



# Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School



Inspire



Challenge



Support



Faith

## Newsletter Friday 28th November 2025

### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share the wonderful success of our recent *Mary's Meals* fundraising event. Thanks to the kindness and enthusiasm of our whole school community, we have raised an incredible amount of **£430** —enough to make a real and lasting difference. As many of you will know, £19.15 is all it takes to feed a child every day for an entire year, and during this Christmas season our donations are being doubled, meaning our impact of **£860** will be twice as great. What a powerful reminder of the change we can make when we act together!

This event was also a beautiful expression of our Edmund Rice 8 Essentials, particularly *Presence, Compassion, Concern for the Whole Person*, and *Service*. Our pupils learned not only about global hunger, but also about the joy of giving and standing in solidarity with those in need. It was heart-warming to see them living out these values so genuinely.

A very special thank you must go to my wonderful parents and to Miss Minogue's mum, who generously gave their time to make and butter hundreds of slices of toast! Their hard work, warmth, and good humour kept the morning running smoothly and created such a positive atmosphere for the children. Thank you once again for your generosity and support. As we enter this season of hope and giving, it is inspiring to see our community embodying the spirit of Edmund Rice and extending care to those beyond our own walls.

To the right is St Martin's Catholic High School in Gbanga, Liberia. It is an Edmund Rice school whose primary section depends on Mary's Meals to provide lunch to its students everyday. Pictured with the students is Mrs Nichols and Mrs Maguire who went there to help build a new classroom! It is wonderful to see the impact our fundraising can have.



## Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School

We currently have spaces available in our pre-school  
(30 hours)

Please contact our School Office (0151 281 2300) or  
email [sbm@runnymede-school.org.uk](mailto:sbm@runnymede-school.org.uk) for more details

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This week in preschool, we enjoyed our new text *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. In maths, we explored pairs by matching gloves, socks and shoes to make our own washing line. We also prepared for Advent by creating our wreath, which the children loved collecting materials for.



Reception had a lovely visit from Mrs Halewood's Daughter, Paige and grandson Frankie. Paige told us all about how she looks after Frankie and keeps him safe, just like Mary did with Jesus. We all made promises for Advent and are very excited to start the count down to Christmas.



In PSHE this week, Year 1 have been exploring how to make new friends. We focused on the story *Meesha Makes Friends* by Tom Percival, which helped us think about the different ways we can connect with others. Together, we discussed ideas for building friendships and even created our own friendship bracelets to share.



This week, as part of our Religious Education lessons, Year 2 have been focusing on the theme of 'Forgiveness'. Our Christmas Nativity rehearsals are well under way and we are very much looking forward to performing in front of our parents/carers.

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This week, Year 3 have been working on their chess strategy and their throwing skills in PE. Children read beautifully at our KS2 Collective Worship and in PHSE, we have been decorating 'helpful hands' with ideas for helping someone being bullied. Congratulations also to two Y3s for achieving their brown/black belt in MMA..



This week, in R.E Year 4 have looked at The Jesse Tree and all of the biblical stories.



Year 5 have enjoyed a fantastic Chemistry workshop. In Ukulele, we spread positivity with our new song, One Love. In English, we completed our final Exploration Narrative. In Maths, we tackled the challenging unit of Fractions.



This week Year 6 were delighted to lead the first of our prayer and liturgy sessions for Advent. The first Sunday is 'Hope'. We talked about how we all need hope in our lives.

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An National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help us protect children's online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, tools and tips for safety.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that trusted adults know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down 'rabbit holes' that aren't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing such 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted... sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which so enthral young people, but we can still help children to be aware of their mental wellness, recognising when something isn't OK... and knowing what to do about content that upsets them.

- 1. UNDERSTAND THE ALGORITHM**  
Algorithms rank content by user interest: someone who regularly interacts with sports news, for example, will see the latest results at the top of their feed. It's a good thing, but it can also mean that a child will see content that's not for them. Someone who's had a bad day and looks for posts which reflect that mood will find further content being suggested to them more and more.
- 2. AVOID THE MAIN FEEDS**  
Avoiding the default feeds on social media platforms limits the amount of recommended content that's shown. There can be no option to opt out of the main feed, but there are ways to avoid it. Use the 'highlight' feature to highlight posts that they don't want to see. Explore the platform's safety settings to see how you can take control of what your child's phone shows them when they open the app.
- 3. DISCUSS WHAT THEY'VE SEEN**  
Chatting about what your child's seen online helps you create a safe space for them. If they're seeing content that's upsetting or harmful, discuss with them what they would recognise content as being harmful. Discuss who they follow, what posts they like and what comes up in their feeds. It's a good thing, it could be time for a more in-depth look or to seek support.
- 4. LEARN HOW TO HIDE CONTENT**  
If your child stumbles across social media content on social media, there's an option to hide it. Just tap the three dots on the content and select 'hide'. This means that the content will be suppressed in future. On some platforms, you might also be able to block posts that contain specific words, which is an excellent way to start taking control of what your child sees online.
- 5. SET DAILY LIMITS**  
Phones and most apps can tell you how much time they're being used. Setting a time limit on your child's phone is an important tool to avoid overuse. You could set some family rules, for everyone to follow - onscreen time each on screen time limits and teach-free spaces. Involving your child in creating the agreement means they're more likely to stick to it.
- 6. MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITY**  
Keeping a discreet eye on how your child is using social media can help ensure they're not entering potentially dangerous situations. It's a good idea to check in on their activity. If you're not sure, ask them to show you their screen. It's important to ask to see what they're looking at. Be transparent about your own social media use and try not to be judgemental about your child's.
- 7. TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS**  
Even for adults, it's tempting to check an email or message as soon as the alert goes off. For children, it's even more tempting. Turn off push notifications. Turning them off will help your child to avoid distraction and to focus on what they're doing. It's a good idea to turn them off for all apps, not just the ones that are most likely to distract them.
- 8. USE DEVICES TOGETHER**  
Giving children internet-enabled devices and complete freedom to explore platforms on their own can result in exposure to harmful content. You could consider making a particular piece of home a designated space to use phones, tablets and laptops. Use this time to discuss what they're seeing and to help them to understand what's appropriate. If necessary, steer them away from any potentially harmful content.
- 9. ENCOURAGE OTHER ACTIVITIES**  
Mental health professionals often highlight the importance of exercise, quality time with loved ones, a balanced diet and regular sleep for our mental wellbeing. Spending time on other activities that our brains need to be well. Encouraging your child to put down their phone and enjoy other activities can be immensely beneficial.
- 10. TALK ABOUT PEER PRESSURE**  
Most children will get their own accounts to private, so any people they've accepted as friends can see their posts. This reduces the risk of bullying or online comments, but it just like online life - the day as never ceases to be a constant worry. Talk to your child about peer pressure, and let them know that you can provide the support they need.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Shirley Farmer-Adin is executive headteacher at a specialist primary school and an experienced teacher. She works with school leaders to focus on the SEND, mental health and wellbeing strategies. A passionate advocate for digital safety, she is a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and the author of the handbook 'What's a Good What?' which supports children with their views.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @nationalonlinesafety f/NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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## Dates for the Diary

- Monday 1st December - Christmas Film Night
- Thursday 4th December - REC P Nativity
- Friday 5th December - REC B Nativity
- Monday 8th December - 1W Christmas Play & Y3 Carols by Candlelight
- Tuesday 9th December - 1S Christmas Play & Y4 Carols by Candlelight
- Wednesday 10th December - 2W Christmas Play & Y5 Carols by Candlelight
- Thursday 11th December - 2H Christmas Play & Y6 Carols by Candlelight
- Friday 12th December - Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day & Choristers by Candlelight
- Monday 15th December - Preschool Farmer Nativity
- Tuesday 16th December - Preschool Ward Nativity
- Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Party Day
- Friday 19th December - Father Christmas to visit Runnymede, School closes at 12:45pm— NO AFTERCARE



## Indoor Athletics Event

On Monday children from across KS1 represented Runnymede at an Indoor Athletics Event at Everton Sports Centre. A fantastic afternoon of fun was had by all and the children thoroughly enjoyed trying to beat their personal best! Well done to all!



## Instagram

**Please follow us on Instagram**



[@runnymedestowards](https://www.instagram.com/runnymedestowards)

Please ensure you have checked your permission's on Arbor to ensure we have this completed.

We would be very grateful if you can like and share our posts!

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## Tuesday Toast Tuck Shop

Toast will be for sale on a Tuesday for children to purchase. The purpose of this is to fund raise enough money to purchase some arcade style basketball games for our playgrounds.

Children will need to bring £1 cash. Please note, we cannot accept Arbor payments for this or money being given to staff on the gate or retrospectively via email as we do not have the staffing to accommodate this. We are hoping to run this on a regular basis.



Our target is £600!

## Autumn Wellness Hamper Winners

Thank you to all those parents who helped to raise £520 for our school fund.

The winners are:

**Hamper 1: Gabriel D Y5**

**Hamper 2: Lily F Y1**

**Hamper 3: Alfie G Pre-School**

## Christmas Luxury Hamper Raffle

Tickets will be on sale on Arbor from the end of day, Monday 1st December.

Tickets are £5

Please encourage your family and friends to purchase a ticket as the hampers are filled with fantastic treats for the festive period!  
Good Luck!

## CAFOD Christmas Fun Run

All are welcome at CAFOD's annual Christmas Fun Run at **Wavertree Sports Park, L15 4LE on Saturday 27 December 2025**. Registration open from 10am, and the run sets off at 11am. 3k and 5k route options available, pram friendly route and dogs on leads are welcome too. Festive attire is encouraged!

We'd love to raise more sponsorship from this event. For a sponsor form or interest in volunteering at the event, please email Colette on [cbyrne@cafod.org.uk](mailto:cbyrne@cafod.org.uk) or sign up now by visiting [cafod.org.uk/christmasfunrun](http://cafod.org.uk/christmasfunrun) **Entry Fees:** £10 adults | £5 children | £20 family ticket. **Please Note:** Due to planned works on The Mystery Park, this year's route will be adjusted to avoid the area. **We're looking for some extra help** to marshal the route, as well as helping with the sale of raffle tickets and hot drinks on the day. If you know someone who could help us out, please do get in touch!



## Christmas Film Night Monday 1st December

Don't forget you must purchase a ticket for this Monday's film night. Tickets are £5 each and this includes a drink and popcorn.

Please note, there are no staff led after school clubs as they have now finished for the term.

Therefore, if your child is not staying for film night you will need to collect them unless they are pre-booked into After Care.

Tickets are available to be purchased on Arbor.

**All children will be dismissed from the front of school.**  
Please click [here](#) to access the film night letter for detailed information.

Please be patient in collecting your child as it will be dark.

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- RB:** **Thomas B** for using his imagination to build a 'Secret Base' using large construction and **Sophia A** for having beautiful manners.
- RP:** **Sophia C** for trying so hard with her Phonics and **Arthur C** for always being so sensible.
- 1S:** **Jack K** for trying hard with his handwriting and **Anna M** for always having a positive attitude to learning and helping others.
- 1W:** **Reuben Mc** for excellent Maths and **Ava E** for excellent Reading.
- 2H:** **Delilah F** for excellent independent writing and **Evelyn O'B** for always being a good friend to others.
- 2W:** **Ethan R** for an excellent attitude to learning and **Leo A** for improved handwriting.
- 3D:** **Isobella B** for improved handwriting and **Olivia-Rose F** for lovely work in English.
- 3Mc:** **Mia D** for an excellent fable narrative and **Leo B** for giving 100%.
- 4D:** **Connie S** for always setting the right example in class and being resilient and **Sonny M** for looking for new ways to improve his handwriting.
- 4Mc:** **Joseph B C** for always trying his best in everything he does and **Amaya G O** for beautiful work in R.E, showing great understanding of the Nicene Creed.
- 5N:** **Harper M Q** for fantastic understanding and focus in Maths when working on fractions and **Bobby Mc** for giving brilliant answers and explanations in all lessons especially History and Maths.
- 5T:** **Joshua B C** for excellent fraction work in Maths and **Yasmin M** for working hard on Century.
- 6D:** **Adrianna L** for excellent effort in Maths this week and **Kieran G** for brilliant contributions in class all week.



## Attendance—Our target is 97%

Monday 24th November until  
Friday - 28th November 2025

is as follows:

**95.34%**

Every day in school is a step towards success—  
thank you for helping your child be here, ready to  
shine!

| RB:    | 1S:    | 2H:    | 3D:    | 4D:    | 5N:    | 6D:    |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 99.28% | 94.81% | 98.89% | 87.16% | 97.98% | 93.27% | 95.96% |
| RP:    | 1W:    | 2W:    | 3Mc:   | 4Mc:   | 5T:    |        |
| 96.17% | 93.61% | 97.41% | 90.57% | 99.33% | 94.95% |        |

Happy birthday to all children who have had a birthday  
this week! We hope you had a lovely day!

Reuben Mc, Joshua A, Eli H, Joanna T, Molly T, Amelie  
Mc, Delilah F & Arlo T H

## Week commencing 1st December

|                  |                                                            |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Y1, Y3, & Y5 PE<br>Christmas Film Night (£5.00 per ticket) |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Y2, Y4 & Y6 PE                                             |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Ukulele with Mr Tallant                                    |
| <b>Thursday:</b> | <b>RP Nativity</b><br>REC PE<br>Spanish Club               |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>RB Nativity</b><br>KS2 Swimming                         |