

Dear Parents,

The summer term is already busily underway and the school has been a hive of activity over the past fortnight.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Peter Collins to St Edmunds today for his first visit to our school. He celebrated Mass for us in the parish this morning and then took a tour of the school, led by our Prayer group before enjoying lunch with some staff and governors.

We are extremely grateful that the St Edmunds parish have kindly raised some funds in recent months to support the creation of a dedicated prayer garden in school. Thanks to parishioners volunteering their time, the garden is already beginning to take shape and the prayer group will now be continuing the hard work with Mrs Nutt to get it finished.

May is the month that we dedicate to Our Lady and in this morning's Mass, Bishop Peter blessed our new statue of Mary that was very generously donated to the school by one of our families. Mary will now be placed beneath a willow arch, forming the focal point in our prayer garden and we look forward to sharing photos with you once it is completed.

Next Thursday we will be celebrating the Feast of the Ascension and all parents are welcome to join us in school for Mass at 9am.

Having returned from the Easter holidays, we had a final count up of our Lent fundraising money. We set ourselves the challenge of raising £500 for the Starlight charity and we are delighted to announce that we beat our target and raised an amazing £559.71. We have sent our donation to Starlight and we're hugely grateful of your support with this fundraising project as our collective efforts will help to give children and their families precious respite from the challenges of living with a serious illness and the freedom to play and access support for their wellbeing.



Early Years Farm trip

Early Years had a fabulous day at South Angle farm. The children were very excited to travel on a coach and see and learn about so many different animals. They had the opportunity to touch or hold a millipede, snake, stick insects, tarantula and bearded dragon.



They learnt about what they like to eat and asked and answered lots of great related questions. They also looked closely at some fluffy and furry animals, including a rabbit, guinea pig, some chicks, ducklings and a tortoise.

After lunch they met and fed some larger animals including lambs, sheep, goats, pigs, ducks and donkeys. The children were all very brave when touching, holding and feeding the animals and made their teachers very proud by listening to the farmer and being very respectful of each other and the animals they encountered.

Diary Dates

Thur 9th May	Whole school Mass—Ascension 9am
Thur 9th May	Young Carers group with Alex
Wk beg 13th May	Yr6 SATs week
Tue 14th May	Yr1 Felixstowe trip
Wed 15th May	Owls and Kingfishers Banham zoo trip
Mon 20th May	Class photographs
Tue 21st May	Horstead trip information meeting—3:30pm

Worried about your child? Want some advice?

We will be welcoming Annie and Sue, the nurses from OM Health and Wellbeing back into school on Friday 24th May. They will be available to meet with parents to discuss any concerns or worries that you have about your child's sleep, eating, behaviour or general development. They offer advice, top tips and signpost parents to other useful information. They are in school for the morning. If you would like to book an appointment, please email the school office to arrange this.

Would you like to better understand your child's development and behaviour?

Would you like to be able to choose positive parenting techniques that work best for your child and your family?

Find out about parenting support programmes in Suffolk, and how to book a place on a course by using this link:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/parent-hub/parenting-programmes-overview/parenting-programmes>

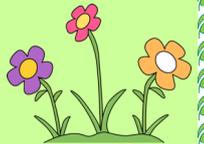
UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



SOLIHULL APPROACH

Calling all garden lovers!

Are there any parents or grandparents amongst our school community who could spare some time this term to help Mrs Vince and the children with the care of the school garden? The mix of rain and warmer temperatures in the summer term tends to provide us with more jobs to keep on top of in the garden than we can really manage. If you would be willing to help, please let the office know so that liaison with Mrs Vince can take place.



Newly appointed Language ambassadors

Please meet our new KS2 Language Ambassadors for the Summer term! They are: Olivia H and Matilda in Year 3, Lydia and Evie in Year 4, Isabella and Layna in Year 5 & Joao and Grayson in Year 6. They have made a good start to their new role, which is threefold: promoting other languages and cultures within school, practising the words of the week with their class in-between French lessons using our Rigolo programme and keeping the French calendar and weather charts up-to-date daily in their classroom. Once more we had lots of candidates for this job in every class this term, but there will be another chance at being elected at the start of the Autumn term.





In action!



Our OPAL play project is well underway and its been fabulous to see the children having so much fun as the play opportunities that we provide for them continue to grow. We welcomed our OPAL mentor back to St Edmunds last week to deliver risk-benefit training for the play team and we were delighted to receive lots of positive feedback from her about the changes we have made to our provision since we started our OPAL journey in January. It hardly seems possible to think we are only 3 months into this project. Our playground already looks and feels so different.



Coming soon...
We will be sending you a copy of our newly approved play policy so that you can gain more insight into our play provision.

