

April 2025



Welcome Spring!

Isaiah 61:11

For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign Lord will make
righteousness and praise
spring up before all nations.



Can you believe that it's almost Easter? It has certainly been a busy few weeks, not least with a visit from Ofsted. Hopefully we will receive our draft report shortly after the break and then once approved it will be published. At least this time there was no snow and Christmas dinner! We have lots of things planned for our final summer term, so no doubt that will zoom over too! Don't forget we finish at 1.30pm on Thursday 10th

April. Our end of term celebration assembly and Easter bonnet parade will be at 9am that morning too. On behalf of myself and all the staff, have a wonderful and peaceful Easter.

Class 2 (Lock): We have been working hard this term, and we have lots of exciting things to share!

In English, we've been exploring *The Sea Saw*, a wonderful story about Sofia and her lost teddy bear. Inspired by the book, we even created our own finding tales—our imaginations have been working overtime!

In Maths, we've been busy mastering our times tables and learning all about measurements. We had great fun using metres to measure the length of our playground—some of the results surprised us!

Our Geography lessons have taken us to the coast, with a special focus on New Brighton. We've been learning all about this seaside town, and we can't wait for our trip there next week!

Science Day was a real highlight! We explored adaptations, change, and life cycles—and we even have our own caterpillars to observe. It's been fascinating watching them grow!

We've also had so much fun this half-term with Animal Teach and World Book Day. It's been a fantastic few weeks of learning, discovery, and adventure.



Class 1 (Bridge): This half term, our class has had a wonderful time exploring the topic of "Growing Plants." We've set up a garden centre role play area outside, planted sunflower seeds, and enjoyed a "Signs of Spring" walk where we observed the changing season. We also explored our pond area and were excited to find frogspawn and tadpoles! We also went on a litter pick around the local area. A special highlight was inviting our mums, nans, aunties, and other special females to join us for a lovely Mother's Day afternoon tea. It's been a fun and engaging half term filled with learning and hands-on activities!

Psalm 69:34 - Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and all that move in them



This year our amazing **Mental Health Ambassadors**, Alice and Isobel, have implemented a kindness certificate. Each week, they acknowledge a child who has gone above and beyond in showing kindness to their peers by presenting them with a special kindness certificate.

They have also enjoyed helping to organise Friendship week activities, Children's Mental Health week activities and our much loved Cosy Day. It has been truly heartwarming to witness the compassion and generosity our children display towards one another. This initiative not only highlights the importance of kindness but also encourages all children to engage in positive behaviour that fosters a supportive and caring school environment.

******* A HUGE THANKYOU TO TESCO, WIDNES *******

We are excited to share some wonderful news with you regarding a fantastic new addition to our school environment. A huge thank you to Tesco, Widnes and Groundwork for their generous £500 grant, which has enabled us to create our brand new "Zen Den".

This initiative, designed by Mrs Wilks, has provided our children with a safe and calming space designed specifically for those times when everything may feel a bit overwhelming. We believe that fostering a supportive atmosphere for mental health is of utmost importance, and the Zen Den allows our children to express any worries and concerns they may have while at school.

Inside the Zen Den, we have introduced various resources to aid in relaxation and mindfulness, including a bubble lamp, cuddle cushions, comfy beanbags, peanut ball, ear defenders, new furniture, and much more. These resources are intended to create a nurturing environment in which children can find solace and comfort.

As our Senior Mental Health Lead and Thrive Practitioner, Mrs Wilks is always on hand to provide support. If you feel your child may be struggling with their mental health, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat or speak with your child's class teacher. We are here to listen and support your family in any way we can.



Class 4 (Castle): Our Spring term has been full of further experiences for the children in Castle Class. We have recently visited Norton Priory both to celebrate Shakespeare Week with a performance of *The Merchant of Venice* and to continue to learn about the Tudor times with workshops.



Year 5 have had a session with the Halton dental team to learn about our teeth. Both year groups will welcome a police officer to talk about Cyber Safety just before we break up for Easter. Of course, this term also included the Robinwood residential which was a huge hit with the children that went.

"May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."
- Irish Blessing

Over the Spring term, **Priory class (3)** have been learning so many new things, including: all about volcanoes in Geography; how children's lives have changed in History; and digestion, rocks and soil in Science. We have read Featherlight by Peter Bunzl and written stories and explanation texts in English. We have chopped, peeled and diced seasonal vegetables to make our own tarts in Design & Technology, and played tennis and ball games and learned routines in street dance and ballet in PE. We have also been so lucky to have had the opportunity to go on an exciting residential trip to Tattenhall, where we took part in Art and STEM activities.



Our Junior Safety Officers wanted to share some exciting updates from our recent Online Safety Week.

In Class 4, children thoroughly enjoyed participating in the BBC Live Lesson, where they gained valuable insights about safe messaging practices. Following this, they creatively designed informative leaflets on how to message safely online. It was wonderful to see them apply their learning in such a practical and imaginative way.

Class 2 had the pleasure of hosting a visit from the Halton Health Team. They conducted an engaging session about the relationship between screens and sleep, emphasising that children can take control of their screen time by being the 'boss' of

their devices. This empowering message encouraged them to think critically about their screen usage and make informed decisions about when to take a break.

Meanwhile, Class 1 had an enjoyable time designing posters that encouraged their understanding of online safety.

As we continue to promote online safety, we would like to encourage parents to engage in conversations with your children at home about the importance of being cautious when using tech.

KEEP IN TOUCH AND UP TO DATE

Check our school website for key information:

www.stedwardscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days Absence 1 week & 4 days of learning missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days Absence 3 weeks & 4 days of learning missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days Absence 5 weeks & 3 days of learning missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days Absence 7 weeks & 3 days of learning missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days Absence 9 weeks & 1 day of learning missed	Unacceptable

Attendance - End of Term Totals September - 04.04.25

Class 1	94.12%
Class 2	93.80%
Class 3	96.42%
Class 4	93.43%

Remember that the minimum national expectation for attendance is **97%**. We have many children and subsequently classes, who fall well below this figure. Some families have already been referred to the Educational Welfare Officer. Attendance letters will be sent home next week.

School Twitter	@edward_primary
Miss McGimpsey	@StEdwards_C1
Miss McCulloch	@StEdwards_C2
Mrs Taylor / Mrs Bradshaw	@StEdwards_C3
Mr Bullock	@StEdwards_C4



Parking / Dropping Off:

There is a worrying increase in the number of families who blatantly ignore the zig-zags outside the school gates. Whilst it may be convenient for you to drop and drive away, you are putting other children's lives at risk and breaking the law. The same can be said of parking in front of the crossing points and on top of the speed bump. Please be considerate of others. This also applies to taxis.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Easter bingo - eyes down 6pm	08.04.25
Lock class trip to New Brighton	09.04.25
Easter bonnet parade and celebration assembly - 9am	10.04.25
School closes for Easter - 1.30pm	10.04.25
Back to school, summer term - 8.40/50am	22.04.24
Parents evening - 3-5pm	28.04.25
Parents evening - 2-6pm	29.04.25
TT Rockstars day	02.05.25
EYFS new starters welcome meeting - 5pm	07.05.25
Y6 SATs week	w/b 12.05.25
Parents coffee and connect afternoon - 1.30	20.05.25

A Prayer for Families:

"Lord, as we gather together as family and friends; we invite you once again into our lives.

May the hope of your resurrection colour our days.

May the promise of your spirit working in us light up our lives.

Amen



spring's prayer

Dear God, Thank you for the change of seasons. As I leave behind a winter that wore out its welcome, I step into spring with a fresh heart, ready for nature to take its course. May this season bring joy and light, peace and prosperity, and a spirit in full bloom.



On behalf of all the staff at St. Edward's, may I wish you a happy, safe and holy Easter.