

# Newsletter

## September 2018

Dear parents and carers,

A big welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our returning families. We hope you enjoyed the wonderful summer weather we had this year. September is always an exciting and busy time of year. We do hope all our new children settle quickly, please talk to your child's key person if you have any concerns.

We have lots of exciting events and activities planned for the Autumn term so, along with the information in this Newsletter, keep an eye out for text messages and notices telling you what is happening and when. Also please make sure we have an up to date mobile phone number so you don't miss out on the text messages.



50 things to do before you're 5 is a new initiative for Bradford, created by St Edmund's. Download the app or visit the website for more information: [www.bradford.50thingstodo.org/app/os#/!50-things-to-do-before-youre-five](http://www.bradford.50thingstodo.org/app/os#/!50-things-to-do-before-youre-five)

We will be organising lots of events and activities this year to support you in completing the 50 things. We are really excited by this project and so far six other local authorities have bought it to use with their young children and families.



We are pleased to welcome Dina Gulbe as the new Yellow Class teacher, replacing Adam who left to further develop his career in Year 1 in a Bradford School. Dina is already a qualified teacher in Latvia and we were delighted to find out that her teaching qualification is fully recognised and valid in the UK. Dina started learning English at St Philip's Church some years ago and began volunteering at St Edmund's, she then gained employment, starting in Green Room and has worked her way up to her new role – quite a journey!

We are also pleased to welcome Lucy Phillips in her new role as Trainee Teacher in Red Class, Lucy is training with our very own Bradford Birth to 19 School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT). If you are interested in training to be a qualified teacher with us ask Reception for more information.

Other new faces are Lauren Bourne in Birth to 2 (Lauren started just before the summer holidays) Danielle Clarke in Yellow Class, Robert Popik our new Red Class Apprentice and Jodie Illingworth, who is working with our Early Years Enhanced Specialist Provision. Maleehah Khan who was a student in Red Class will now be working every afternoon in Green Room. We hope they will all be very happy at St Edmund's. Also a big welcome back to Nabeela Younas who has come back to St Edmund's on a permanent basis after working at Lilycroft Nursery School.

You will also see several familiar staff in new roles this term. At St Edmund's we feel it's really important to support our staff in developing new skills and taking on new challenges.

The change to the way that children's centres are managed is finally happening. From 1st October, the Council's Prevention and Early Help Service will be running the children's centre here at St Edmund's as part of the Bradford West Family Hub. They will continue to run some Stay and Play sessions and parenting courses, we will let you have the new timetable as soon as we have it. Some staff will be moving into the new service and we hope that others will find new jobs within the Council. I would like to thank all of the Cluster staff for their hard work and commitment over the last 3 years.

We want you and your child to have a really special experience at St Edmund's. Please do talk to us if you have any suggestions as to how we can improve, we are always willing to listen.



Anne-Marie Merifield, Executive Headteacher



Join 50 Things enthusiast Amanda Jordan on **Friday 5th October** in the morning for a special 50 Things parents' session.

You will be able to collect your FREE 50 Things poster, find out what it's all about, and go through the app.

If you would like to try an activity in the company of other parents, talk to Amanda.

50 Things activities will be offered throughout the year, starting off with the Countryfile Ramble on 6th October (#30 Yummy Picnic and #34 Woodland Wandering).

# Parental Involvement News – Amanda Jordan

Welcome to all our new families. There are lots of activities for families going on at St Edmund's throughout the term that you are welcome to join in with – story time on Tuesdays 8.45 to 9.15am and Thursdays 12.45 to 1.15pm and singing sessions on Wednesdays at 8.45am and 12.30pm. Please come and join in!



On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September we are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise money for cancer support. Drop in between 9.00 and 11.00 am, or 12.45 and 2.30 pm for coffee and cakes in the studio.

## Lending Library

The lending library is open during story times (Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8.45 and 12.45). We have lots of lovely resources available to borrow.



### Saturday 6th October: Countryfile Ramble

Join us for a woodland walk and a picnic. Let's get outside and help raise money for this worthy cause!

See Amanda if you are interested in joining us.

- 50** Things to do before you're five #30 Yummy Picnic
- #34 Woodland Wandering

### Parents Together meeting

Join us for a coffee morning on Friday 5th October for a chat and get together.

## Us, Our World, Our Community Week

will run from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Watch out for information about fun events coming soon.



The school photographer will be here on Friday 12th and Monday 15th October for family and individual photos.

I am usually in the corridor to "meet and greet" you from 8.45 to 9.15 am and 12.30 to 1.00 pm. I'll be able to tell you about any news, and about events that are taking place. If you need help or information I'll do my best to assist you.



## Teaching in Schools

We have limited places for a new level 1 course on teaching in schools, a 12 week course running every Monday 1.00 - 3.00pm. Please see Amanda for further details.

Don't forget that this year's holiday dates, along with lots of other useful information, can be found on our website [www.stedmundsbradford.org.uk](http://www.stedmundsbradford.org.uk).



Our Facebook page lets parents know about what is going on in nursery, and celebrates our children's achievements. If you are on Facebook, why not follow us? Search for "St Edmund's Nursery School", and like the page.

# News from Birth to 2s

A very warm welcome to our newest babies - Imaan, Muhammed, Nuh, Ismael and Zoha. Also to all the new staff in the room: Lauren, Huma and Noshaba. Everyone has settled in well and we are already enjoying working and playing together.



Lauren



Huma



Noshaba



Nursery rhymes are so much fun for babies and toddlers and are also a really good way to develop all those essential early communication, physical and social skills. We will be having a

renewed focus in Birth to 2s on rhymes and songs and we will sing lots and lots at nursery – repetition and familiarity are key. There will be a new rhyme every month which we hope you will enjoy at home too.

Our first one is Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star – already a firm favourite with lots of our children. Please pick up a copy from any member of staff.



Autumn is here - a fantastic time of year to be out and about! Go for a walk with your child and talk about all the wonderful colours and changes you will see and feel all around you. Collect leaves, twigs and other natural objects and bring them to nursery for the children to explore.

## Reminders:

As the weather starts to get colder, don't forget to bring a warm coat, hat and gloves (named) so that your child can play outside.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember that you can talk to your child's key person any time if you have any questions or concerns

# News from Blue and Green Rooms

Welcome to all the new children who have started in Blue and Green rooms and to staff who have joined us from elsewhere in the Nursery. Everyone is settling in well!



Suhail



Sam



Salma



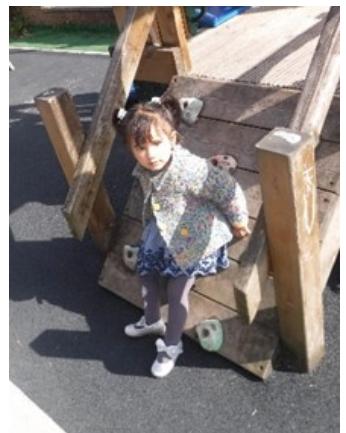
Hafsa



Maleeha

Last term we all really enjoyed the book 'Brown Bear Brown Bear What Do You See?' We had excellent attendance at our Sharing Stories sessions which was great! Coming to these sessions and sharing books at home with your child will make a real difference – keep up the good work!

Exciting news! Our Giant African Land snail has had babies. The children are enjoying helping to care for them.



We are all looking forward to our visits from Rachel MacMahon a professional storyteller who will be running sessions for children and parents – the first one will take place on Tuesday 16th October – please come if you can.



We will, as always be reading lots of stories with the children at nursery and we hope you will do the same at home. Sharing a book with your child for a few minutes every day will make a real difference to their language development, learning and life chances. If you need any advice please ask your child's key person who will be very happy to help. Don't forget, you can borrow books from St Edmund's any time you like from your child's room. Why not join the public library too!

## Reminders:

Now that the weather is getting a bit colder, please make sure that your child brings a warm coat with their name inside to nursery every day.

As always – please check that we have spare clothes (that still fit!), nappies and wipes in your child's basket.

# News from Red and Yellow Classes

In Red and Yellow class we have been very excited to meet our new friends. We have new children joining us from Blue and Green class as well as from home. We are learning the routines of our new class.



Our topic this half term is 'I'm Special' so we will be learning lots about each other. We will be finding out what we all like to do and who is in our family. Please send a copy of your family photo to (office email) so that children can talk about who is special to them.

Our Core Story is 'Owl Babies'. This story helps children to understand that mummy always comes back. We encourage children to talk about their feelings and we acknowledge and describe their feelings for them. For example, rather than saying "mummy's coming soon" we might say "I can see that you're sad because you have tears in your eyes. I'm here for you and we will play, have snack, tidy up, have group time then mummy will come back". Being aware of your emotions is an important skill that will help children throughout life.

We will be starting library soon. You can change your child's book when you arrive on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

We have started our football sessions on Fridays. Over the year every child will gain the opportunity to work with our coach Mark to develop confidence, listening and attention and physical skills.



# News from the Children's Centre

The Children's Centre has had a busy summer, with trips out, picnics and parties!



## Family Hubs

From 1st October, the Council will be running our children's centre services as part of the new 0 - 19 Bradford West Family Hub. We will let you have more information as soon as we have it.

## September timetable:

St Edmund's Children's Centre					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 9.00 - 11.00		Stay & Play (0 - 4) Midwife Clinic		Advice Clinic	9.30 - 11.00 Sharing Together Portage Group
Afternoon 1.00 - 3.00	EU Advice Clinic	Baby Stay & Play (under 2s) Health Visitor Clinic	EU Advice Clinic		

## Sponsored walk

The sponsored walk on the 5th September raised over £1,000 for the Foodbank, which now distributes more than 1,000 food bags each month compared with just 28 a month when it was set up in 2004.

If you would like to talk to a member of the children's centre team please ask at reception, or call 01274 544922.



## On time every day!

One of the best things you can do for your children is to make sure they attend nursery on time every day. Don't forget to call us on **01274 543282** before 9.00am (morning children) or 1.00pm (afternoon children) if your child can't come to nursery.