

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

Staffing Updates 2

Family & Community 3

Red Room 4

News round up 5

Yellow Room 6

Under 3's 7

Closing lines 8

Ready Steady Eddie

Ring out the old and ring in the new!!.....

Happy New Year everyone—We're sure it's going to be another fun filled time here at St Edmund's.

We were sorry to see Ann Egerton leave us at the end of December but we are sure that she is really looking forward to a long and happy retirement. She wanted you all to know she appreciated your gifts and cards and that she will be in

touch shortly as she is currently taking a holiday—I'm sure that after 40 years she has certainly earned it!



As you will have noticed the building work has now commenced for our planned extension, please bear with us during this time—as with all building work I'm sure there will be a couple of hiccups—but in true St Edmund's style we'll all get through it together.

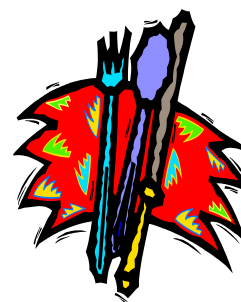
A day in the life of....A Lunchtime Supervisor

I don't know if everyone knows but I have worked at St Edmund's for over 20 years now and still really love it. My working day begins with the help of our Site Manager, Craig, putting all the tables and chairs out for lunch (not forgetting to place all the table cloths on them too!). My next task is to go get some children (as they are very willing helpers) to set the tables—putting knives and forks out. I think the children are enjoying themselves so much that they aren't aware of the learning taking place—helping with their co-ordination and counting skills whilst we have our little chats.



A day in the life of Hazel continued.....

After this the other children join us for lunch and we have a lovely time talking about our morning—it is a very social time. All adults join the children for lunch and encourage them to try everything on offer as we all love our dinners made by Angela and Sadia .



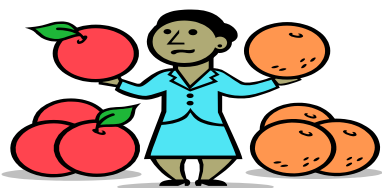
At lunchtime we are sometimes treated to special celebration meals and last term we thoroughly enjoyed our Eid and Christmas lunches—as you can see from the photograph!!

When everyone has been fed and the children are back in class it's then time for the "Dinner Team" to tackle the cleaning up and get ready to do it all again the next day!!

Centre activities— Don't forget we hold.....

Food Co-op

Every Wednesday
8.45am-2.30pm
For your fresh fruit and vegetables



Lending Library

The library is available for everyone at the centre to join.

All the activities are there for you to take home and play with your child.

We have;

- ✦ A Selection of play activities for babies under 12mths.
- ✦ Books and Puppets.
- ✦ Story Books.

Lending Library Sessions

Mon-1.15 pm-2.30pm
Fri. 8.45am-10.00am
In Reception Area

*All groups
of learners
make
exceptional
progress
Ofsted 2008*

Staffing Updates

Yet again our staff have had a very "productive" time and we are very pleased to tell you that two more members of staff have given birth—Rachael gave birth to a little boy called

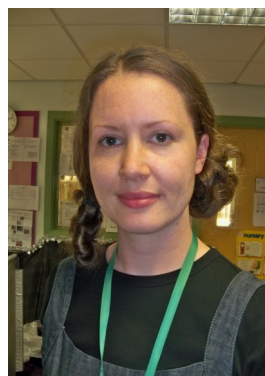
Dzeylan whilst Cara had a little girl called Erin.

We are pleased to welcome Sumayyah and Sam back after their maternity leave. This has meant some staff movement as

Cat and Nabeela, who had been covering their maternity leave, have now left us.

As Ann has retired Lynne has taken over as Senior Early Years Practitioner in the 2/3 room.

Another staff movement this term sees June leave the 2/3 room and transfer into the 3/5 rooms—this is to support the increasing numbers when our new January starters join us.



Kim joins our team

We are pleased to welcome Kim

Roberston to the Additional Needs team . Kim will be working with new children joining the 3/5 rooms.

Family and Community Services

We hope that everyone will be able to join us for our New Year Celebration Event on Thursday 13th January (2 sessions 9-11am or 1-3pm). There will be a tour of the building and different stalls set up showing all the different activities we run. We will also be introducing the other agencies who run things here too. Parents will be given the opportunity to sign up for courses .

From January there will be a new timetable giving details of the new courses available —parents who want to learn more and want to sign up can do so by joining us for our launch on Jan 13th !!

On the 18th January we will be hosting a Dads' ideas night from 6pm-8pm. We are looking to consult dads, uncles etc on how they would like to shape their services (what they would like to see happening) and have a say in what times to run the forthcoming dads and male carers Stay & Play sessions. There will also be an opportunity to become a member of a new Fathers' Steering Group which will formalise as a group to give advice and direction to us and also be eligible to apply for small pots of money to fund further fathers and male carers activities. Please look out for the flyers giving more information.

We have a new health trainer starting with us in January on the 19th 12pm-3pm. She is called Katende Soda . Any parents interested in speaking to her please see reception to make an appointment.

I thought parents might like to see a photo of us all enjoying the Healthy Teeth Week. Everyone involved had a great time and lots of advice was given about how to keep teeth and gums healthy.



Children
blossom
here

Ofsted
2008

Important Reminder.....

School meal prices have increased from 1st January. A child's school lunch now costs £1.30 per day—£6.50 per week.

Red Room News

This half term in Red Class we will be thinking about weather. We will be doing various activities, stories and songs/rhymes about different kinds of weather. A Weather Station will be used outdoors for children to measure how much rain has fallen, how strong is the wind and if the weather was hot or cold.



Our core story will be "Penguin Pete's New Friends". We will be retelling the story using small world props and role play. We will also be talking about friends, different animals and travelling.

Chinese New Year falls on the 3rd of February this year, the same day as our next Open Day. Parents/carers will be invited to help us build a Chinese Dragon and taste some lovely Chinese food.



We will be undertaking two local visits this half term. Children will visit our local shoe shop Wynsors where they will look at shoes that can be worn in different weather. As the core story is about travelling, children will also visit a local Travel Agency as well.

We will be welcoming new children and parents/carers in January. We are looking forward to having new friends in Red Class.

There are some changes in Red Class. We are very sad that Maryum is going back to 2-3's room but excited that Sumayyah is coming back from her maternity leave. She will take over, along with Hazra, as a key worker of Maryum's children. We would also like to welcome June into our team and Sam back from her maternity leave.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents/carers for their fantastic involvement in Red Class activities last half term. Better Together Meetings were well attended and decorating the room for Christmas was very exciting. Another big thank you to parents, grandparents and aunties who came to work with our artist Lou. We had a great time.



The weather is still very cold so don't forget to wrap up well.

General notes from all.....

St Edmund's Parents' Forum now beginning on

Monday 10th January 2011
2pm - 3pm

All parents welcome to come along

Limited Creche places available
Please see Amanda to book Creche places

Be Involved

Help Make Decisions

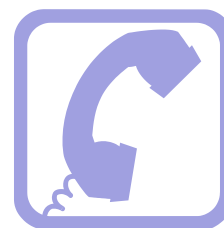
Meet New Parents

Refreshments



We really appreciate that parents/carers contact us when their child is unable to attend the school/centre due to illness—this information helps us to monitor children's attendance—a compulsory duty for all Nursery Schools and Children Centres.

Please telephone us on our contact number 01274 543282— Thank you



This years annual "Better Together" parent and staff planning day will be held on Friday 18th February. Please watch out for further information as we really value parental input into the planning of our school/centre.

Yellow Room's Update

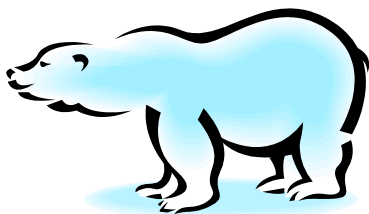
Happy New Year to you all from the Yellow Class team!

This half term in Yellow Class we will be learning about different types of weather. During our play we will be observing the weather and thinking about what type of clothes and shoes we should wear. To help with this we will visit Wynsors shoe shop to look at the different types of shoes. A weather station in our garden will help us to find out about the wind, how much it has rained and how hot or cold it is.



We have another very busy half term welcoming new children and parents into our class. We are all looking forward to meeting them and becoming friends. All the children who started with us in November have now settled into the routines of nursery.

Our core story is 'Penguin Pete's New Friends'. Penguin Pete travels around meeting different animals and becoming friends with them. This will help us to think about being friends, different animals that live in cold places and travelling around.



On Thursday 3rd February we will be celebrating the Chinese New Year, the year of the rabbit. We would like to invite parents and carers to join their children at play for our third Open Day of the school year. We would like to invite you all to come and help us to build a Chinese Dragon and to taste some Chinese food using chop sticks.

This half term Liz, Kim, Santina and Jane would like to welcome June into our team and Sam back from her maternity leave. We are really looking forward to working with them.

Please could I take this opportunity to remind you to look in your child's going home folder to see if they have any paintings to take home. These can be found just inside the Yellow class door. The colour of the folder is the same colour as your child's file and has their picture on it.



News from the Under Threes.....

January brings lots of movement for both children and staff!

Children

Ibrahim, Oliver, Salah and Umr have moved from the birth/2 room to the 2/3 room and Aaron, Ain-Unnoor, Bilal, Dhaya, Hibba, Ibraheem, Jaxon, Laabiah, Yaseen and Zuzanna have moved from the 2/3 room to Red or Yellow Class. All the children have had visits to their new rooms but after a break they may be a little unsure; staff will support them with the changes but please speak to someone if you are anxious.

Adults

There have been a number of staff changes in the 2/3 room. Following Ann's retirement Lynne is now based in the 2/3 room as the lead practitioner. As staff have returned from maternity leave Cat and Nabeela have now left; for continuity Wajib is working full-time and Maryum has returned to the 2/3 room. Please ask if as a result of the changes you are unsure who your child's key-worker is.



Outdoor Play

The Early Years Foundation Stage stresses how important outdoor play is for children birth-5 and the children in the under 3 rooms always have access to the outdoors. We have wellington boots and body-suits to ensure children stay dry. If you bring your child to St Edmund's in a car please remember to bring a coat and if possible hat, scarf and gloves.

The Big Toddle

The UK's biggest charity event for under 5s is 'the Barnardo's Big Toddle sponsored walk'. In February all children in the under 3 rooms will take part walking around the building. The money raised by children taking part goes directly to Barnardo's work with vulnerable children.

Communication

We are always looking at ways of improving communication. A space has now been designated outside the 2/3 room for under 3 notices.

Don't forget that extended provision fees increased
as from the 1st of January.
Daily fees are now

0/2—£36.00
2/3—£35.00
3/5—£34.00

We really hope that we have seen the last of the wintery conditions— we are really pleased to say that we are one of the very few schools/children centres that remained open for most of the snow! If, however, conditions do dramatically deteriorate parents can check on local radio stations for information about closure.

The radio stations are:



Radio Leeds 92.4 fm
The Pulse of West Yorkshire—102.5 fm
Radio Sunrise—103.2 fm

And the closing lines.....

Sometimes being a Headteacher can be a very emotional experience and the last day of term was a particularly emotional one with several 'ups' and 'downs' throughout the day. We started the day with a site meeting to discuss our new extension which is now underway. The next few weeks will be really difficult for all of us but it will be worth it in the end.

At Lunchtime all the children, from the youngest to the oldest, came together with all the staff for Christmas lunch. It is lovely to see everyone together sharing a delicious meal and filled me with 'Christmas Cheer'. In the afternoon I had to say goodbye to Ann. Ann and I have worked together for many years, before St Edmund's we both worked at Copthorne Primary School, so it will be very strange without her and I will really miss her. I will also miss Cat and Nabeela but it is good to welcome back Sumayyah and Sam. We have a fantastic team of people here at St Edmund's as I'm sure you will agree.

The other fantastic team we have is our Governing Body. Recently we had two vacancies for parent Governors and I am pleased to tell you that these vacancies were filled by Sarah Rothera and Shabnam Ben Ameer. We are also pleased to welcome Tabrez Iqbal, Uzma Zaffar and Mahmoona Begum as Associate Governors.

As I left at the end of the day to start my Christmas holiday I felt extremely tired but also very happy and filled with hope for the future.

And so - Happy New Year to you all. Let's hope it's a good one!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 10th January

Parents' forum commences 2.00—3.00 pm

Thursday 13th January

New Year Celebration Event 9.00—11.00 am or 1.00—3.00 pm

Tuesday 18th January

Dads' Night 6.00—8.00 pm including buffet

Wednesday 19th January (and every Wednesday)

Katende Soda—Health Trainer—12.00—3.00 pm



Thursday 3rd February

Red and Yellow Rooms Open Day & Chinese New Year

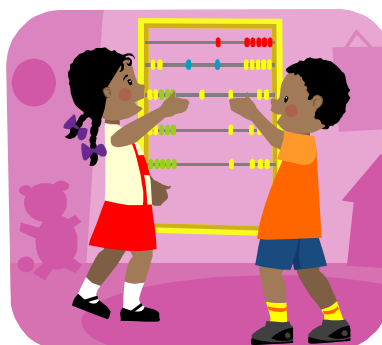


Thursday 17th February

Nursery closes for the half-term break

Friday 18th February

Better Together planning day



Please note that the whole school/centre is closed on this day

Monday 28th February

Nursery school re-opens

*There's lots of
ways to get in
touch.....*

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Putting children and families at the centre of learning