Date: Friday 23rd October 2026

ST ELPHEGE'S RC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER



With God, all things are possible...

UPCOMING EVENTS

WHOLE SCHOOL FLU VACCINATION - 2nd NOVEMBER 2026

The Sutton Nursing team will be coming in to complete the annual FLU VACCINATION Programme for children in Reception to Year 6. Your child will only receive a vaccination if you have completed consent via the below link:-

http://cypcis.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk/flu/2026/sutton

ATTENDANCE

If you are in any doubt about whether to send your child to school because of sickness, the school office are always happy to discuss this with you. Every child must aim to have a **minimum of 96%.** You can keep track of your child's attendance through the Arbor Parent Portal.

Infants	Attendance	Juniors	Attendance
Nursery	97.8% ★	Year 3	95.7%
Reception	96.7%	Year 4	97.5% ★
Year 1	96.8%	Year 5	94.8%
Year 2	97.1%	Year 6	95.5%

ATTENDANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St Elphege's, we know that regular school attendance is essential for your child's academic progress, social development, and overall well-being. Every day in school counts, and we want to ensure every pupil has the best possible opportunity to reach their full potential.

Our School Attendance Target: **96% and Above**

Our target for every pupil across the school is an attendance rate of 96% or above. While an attendance figure like 90% might sound high at first glance, it actually equates to missing around 19 days of education across the academic year—which is nearly **four full weeks of lost learning**.

To help you track your child's attendance profile throughout the year, we will be sending regular attendance emails to all parents. This will provide you with clear, up-to-date visibility of your child's attendance percentage. You can also track this live on the Arbor App.

100%	Perfect school attendance
98%-99.9%	Excellent attendance - keep up the good work
96%-97.9%	If attendance falls into this category, the child is near to falling below the schools' minimum expected standard for attendance
95%-95.9%	The child has fallen below the schools' minimum expected standard for attendance and needs to ensure that future attendance enables them to rise above 96%
93%-94.9%	Children who fall into this category are at risk of becoming Persistently Absent. (See 90%)
90.1%-92.9%	A recent DfE-linked study shows that if a child misses around **10 days of school in a year**, their chances of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing, and maths at the end of primary school **drop by about a quarter** compared to children who attend almost every day. Children who attend **95–100% of the time** are much more likely to succeed than those who miss a few weeks.
90% PERSISTENT ABSENTEE	The child is classed as **Persistently Absent.** Research suggests that a child who falls into this category has a much slimmer chance of meeting the expected standard in line with their peers. The DfE research states that **60% of pupils who fell into the Persistently Absent category did not reach their end of year targets**. This created a learning gap which grew year on year if no action was taken.
Below 90% PERSISTENT ABSENTEE	Children who miss more than 1 in 10 days of school are at much higher risk of falling behind at primary school (KS2) and secondary school (GCSEs), and this can affect their future opportunities. The earlier it starts, the worse it gets. Missing school regularly from a young age adds up over time, creating gaps that are hard to close. It's not "just a few days." Missing more than 10% of school means losing critical lessons, peer learning, and practise — every absence matters. Poor attendance is a major barrier to success. **Act early and improve attendance**. Research from the Department for Education shows that pupils with attendance above 95% are significantly more likely to reach expected standards at KS2 and GCSEs compared with pupils below 90% — even small improvements in attendance make a real difference. (DfE 2025) *'The link between attendance and attainment in an assessment year';DfE; Research Report; March 2025* Children can feel isolated as they fall behind their peers, finding learning more difficult, leading to a dislike of school and further low attendance. This is a cycle which is difficult to stop.
Below 80% SEVERELY ABSENT	Children who miss more than 1 in 5 days of school will almost certainly fall behind at primary school (KS2) and secondary school (GCSEs), and this can have long-term consequences for future education and work. The earlier it starts, the greater the damage. Persistent absence from a young age creates large gaps in learning that are extremely difficult to close. It's much more than a few days. Missing over 20% of school means losing critical lessons, peer learning, and opportunities to practise new skills — the impact accumulates exceptionally quickly. Other factors matter, but attendance is key. Even with strong home support, missing this much school is a major barrier to success. Immediate action is essential. DfE research shows pupils with attendance below 80% are far less likely to reach expected standards at KS2 and GCSEs compared to pupils with 95%+ attendance. Severe absence dramatically reduces a child's chances of success. (DfE 2025)

MATHS WEEK



What a fantastic Maths Week we have had! This week, the children have been deeply engaged in investigating all aspects of geometry and discovering how seamlessly it links to other subjects across the curriculum, including Design and Technology, Art, and Geography.

Throughout the week, pupils took part in a wide range of practical investigations:

·Engineering & Structure: Exploring how the properties of shapes affect strength, structure, and real-world engineering.

·Art & Pattern: Designing intricate patterns and tessellations.

·Geography & Navigation: Investigating angles and positional language to understand direction, mapping, and navigation.

·Outdoor Learning: Taking their learning outside to observe geometry naturally occurring in the environment.



We were also blown away by the enthusiasm for our two school competitions. Everyone joined in with huge energy for Shape Wear Day, showing fantastic creativity with their outfits. Likewise, the entries for our photography competition —'Geometry in the Wild'—were outstanding, with children from across the entire school capturing brilliant examples of geometric shapes and patterns in the natural environment.

It has been a truly wonderful week of investigation, problem-solving, and hands-on exploration. Thank you for your continued support at home!





Year 6 Admissions Reminder

FINAL REMINDER

DEADLINE FOR ADMISSIONS IS **31st October 2026.**

Please log into your **E-ADMISSIONS account** to submit your application.

You can buy a Poppy from the school office in the run up to Remembrance Day.

BOOK WEEK STARTS MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

PLEASE COME ALONG AND BUY A BOOK ON

MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 3.30PM – 4.15PM – INFANT SCHOOL SALES

FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 3.30PM – 4.15PM – JUNIOR SCHOOL SALES

FAVOURITE BOOK FRIDAY!

Every Friday, one child from each class is chosen to bring in their favourite book from home for story time. The child will be decided by the class teacher on a weekly basis. The children love sharing their books with each other so please support your child to select their favourite book!

LOST PROPERTY - LOST PROPERTY

ANY UNNAMED ITEMS WILL BE DISPOSED OF OVER THE HALF TERM

PLEASE CHECK TODAY

THE WEDNESDAY WORD

THE Wednesday WORD
Good News for Families

SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL
WITH SCHOOLS,
PARENTS & FAMILIES

Some of the leaders gathered together. One of the leaders was an expert in the Law and he asked Jesus a question to try and catch him out. "Teacher" he said "What is the greatest commandment in God's Law?" Jesus replied , "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the greatest and the first Commandment. But there is a second commandment like it, that is : "You must love your neighbour as yourself." All the teaching of the Law and the Prophets follows from these two commandments."

Matthew 22:30-40

FLYERS


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Literacy


THE LITTLE RECYCLERS
FUNDRAISING
More cloth more funds your organisa
1 kg = £0.
YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:
6 NOVEMBER
FRIDAY
FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM
WE ACCEPT
Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
Shoes (paired)
Bags
Hats & scarves
Belts
Fashion accessories
Swimwear, lingerie
Jewellery
Perfumes
WE DON'T ACCEPT
Uniforms
Dirty, wet, ripped, damage clothing
Traditional clothing
Duvets & pillows
Single shoes
Toys, stationery
Bric-a-brac & electrical item
Books, CDs, DVDs
Workwear
Carpets, rugs, mats, curtain
Hygiene items, diapers
Linen & towels
PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!
RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES
hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk · 0330 043 0550 · thelittlerecyclers.c