

OUR LADY & ST. EDWARDS PRIMARY AND NURSERY CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

GORDON ROAD, ST. ANNS, NOTTINGHAM. NG3 2LG

TEL: 0115 9155800

WEBSITE: www.elseacademy.org.uk

X: @elseacademy Instagram: elseacademy_nottingham

Guided by Jesus in all that we do. Together, we are one school, one community, one world.



WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

Welcome back to the beginning of a planned busy term. This term we will host our first formal Parent / Teacher Consultations of the year on 10th or 13th November. Your child would have bought home allocated day and time prior to half term. If your child has a Provision Map in place, their meeting is planned for later in November. Letters with dates and times will be shared this week.

Prior to Half Term, Our Chaplaincy Team & Parish Ambassadors prepared & led us in Mass this morning to celebrate the feast day of St Edward. Help us to be like St Edward and live lives of holiness & service sharing examples of kindness & faith with those we meet.



Our children who complete some of their learning in The Haven were very busy in the final week. Our children explored the 'n' sound, practised sequencing and had fun with shapes and sizes. They also enjoyed plenty of sensory learning — hands-on, creative, and full of smiles! Before we move fully into the season of Winter, children in Nursery have been exploring all things Autumn in the tactile tray! They have been naming Autumn objects and have also been talking about what might happen during this season.

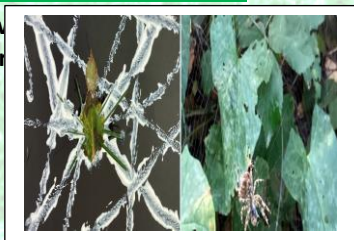
During the half term, we heard the lovely news that Miss Callaghan and her partner welcomed baby Teddy into the world. I am sure you all share our love and best wishes.



FOREST SCHOOL SESSIONS IN ADVENT 2

As you know your child has participated in with Mrs Harrison and Mr Jessop within our Over the half term they have:

- Tested the wind using streamers
- Looked for signs of Autumn
- Learnt about nocturnal animals
- Made hedgehog dens
- Played team games
- Hunted for garden spiders



Due to staffing changes in school, these sessions have now stopped. After half term it will be Year 3 who enjoy these sessions. This means Year 1 will wear their full school uniform and Year 2 wear their PE kit to school on a Monday from 3rd November.

WORD OF THE WEEK: COUNSEL

Week 31 in Ordinary Time Year C

Gift of the Holy Spirit

Counsel

First Reading
C 12:1-13:1
Gospel Reading
L 10:1-12

Haikus Bible
C 12:1-13:1
New Testament
L 10:1-12

Counsel, sometimes called 'right judgement' is the way in which the Holy Spirit enables us to make the right decisions in our lives. It's a gift of the Holy Spirit, a supernatural wisdom that guides us towards what is good and true. It's the inner voice that helps us discern God's will in our lives, especially when faced with difficult decisions.

Pray before making an important choice this week.

Daily Breakfast Club 7:45-8:45

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Monday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Gymnastics (Year 1, 2 and 3)	3:30 - 4:30
Tuesday Breakfast Club	Music Tuition TB Sport: Cricket (Year 4, 5 and 6)	All day 3:30 - 4:30
Wednesday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Dodgeball (Year 1, 2 and 3)	3:30 - 4:30
Thursday Breakfast Club	TB Sport: Dodgeball (Year 4, 5 and 6)	3:30 - 4:30
Friday Breakfast Club	No afterschool provision	

ATTENDANCE SHOUT OUTS!!

Our whole school attendance target for this academic year is above 97% Last half term four classes achieved this.

Each class attendance is shown below:

Year 5 – 98.08% Year 3 – 98.03%
Year 4 – 97.08% Year 1 – 96.97%
Year 6 – 96.5% Reception – 96.62%
Year 2 – 96.24% Nursery – 93.47%

School Matters!



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Week beginning:	School Event	Assemblies/Services	After School
1 st September	1 st Sept: INSET DAY 2 nd Sept: INSET Day 3 rd Sept: School opens to pupils	3 rd Sept Welcome back Celebration of the Word 4 th Sept	
8 th September	10 th Sept – 12 th Sept Hathersage residential – Year 3 and 4	8 th Sept: C.O.T.W 10 th Sept Swimming commences for Year 6	
15 th September	15 th Sept – Meet the Teacher 3:20-3:45pm 17 th Sept – Individual and family photos 19 th Sept – Jeans for Genes Non-Uniform day.	15 th Sept Mass led by Year 6 9:15am in church 18 th Sept Year 6 retreat afternoon 19 th Sept: Celebration Assembly	EXTENDED SERVICES CLUBS BEGIN 17 th Sept Year 6 Information Meeting at The Becket 18 th Sept Year 6 Information Meeting at Christ the King
22 nd September	24 th September EYFS Phonics meeting for parents 2:30pm 26 th Sept: International Day	22 nd Sept: C.O.T.W 25 th Sept: Year 1 Retreat afternoon 26 th Sept International Day Assembly 2:30pm	22 nd Sept – Year 6 Information Meeting 6pm.
29 th September	3 rd Oct St Francis Feast Day 3 rd Oct: Fairtrade Tuck Shop	29 th Sept C.O.T.W 1 st Oct St Therese of Liseux House Feast Day 3 rd Oct – St Francis Hub Mass 3 rd Oct: Celebration Assembly	
6 th October	10 th Oct: World Mental Health Day	6 th Oct: C.O.T.W 8 th Oct: Harvest C.O.T.W led by Year 5	
13 th October		13 th Oct St Edward Feast Day Mass in church 9:15am 17 th Oct: Achiever of the Half Term Awards	
20 th October	HALF TERM		
27 th October	HALF TERM		
3 rd November	6 th Nov: Flu Immunisations 7 th Nov – Fairtrade Tuckshop	3 rd Nov: C.O.T.W 7 th Nov: Celebration Assembly 2:30pm	
10 th November	Anti Bullying Week 10 th Nov Remembrance Day Liturgy 2:30pm	10 th Nov: Remembrance Day Liturgy 14 th Nov: Celebration Assembly	
17 th November	Judaism Week in school 21 st Nov Youth Fun Day	17 th Nov C.O.T.W	23 rd Nov: Feast of Christ the King. School lead parish Mass 9am.
24 th November		24 th Nov C.O.T.W	
1 st December	5 th Dec Fairtrade Tuckshop	1 st Dec Advent C.O.T.W led by Year -6 5 th Dec: Celebration Assembly	
8 th December	11 th Dec EYFS Nativity 9:30am 12 th Dec Christmas jumper day	8 th Dec: Advent Mass in church 9:15am	
15 th December	17 th Dec Christmas Dinner and party afternoon 19 th Dec INSET Day	15 th Dec Advent C.O.T.W. led by Year 5 18 th Dec: Achievers of the term awards 18 th Dec Christmas Carol Service led by Year 3 and 4	

PUPIL VOICE

Year 3 have been looking at how in The Stone Age, people made paint using natural materials like berries, chalk, beetroot and turmeric. In art they spent time making their own natural paints and used sticks and stones to create their own cave wall paintings.



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PARISH NOTICES:

November is the Month dedicated to prayer for the Holy Souls: It is part of our tradition that we remember those who have died and pray for them so they will enter the fulness of life with God. This rich tradition has its basis in scripture, especially in the 2 Maccabees and the writings of St Paul. To remember your loved ones in this special way, we offer masses for the Holy Souls in the month of November and throughout the year. If you wish your loved ones who have gone before us to be remembered at Masses for the Holy Souls, then please make a list of their names and place your list in the holy Souls envelopes at the back of the church. It is customary that a Mass offering is made, and this should be placed in the same envelope.

CHANGE OF WEEKDAY MASS TIMES We have a regular pattern of weekday Masses across our three churches but times are different in each one. From the 1st December (the Monday of the first week of Advent) we will adopt the following times:

- For morning Masses, these will be at 9.30am
- For evening Masses these will be at 7.00pm In addition, on Wednesday evenings, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart with confessions from 6pm to 6.50pm ending with a simple Benediction before Mass at 7pm. The usual weekday schedule (subject to change when we have a funeral) will be:

Monday	Our Lady & St Edward	8.30am - Exposition 9.10am - Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass
Tuesday	St Augustine's	9.30am - Service of Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday	Sacred Heart	6.00pm - Exposition (with confessions) 7.00pm - Mass
Thursday	St Augustine's	8.30am - Exposition 9.30am - Mass
Friday	Sacred Heart	9.30am - Mass

Social Group meeting: our next meeting to organise social events for the parish will be on Tuesday 18th November 7 pm in Sacred Heart Community Centre. The coordination of events is a necessity over our 3 churches, please do come along or send an email with suggestions and any offers of help. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE. ALL WELCOME.**

CAFOD's WORLD GIFTS: their brochure is available at the back of church to order Christmas gifts that 'bring us together'. New products available, please take one home or visit: cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

Hayward House Christmas Fair: Saturday 13th December 10am – 3 pm entrance £1. Thank you to our parishioners who volunteer at Hayward House - a specialist palliative care unit for end of life.

Please pray for:

- Lily Tracey whose Funeral Mass will take place at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 12th November at 11am followed by a burial at Carlton Cemetery.
- John Bond who has died, funeral arrangements to come.
- Please keep in your prayers the repose of the soul of Fr Jim Lynch who has died and whose funeral rites will take place at St Mary's Derby on Thursday 6th November 2025.

This week:

- Community Café at Our Lady & St Edward's this Wednesday: 12 – 3 • Community Café at Sacred Heart Community Centre this Thursday 12 – 3 pm. All welcome.
 - Meditation Group: no meeting this week.
 - Blessing of Graves – Sunday 9th November – 2pm The annual blessing of graves at Carlton Cemetery will take place on this date. Meet with Fr Chris and Deacon Anthony at the Cemetery Chape
- I and we will go in pilgrimage around the cemetery and bless the graves of loved ones and pray for the repose of their souls.

Wednesday Word: Resource on this week's Gospel for children <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/holidaybooklet?pid=MTA101634&v=167.5>

Unlocking the Bible: Holy Family Parishioners are invited to a three session 'crash' course looking at how and why the 'Greatest Story Ever Told' came to be written and to consider in what sense the Bible is accepted as the true 'Word of God'. Is love the key to unlocking the Bible? Hosted by Peter Bruccoleri, at Our Lady and St Edward's Community Cafe', join him on Wednesdays, 12th, 19th, and 26th of November, 6.30- 7.30 pm, to find out. It might just change the way you live out your faith. For further information, ring Peter on 07854704211.

Parish Music Practice: Monday 24th November at 7.30pm at Sacred Heart. You are very welcome to join us.

Advent Retreat: Figures of Advent: Join in for a day of reflection with the prophets, Mary, Joseph & John the Baptist. Sat 29 Nov 2025 10 AM–4 PM (Mass 3 PM) | Presentation Sisters Convent, Matlock DE4 3FT Suggested donation £10 | Bring a packed lunch | Friends of Nano | Tea, coffee & biscuits provided Register: associates@pbvmengland.co.uk

All Young Adults are warmly invited to a Requiem Masses Thursday 6th at Saint Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham 6.30 pm celebrated in remembrance of those who have died. Please bring with you the names of anyone you wish to pray for which will be added to our Mass intentions. Arrivals from 6pm,

HOLY FAMILY LOTTERY –More members needed, £5 per month payable by direct debit with reference LOTTERY – see bank details on adjoining page.

Volunteers required for serving refreshments after Mass; could you spare some time before and after Mass to help out. This is an important ministry in welcoming people to our parish. E: ccen@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Word of the Week: Counsel. Counsel, sometimes called 'right judgement' is the way in which the Holy Spirit enables us to make the right decisions in our lives. It's a gift of the Holy Spirit, a supernatural wisdom that guides us towards what is good and true. It's the inner voice that helps us discern God's will in our lives, especially when faced with difficult decisions. Pray before making an important choice this week



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PARENTAL SUPPORT WITH READING AT HOME

At the start of this academic year, Miss Greenwood sent a letter regarding the importance of reading regularly at home with your child and asked for your help in supporting your child to read at least three times a week. Class teachers have been checking your children's organisers each week to identify who has been reading at home at least three times per week and we are disappointed to share our findings with you;

Nursery- 10 out of 23= 43%

Reception- 6 out of 30 = 20%

Year 1- 2 out of 30 = 6%

Year 2- 3 out of 30 = 10%

Year 3- 11 out of 31 = 35%

Year 4- 10 out of 31 = 32%

Year 5- 6 out of 32 = 19%

Year 6- 17 out of 32 = 53%

Thank you to the families who have supported this. We hope you see the positive impact you are making on your child's progress.

Moving forward, we remind you that parents are the first educators of your child because you are a child's first and most influential teacher helping to shape their foundational learning from birth through their interactions and environment.

Therefore, we request again that you listen to your child read at home as reading is one of the most powerful tools we can give our children—it not only strengthens academic success but also builds imagination, empathy, and lifelong curiosity. At St Edward's, we are committed to nurturing a love of reading both in and out of the classroom, and we encourage you to join us in making reading a daily habit at home.

Research shows that **children who read for just 20 minutes a day** are exposed to **1.8 million words per year**, compared to only 8,000 words for students who read less than a minute daily (Nagy & Herman, 1987). This difference in word exposure has a direct impact on vocabulary, comprehension, and overall school achievement.

Additionally, a study by the **National Literacy Trust (2023)** found that **students who enjoy reading are three times more likely to perform above their grade level** in literacy assessments. Beyond academics, reading regularly improves concentration, reduces stress, and strengthens family bonds when shared together.

Here are a few ways you can help support reading at home:

- ✓ Set aside a regular **family reading time** each evening.
- ✓ Let your child **choose books** that match their interests—it boosts motivation.
- ✓ **Discuss stories** together—ask questions, predict endings, and share your own thoughts.
- ✓ Visit your **local library** or use digital reading platforms to explore new books together.

By **working together**, we can help every child see reading not as a chore, but as a doorway to new adventures and ideas. Thank you for partnering with us to build a strong foundation for your child's future success.

MASS TIMES & LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 3 rd November Commemoration of All Souls	9am (OLSE)	MASS Holy Souls
Tuesday 4 th November St Charles Borromeo, Bishop	10am (SA)	MASS Service of the Word & Holy Communion
Wednesday 5 th November	6pm (SH)	MASS Deceased Members of the Power Family
Thursday 6 th November	10am (SA)	MASS Sr Susan Richert PBVM intention
Friday 7 th November	12 noon (SH)	MASS Funeral Mass for Menda Welch RIP
Saturday 8 th November	9am	MASS Mass HMP Whatton
Sunday 9 th November Solemnity of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9am (OLSE) 10:15am (SH) 11:30am (SA)	MASS James & Rosa Clarke RIP Vivian Clare RIP (12th Anniv) For the People

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER AT 2:30PM

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN BY THEIR TEACHER(S) TO BE IN ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

NURSERY: Imole and Jace

RECEPTION: Jason O and Jesse

YEAR ONE: Leo and Tiwa

YEAR TWO: Maria and Olivia

YEAR THREE: Anaija and Milan S

YEAR FOUR: Eliash and Mlat

YEAR FIVE: Mailany and Sophie

YEAR SIX: Anthony L and Eva

PARENTS OF THESE CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND