



Last Thursday, we celebrated the Feast Day of St Edmund. Throughout last week, all year groups visited the church to look at and discuss the statues and tapestries that are on display and that depict the story of King Edmund and how he chose to stand up for his faith and follow God even though it resulted in his own death. The children were also retelling the story using a tapestry that is hanging in school that many of the children helped to create.

It was lovely to welcome family members and parishioners to join us to celebrate Mass in church with Fr Sean on Friday. This was our annual celebration Mass to mark the feast day of our school's patron saint. During Mass, we had on display a banner that all of the children across the school have helped to create this term. The banner has been made to commemorate our journey through this Jubilee year and will continue to remind us all of our ongoing mission to be Pilgrims of Hope.



The completed banner can be seen in this photo on the left and is now on display on the piano in the school hall so do take a closer look when you are next in school.

As ever, the children enjoyed their annual St Edmunds Day breaktime treat of cake to celebrate the special day too. Thank you to Michaela and her team in the kitchen for preparing 522 pieces of cake!

## Year 5 Science workshop



Mr Gregory from St Benedict's joined the children in Yr 5 this week to host a science morning. The theme for the workshop was focused on human evolution and the evolution of plants. Within the workshop the children were dissecting a flower using a range of scientific equipment. Some even dissected and then reassembled the flower. The children excelled themselves as Mr Gregory was blown away by the depth of questioning and knowledge displayed by them. We're very grateful to Mr Gregory for sparing his time to come and lead the session. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## Free Suffolk Family Cycling training

The Suffolk Road Safe Team are now delivering training sessions for families who want to cycle more regularly, whether to keep fit, to commute to work or school, or to go and visit friends! The team can work with you to support your efforts by making sure that your riding skills are refreshed, and you have strategies for dealing with road situations that might concern you.

The session will be about 3 hours long and free of charge. They will come to you, chat about what you are trying to achieve, and then work on your route or specific challenges that you have.

Based on the National Standards for Cycling, and appropriate content from the Bikeability scheme, their fully qualified National Standard Cyclist Trainers will:

- show you how to ride with your children so that you can help them gain confidence;
- teach you a simple system for remembering how to deal with different road scenarios;
- work with you to improve your safety at any junctions you use;
- guide you in using your road position to control other road users and enhance your safety.

To find out more information please visit <https://suffolkroadsafe.com/family-cycling-sessions/>

To book your free session, please email : CyclistTraining@suffolkhighways.org

and John Showell - Road Safety Officer (Bikeability) - will arrange for a trainer to contact you.

## Diary Dates

Mon 1st Dec	Annie and Sue from OM Health and Wellbeing in school
Tue 2nd Dec	EY, Yr1 and Yr2 Christmas through the keyhole workshops
Fri 5th Dec	Bishop Peter celebrating Mass at 10am and then visiting classrooms
Wed 10th & 11th Dec	EY and KS1 Christmas concerts 1:45pm
Thur 11th Dec	Rocksteady Gig 9am
Fri 12th Dec	Festive Fundraising day - wear something festive and bring in £1 for charity
Fri 12th Dec	Friends Christmas Wonderland fundraising event 3:15-4:30
Tue 16th Dec	KS2 Carol Service 2:30pm
Fri 19th Dec	Whole School Mass 9am
Fri 19th Dec	Christmas lunch
Christmas holidays	
Mon 5th Jan	PD Day (children not in school)
Tue 6th Jan	Children return to school

## St Edmunds' Reverse Advent Calendar

For the past few years, the staff team at St Edmunds have created a Reverse Advent calendar during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Over the last few years, we extended this for our wider school community to engage with and would like to do the same again this year too. For those of you unfamiliar with the idea, instead of opening an Advent calendar and indulging in the contents yourself, you simply add an item each day throughout Advent to a collection which is then given to a food bank. The preferential Option for the Poor is a key principle in Catholic Social Teaching and it encourages us to imitate Christ's love for the poor by working to create a society where the needs of the poor are considered first. Thanks to staff and parent generosity, we've collected and donated over 1000 items to date. These items will be donated to a food bank in Bury St Edmunds at the end of term. This year has continued to be a year in which food banks have played a hugely important role for many families, including a number of our school families, so we will be doing the same again this year. For anyone who feels able to add a few extra items to their shopping trolley over these last 3 weeks of term and who feels they would like to make a donation, please drop these into the office and we will then deliver these to a local food bank at the end of term to help make the Christmas of others a little brighter. Together, our small contributions can help make a big difference to help other families in need.

Southgate's Multi - Community Food Bank and Winter Hardship Initiative.

## FOOD BANK

Please bring your donations to Southgate Community Centre

**Saturday 6th December 2025**

**URGENT  
APPEAL**

All items to be in date and unopened please.

**Saturday  
20th December  
NEED IT, WANT IT,  
TAKE IT  
HELP YOURSELF  
NO questions  
asked.  
11am - 1pm**

**11am - 1pm  
in the small hall**

Baby formula - Nappies  
Long life milk - Long life Juice  
- Squash  
Tinned beans - soup -  
Vegetables - Meat - Fish - Pies -  
Cooking sauces  
Rice pudding - fruit - Custard  
Pasta - Rice  
Tea - Coffee - Sugar  
Christmas confectionary  
Toiletries.  
Even unwanted good quality  
toys & gifts.



**FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
3:15-4:30PM**

## **CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND**

We look forward to welcoming you to our first ever  
**Alpine Market!**



You can expect Christmas Crafts, Yuletide Nibbles, Hot Chocolate,  
Mulled Wine and more - it's sure to bring the festive cheer!

### **BUT WE NEED YOU!**

For our **FESTIVE RAFFLE**, we need hamper prizes in **red, green or gold**  
colours (*think wrapped chocolate, bubble bath, candles etc.*) to be  
brought to school 1st - 5th December. For our **FESTIVE CAKE STALL**,  
donations are welcomed on the morning of 12th December.



We also need volunteers, and would appreciate all help to make this  
event a success. Please respond to your WhatsApp Year Group Rep  
request being sent out shortly. Our thanks in advance!



**SAVE THE DATE!  
FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY**

**NEW YEAR NEON DISCO!**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

*Helping to raise funds to support learning experiences, school trips & equipment*

**[thefriends@st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:thefriends@st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk)**