertained!



Parents' Open Evening

Thank you for coming along to last week's Open Evening in such great numbers! I am always grateful for your support on these occasions and I am sure that you will have found it useful to speak to staff and view your children's workbooks and classroom displays.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY DRIVE

We are part way through the first week of our school's two week Attendance and Punctuality Drive. At the end of the second week the names of all children in each class with 100% attendance and punctuality will be entered into a special prize draw and have the chance to win a very nice prize!



"The school has excellent links with parents who are encouraged to take a full part in their children's learning."
(Ofsted Inspection February 2009)



It was helpful to some of you I know, to have members of the Senior Leadership Team from Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic High School and Engineering College with us for the evening. I am delighted with the massive support that we receive from Our Lady's which enables us to greatly enrich so much of what we can offer our youngsters here at St. Edmund's. Staff from the High School come to St. Edmund's each week to support the teaching of Mathematics; Science and Technology; Japanese and Spanish. On Monday afternoon our Year 6 pupils went to Our Lady's to make use of their technology resources in connection with a project which they're currently undertaking....They had a GREAT time.



Key Stage Two (Junior) pupils found Monday's visit by Petty Officer Stephen of the SEA CADETS to be very interesting. The Sea Cadets will be holding an OPEN DAY on Saturday 28th March and you can go along to their headquarters in Tawd Road for more information on getting involved in this interesting and exciting organisation.

"Visitors to the school and visits to local places of interest all significantly support and enrich pupils' learning and enjoyment of school."
(Ofsted Inspection February 2009)



MURDER MYSTERY EVENING AT ST. EDMUND'S

A few tickets are still available for this Friday's Murder Mystery which will take place at our school on behalf of the Parish. It promises to be a really enjoyable evening with a light supper provided (all for £5 per ticket). If you'd like to attend – pop in to see Mrs. McKnight who has just four or five tickets left.

Fr. John Causey will be celebrating Mass at St. Edmund's on Wednesday, April 1st. Mass will begin at 11am. Please come if you are able.



"The needs of the local community are understood by the school and met by providing social events and other activities that bring the community together."
(Ofsted Inspection February 2009)



On-going Improvements to the School Site and Premises

- ✓ During the week beginning 23rd March our new secure Bicycle Shelter will be constructed close to the school library.
- ✓ Then, during the Easter closure, you will see quite dramatic changes taking place outside our Foundation Stage Unit with the construction of two large canopies. These canopies will allow youngsters in our Foundation Stage to make full use of the excellent facilities – even when the weather is not good.
- ✓ At this time too a large *Petal Shelter* will be constructed in the Infant Play Area.
- ✓ During the summer closure our school kitchen will be completely refurbished and will become one of the best facilities in any school in Lancashire!



Other Very Important Dates



Please help your child do all she can to avoid absence during the week beginning 11th May. All (Juniors) Key Stage Two pupils will be undertaking SAT's Tests (either 'Optional' or End of Key Stage) so it is essential that they are in school and well rested.



~

Throughout the week beginning 18th May, pupils, staff and parents (I hope) will be participating in Health Promotion activities... ..



Monday - Wednesday: Smoothie-Making classes organised by Julie Jackson from Proctor & Gamble.

Monday 18th: Y5 & Y6 pupils will have a talk from "Solve-it" which will concentrate on the issues surrounding substance abuse.

Tuesday 19th May will be the Town Cross Country Championships at Our Lady's.



Funded by Skelmersdale Action for Youth: on Thursday 21st May we will have a visit from a Belly Dancer, and each class (and as many parents as possible) will have the opportunity to participate.

We look forward to welcoming our friends from the Religious Education Inspection Team who will be with us for the day on Tuesday, 16th June. More details will be sent out after Easter



I fully appreciate the quality of Liverpool's outstanding performances last week.

signed: _____
parent of: _____

