



December 2025



It's almost time, I hope you're nearly ready! Another calendar year has passed and we've just days to go before the end of the first term! December in school passes in a dizzy blur with so much to fit in - and we're not over yet! Once again, our Reception children feel like they've been a part of our school family forever and they've settled in amazingly well. We're so proud of the start they've made and the brilliant contribution made by their Y6 buddies. We look forward to seeing our KS2 parents at our carol service on Thursday and all families are welcome to our end of term celebration assembly on Friday at 2pm. We finish at 2.30pm.

On behalf of myself and all the staff, may I wish you a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. - Mrs Snell

In **Lock Class (2)** we have had lots of fun learning this term! We loved reading *Toys in Space* in English and writing our own super descriptions. In Maths we have been working really hard on our number bonds and getting much quicker at them. In History we learned about toys from the past and how they are different to the toys we have now. We took part in special days like Remembrance Day, Children in Need and Anti-Bullying Week. We went on a kindness walk to the Old Town and shared kindness with other people. Year 2 also had a sleepover at school and we had the best time ever! We have also loved practising for our Nativity and we sang our hearts out!



Castle Class (4)

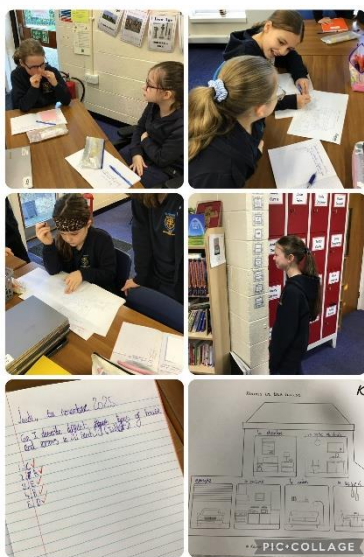
What a fantastic start to the school year it has been for Castle Class! Our Year 5 and 6 pupils have thrown themselves into a wide range of exciting learning experiences. We launched the national *Edina Bulb Project*, planting and monitoring our bulbs as part of this long-term scientific

study. The children also enjoyed an inspiring performance day with Rise Theatre, and later took to the stage themselves to deliver a thoughtful class assembly on *Hope*, supported by Tash from *The B Tales*.

This term also brought two brilliant PE enrichment days, where pupils had the chance to learn new skills in fencing and archery. Year 5 welcomed a visit from the local fire service, exploring fire safety in a hands-on and memorable way. Meanwhile, Year 6 travelled to Blessed Carlo Acutis School to prepare and serve afternoon tea—a wonderful opportunity for parents to come together and share in their achievements.

It has been a busy and joyful term, and we are incredibly proud of everything Castle Class has accomplished!

St Edward's Catholic Primary School



Bridge Class (1) have had a wonderful and busy end to the term. We explored old and new toys, learning how they have changed over time, and marked Remembrance Day with thoughtful poppy activities and a respectful two-minute silence. We wore our spotty clothes to support Children in Need and enjoyed completing some fun Pudsey Bear tasks. For World Kindness Day, we shared

smiles by giving our grown-ups a special Takeaway Breakfast to start their day in a happy way. We also worked really hard to practise and perform our Nativity, and we were very proud of our fantastic performance.



This half-term, **Priory Class (3)** have had fun learning about materials in Science, where food comes from in geography (we looked at some real food packaging to investigate where our food comes from. We found the food sourced closest to Runcorn was a box of eggs from a farm in Northwich. The food sourced the furthest away was tangerines - they had travelled from South Africa! Have a look at your food packaging at home and see what you can find out!)

We are learning vocabulary for clothes in French, writing persuasive letters in English and methods for addition and subtraction in maths. In Maths, we have been measuring in mm, cm and m. We have been applying our skills by measuring items around the classroom and school.

We have continued with dance in PE and learned some netball skills as well as working on our recorder and clarinet playing in music. We have also had great fun learning fencing and new Christmas crafts. We really enjoyed our skipping day with Skip 2 B Fit and lots of us have been practising our skipping outside at playtime and lunchtime. We finished off the term with a magical trip to Gulliver's World!



Fundraising

We hope that as many of you as possible have seen the fruits of your fundraising in the hall! The staff and children are delighted with our new state of the art 100" TV/monitor, PC, sound system and microphones. Coupled with the stage and the library shelving, we are so grateful for all that you help us to provide to enhance the children's experiences and learning.

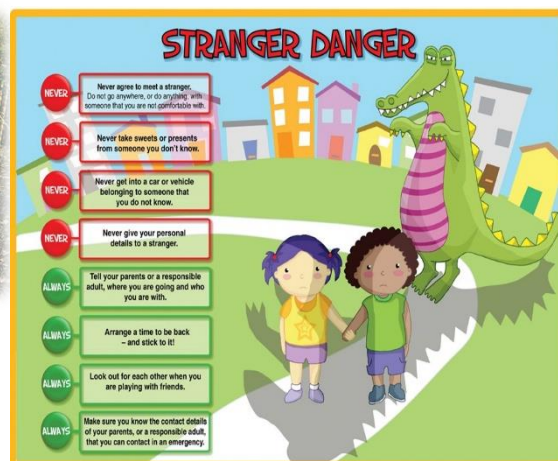
Spreading Kindness Across Our School Community

This term has been a truly uplifting one for our school, thanks to the dedication of our Mental Health Ambassadors, who have been working hard to spread kindness, care, and positivity throughout the community. The term began with a meaningful *Self-Love* activity, where pupils took time to reflect on what makes them unique. Everyone created their own positive affirmation hearts, encouraging self-belief and reminding one another that we are all special in our own way. It was a wonderful opportunity to promote confidence and emotional wellbeing.

Our ambassadors also made sure that the adults in school felt appreciated. To mark *National Teaching Assistant Day*, *World Teachers' Day*, and *Stars in Our Schools Day*, small gifts were shared to celebrate the incredible work of our teachers and support staff. These moments of recognition helped show just how valued they are by the whole school.

Kindness Day saw positivity spread even further. Pupils shared thoughtful notes with their parents, reminding them how much they are loved and appreciated. Class 2 took this a step beyond the school gates, visiting the local community to hand out kindness notes and small gifts, spreading smiles and reminding others that they matter too.

It has been a fantastic term filled with kindness, appreciation, and care. Our Mental Health Ambassadors have shown how small actions can make a big difference, and they are excited to continue spreading positivity throughout the school in the months ahead.



A Term of Learning, Safety, and Celebration

We have reached the end of a very busy and exciting term, filled with valuable learning and memorable experiences for everyone across the school. A key focus this term has been learning how to keep ourselves safe, both in school and beyond.

Pupils took part in a range of important safety topics, including *Bonfire Safety*, *Stranger Danger*, *Be Safe - Be Seen*, and *Anti-Bullying*. Through these sessions, children learned how to make sensible choices, stay aware of their surroundings, and look out for one another. These lessons have helped build confidence and encouraged a caring and responsible school community.

As part of our anti-bullying work, we proudly celebrated *Odd Socks Day*. This fun and colourful event reminded everyone that it is okay to be different and encouraged pupils to make kind choices every single day.

One of the highlights of the term was a special visit from the local Fire Station. Firefighters brought along their smoke tent, giving Class 4 the opportunity to experience what it might feel like to be in a real smoky fire. Pupils learned the importance of staying calm and listening carefully to the instructions of trained adults who are there to keep us safe.

As we look ahead to the New Year, we are excited to continue sharing more useful safety information.

Learning how to stay safe helps us grow in confidence and ensures our whole school community remains strong, caring, and respectful.

"Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come." **Mark 13:33**

Attendance - End of Term Totals 16.12.25

Bridge	95.70%
Lock	96.18%
Priory	95.95%
Castle	94.35%

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.

Congratulations to those children who regularly achieve 100% - we are so proud of you!



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

Golden Letters

Keep your eyes peeled for a golden letter dropping through your letterbox. Four lucky children will be receiving our special recognition award for all their hard work this term - I wonder who it will be? ★

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas bingo - 6pm	17 th December
KS2 Carols & Readings - 2pm	18 December
Christmas party - AM	19 th December
Celebration assembly - 2pm	
FINISH FOR CHRISTMAS - 2.30pm	5 th January 2026
School reopens for Spring - 8.50am	

KEEP IN TOUCH AND UP TO DATE

Check our school website for key information: www.stedwardscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk

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

A Prayer for Families:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of family.

On this Christmas day, we ask for Your peace to cover every heart in our home.

Replace misunderstandings with patience, love, and forgiveness.

May laughter ring louder than arguments, and may our unity be a light for others as we honour You and celebrate the gift of being together.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



St Edward's New Year's Resolution

Just a quick heads up to let you know that in the new year we are going to have a drive to improve good manners. Increasingly children (and adults) do not use a basic 'please' and 'thank you'. We will be modelling this and expecting it from the children. I hope you will support us. I know that many of you encourage a polite 'good morning / hello' at the start of the day. THANK YOU!

Key aspects of good manners:

Verbal Courtesy: Using "please," "thank you," "excuse me," and "I'm sorry".

Respect for Others: Listening when others speak, making eye contact, not interrupting, and being mindful of personal space.

Consideration: Holding doors open, offering help, being punctual, and putting phones away during conversations or meals to give full attention.

Social Etiquette: Following basic rules like proper table manners, queuing politely, and introducing yourself.

Core Principle: Often summarised by the Golden Rule: treat others as you wish to be treated.

Why they matter:

Builds Relationships: Creates trust and fosters stronger connections with peers, family, and colleagues.

Creates Positive Environments: Helps establish respectful, cooperative atmospheres in schools, workplaces, and communities.

Shows Maturity: Demonstrates respect, empathy, and self-awareness, making a positive impression.



Reminder - Please DO NOT drop children off on the zig-zag lines outside school. It is dangerous and illegal