

Newsletter



St Edmund's
Nursery School and
Children's Centre

Summer term 2017

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a restful break and hopefully, like me, you are ready to get back to the usual routine. I spent a lovely week in Weymouth, Dorset and had a nice time walking on the beach and paddling in the sea.

Staff changes

Over the Easter break we have said goodbye to Salma in Green Room who is taking maternity leave, Mansurah in Blue Room who has finished her apprenticeship and Vicki in Birth to 2s who is leaving to take up a post in a primary school. We wish them all the best for the future.

New website and email addresses

We have a fantastic new website with lots of information about St Edmund's including latest news, information about the rooms, policies, holiday dates and more. www.stedmundsbradford.org.uk

We also all have new email addresses. To get in touch by email, please contact office@stedmundsbradford.org.uk



EQualities Award

A big well done to our West Bradford Children's Centre Cluster who achieved the EQualities Award – the first cluster in the whole of West Yorkshire to do so.

National Men in the Early Years Conference



We are delighted to be organising a national conference about the importance of dads, grandads, step-dads, uncles and male practitioners in the lives of young children. The conference is on Tuesday 18th July at the Science and Media Museum in Bradford. If you would like to attend, we have some free places for men living or working in West Bradford. We are also looking for volunteers. Contact Hafeez Rahman on 07484 056393 for more information.

Anne-Marie Merifield, Executive Headteacher



Better Together Day – parent responses

Why do you come to St Edmund's?

- *Because it's the best*
- *Friendly and caring environment*
- *Seeing different cultures, strong sense of team work, of common goal.*
- *Come to have fun – socialise*
- *We look forward to Amanda's smiling face in the morning*
- *Courses – CV*
- *Because we love this place*
- *Common goal*
- *To enrich my children*
- *Lovely atmosphere – feels like a family*
- *Because I'm just impressed with it*
- *Very engaging for parents*

Why do you like coming to St Edmund's?

- *Share good practice*
- *Good to see men in work, has a positive influence.*
- *Be part of a team that makes a difference*
- *A good stepping stone – seeing parents on voluntary basis, supporting parents.*
- *Always been there for us*
- *Nieces and nephews at St Edmund's have better vocabulary than family going to other nurseries*
- *Like working with different people in the community*
- *Always thinking outside the box*
- *Diverse culture/social background*
- *Flexible and accommodating*
- *Rewarding, seeing children develop*
- *Every day is different*
- *Families*
- *Staff are so happy*

How do you feel when you come to St Edmund's?

- *Happy*
- *Confident*
- *Belong*
- *Safe*
- *Important*
- *Supported*
- *Sometimes it's an escape from troubles*
- *Proud to be part of life of children*
- *Building memories*
- *Uplifted*
- *Caring staff that look after children – I can trust them*
- *Welcomed*
- *Proud*
- *Home*
- *It's a family*
- *Peace of mind that you know children are safe and happy*
- *Good to work in a place that promotes good things, making a difference*

What is it about St Edmund's that makes you feel this way?

- *It's very inviting you know you're dealing with caring people*
- *Broadening experiences*
- *Inclusive – open door policy*
- *Varied programmes e.g. dads' day*
- *All the people that are involved*
- *Staff make you feel welcome*
- *If I see my child happy I know you are doing something right*
- *Everyone has the same vision*
- *Equal opportunities*
- *Someone always makes time for me*
- *Always calm*
- *Welcoming atmosphere*
- *Friendly staff*
- *In this country everyone loves my baby. No discrimination. Everything here is perfect for my child.*
- *Feel welcomed*
- *Parent did not have opportunities pleased children have these opportunities*
- *Warm environment, supportive of each other/encouraging*
- *Smiling*
- *Parents spend time with children (as long/little as you need)*

Do you think coming to St Edmund's is good for you and your families' health? In what way?

- *Get a lot of support*
- *Get some time to yourself.*
- *The joy of coming to work (here!)*
- *Outdoor play*
- *Healthy meal at lunch time healthy snack*
- *Trips out*
- *Shared activities that can be done at home*
- *Zainab now 5, still loves outdoors after discovering Forest schools*
- *Finding out about local areas for outdoor play*
- *My son in green class is supported 1:1 with speech, he's talking much better*
- *Daughter has physical disabilities, can I trust anyone to meet her needs? Never been an issue here, her confidence is amazing. How is the next school going to offer such support?*
- *Staff are brilliant – as a parent I grieve when child moves on new class/staff. Same for staff!*
- *Emotional well-being*
- *Able to speak to keyworker*
- *We're all 'Better together' - get to do things together*
- *Early intervention – quality will help for the future*
- *Movement and music*
- *Always moving*
- *Mental health – two way street*
- *Time to breathe especially as a first time mum*
- *Promoting healthy life styles*
- *Staff come happy and leave happy*
- *Healthy good routine, not lazy now, active, being outside*
- *Helps with mental health, good for children to interact with others*

It makes us all feel so proud to be part of a very special place – thank you.

Parental Involvement News – Amanda Jordan



As usual 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 Mondays 8.45 to 9.15 and Fridays 12.45 to 1.15 and singing sessions on Wednesdays at 8.45 and 12.30. Please come and join in!

We are holding a special meeting for **Girlington Growers** on Saturday 29th April at 10.30 – 1.00 at St Philip's Church, Girlington. Please come along and join our group to plan our activities for planting and growing in Girlington this summer.

Tour de Yorkshire is coming through Bradford on Sunday 30th April. There will be lots of activities in City Park for all the family in the morning, and the race will set off at lunchtime. More information online at www.visitbradford.com/Tour_De_Yorkshire.

Fun with Pots and Plants- Saturday 13th May



Keep the date free for an extra special family fun day where we will come together to plant free window boxes that you will then be able to take home, to make Girlington a greener and more beautiful environment.

Parents Together meeting - Monday 15th May 9.00 – 11.30

All parents of children at St Edmund's are invited to come along to our parents group. More information from Amanda Jordan. If you haven't been before, why not drop in?

Child Safety Week 15th – 19th May

Please come along for child car seat checks on **Tuesday 16th May** 8.45 – 10.00 and 12.30 – 1.30. These sessions have proved such a success in the past. Parents who have previously had car seat checks have been extremely grateful for the checks.



The Road Safety Team will be in on **Thursday 18th May** to promote road safety with all the children, including some sessions for parents. We'll let you know the times nearer the date.

On **Friday 19th May** there will be a First Aid session – please book on now at reception for a FREE place. First aid comes in handy in a variety of different situations. Accidents happen all the time, after all, so knowing what to do in an emergency is important. If you have children, though, knowing how to perform first aid becomes much more critical. While accidents can and do happen to virtually everyone, they tend to happen with kids a lot more frequently. This course will give you some basic information about what to do in an emergency.



Next year's holiday dates are on the website www.stedmundsbradford.org.uk in the information section.



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.

News from Birth to 2s

Arisa has joined us in the Baby Room, and has settled really well. Vicki has left our room for her new job. We are sad to see her go, and wish her all the best.

This term we will be having a musical theme. We have lots of special musical toys and will sing lots of new songs.

We have been busy in the garden in the Birth to 2s room. We have planted up our hanging baskets and grown our own grass in trays. We are now looking forward to using our new water play area outside. All our children enjoy being outdoors, why not use the better weather as an opportunity to get out at home with your child – exploring, digging etc.



News from Blue and Green Rooms

Blue Room would like to send a warm welcome to Amelia and Iqra who have joined us from Birth to 2s. We also have some children who have come from home – hello! Rishi and Taha have left us to move up to Yellow Class, and Aqib has joined Red Class. We would also like to welcome the two new fish in our room!

Green Room would like to welcome Muntha, Tobias, Subhaan, Musa and Isla who have been visiting us since before Easter. Jack, Edwin, Lubayd and Maryam have all moved to Red Class.

Last term we all enjoyed visiting the Life Caravan during Healthy Living Week. Our focus for this half term is gardening, we will be spending lots of time outside planting seeds and watching them grow. We are also looking forward to Sharing Stories later this half term – we'll let you know the name of the book soon.

Don't forget that you are always welcome to take your child's file to look at with your child and with other family members at home. Your child will enjoy telling you about what they have been doing in nursery.



News from Red and Yellow Classes

On Monday 24th April Red and Yellow Class launched our new topic 'Let's Investigate' with a visit from Science Boffins. This magical science show has inspired us to become scientists. Through this topic we will explore cause and effect and change. We will be making predictions and carrying out our own investigations. With Sarah from Science Boffins we made rockets fly, wore magic glasses that made light look like rainbows, watched a fire experiment and learnt about the scientific effects of balloons and a plasma ball.



Our core story this half term is The Blue Balloon. Through this book Kipper finds a very special balloon that appears to have magical powers.

We are now taking bookings for our trip to the children's science museum Eureka! Red Class are going on Tuesday 9th May and Yellow Class are going on Thursday 11th May. For £15 one adult and one child can attend. Please book soon to secure your place.

West Bradford Cluster Dads' Club

Saturday 29th April Football session at Allerton Children's Centre



Saturday 27th May Saltaire Arts Trail:

Meet at St Edmund's at 10.30. Enjoy a walk round Saltaire, spotting the sculptures and calling into the open houses.



Saturday 24th June 11.00 - 1.00:

Bug hunting at Farnham Road Children's Centre, Farnham Road BD7 3JE.

Tuesday 18th July 10.00 - 4.00: Men in the Early Years Conference at the National Science and Media Museum, Bradford

Dads, male carers and male practitioners all have an important role in the lives of young children. Come along to our national conference as a participant or a volunteer.

Call Hafeez for more information - 07484 056393.

Saturday 29th July: Bradford Festival

Meet at 11.00 outside the City Library in City Park for street entertainment at its very best. All free - just bring a picnic!

Saturday 5th August: Ironman Challenge at Allerton Children's Centre:

Keep the date free for a repeat of last year's very successful Ironman Challenge.

Saturday 12th August Bradford Classic Car Show:

Meet at 11.00 outside the City Library in City Park. We'll have a great day out looking at all the old cars, and enjoying paddling in the mirror pool.

How to contact us: Qaiser 07483 974896 or Hafeez 07484 056393.

News from the Children's Centre

We are pleased to welcome Zakiyah to the children's centre team, she has joined us from Lidget Green Children's Centre. Sadly this means we have said goodbye to Caroline who is going to work at Lidget Green, Caroline has enjoyed her time at St Edmund's and we wish her the best of luck at her new centre. Sophia will be leaving us at the end of this term; she is going travelling over summer before she moves to Spain to teach English in September. She has really enjoyed working at St Edmund's and will be sad to leave. Caroline and Sophia would like to thank everyone who has made their time at St Edmund's so enjoyable.



The events that took place last term all went well; we have continued to see good attendance at our Stay and Play sessions. We have had lots of fun enjoying the better weather; we have been planting flowers for our outdoor area, making our own growing island and spending more time outside. Inside we have been exploring tunnels and building dens. During Healthy Living Week, we talked about oral hygiene and prepared a healthy snack together.



Over the Easter holidays we enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt, a creative play session and a Teddy Bear's Picnic and games in the park. Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.



Following the success of our creative play session, there will be lots expressive arts this term. We will be floor painting, colour mixing, stamping, splatting, printing and lots more! We're hoping for some good weather so we can take our messy play outside.

All parents and carers are welcome at any of our timetabled sessions. Please remember to keep your phones in your bags and not use them in the crèche. If you would like to take photos of your child in sessions please ask to borrow our camera.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook to keep up with the latest news. We are listed as "West Bradford Cluster". If you would like to talk to a member of the children's centre team please ask at reception or call 01274 544922.

Timetable	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning 9.00 - 11.00		Stay & Play (0 - 4) Advice Appointments 9.30 - 1.30		Adult learning course & crèche	Sharing Together
Afternoon 1.00 - 3.00	Course for parents with crèche	Baby Stay & Play (under 2s) Health Visitor Clinic	Legal Advice Sessions	Stay & Play (0 - 4)	Baby Massage (1.00 - 2.30)