



# St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

*Prepare the way of the Lord*

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12 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Another year has flown by and it's time once again for my traditional end of year letter.

I hope that your son or daughter has experienced a successful school year; enjoyed friendships, made good progress and seized the many opportunities for personal growth that St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School offers.

As we approach the end of term, I would just like to highlight a couple of important pieces of information.

## Parents' Evening Survey

Following my letter dated 24 May 2023 when I asked for your opinion about Parents' Evenings via a survey request. There were 244 responses and the following table shows the results:-

| Preferred type of meeting             | %   |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| All face to face                      | 55% |
| All virtually via Microsoft Teams     | 21% |
| A combination – the same as this year | 24% |

Many thanks for taking the time to respond. With over half the respondents in favour of a move back to face-to-face Parents' Evenings, we will be doing this with all Parents' Evenings next year.

## Building Work

Parents may well have noticed that there is building work going on in school. The majority of this work is to repair the roof. However, we have secured some additional funding to improve our reception area, create a new set of pupil toilets and a central 'Pastoral Hub'. We hope that all of these works will be completed by the time we return to school in September.

## School Synergy

From September we will be using a new MIS (Management Information System) in school. As such, all of the data held in our current MIS (School Synergy), will transfer to our new MIS (**Arbor**) over the summer holiday. I know that many parents use School Synergy on a daily basis to monitor achievement and behavior points, to check homework and to make contact with school and I am pleased to advise that this functionality will continue with **Arbor**. Over the summer holiday, you will receive a message from School Synergy which will provide you with all the necessary information to allow you to use **Arbor**.

## Staff Changes

After 36 years' fantastic service to the school Mrs Payne (some of you will remember her as Miss Shepherd) is retiring from her role as Assistant Headteacher. During her tenure, Mrs Payne has held the roles of Teacher of English, 2<sup>nd</sup> in English, Head of English and Head of Year. She has had a significant impact in the lives of thousands of pupils over the years and we are blessed that she has dedicated her working life to our school. I am certain that you will join everyone at the school in wishing Mrs Payne a long and happy retirement. We will miss her.

I am delighted to announce that Mr Cullen and Mrs Doolan will be Assistant Headteachers from 1 September 2023. Mrs Hooton will take charge of the RE department next year and Mrs Chadwick will take charge of Year 10.

Further staff leaving us at the end of this year are; Mr Valentine (Maths), Mr Carter (Science), Mr Collinson (Science) and Miss Wood (Geography and Technology). We thank them all for their service to the school and wish them every success in their future careers.

### **End of Term**

We will be finishing early on the last day (Friday 21 July 2023) as we need to co-ordinate the bus services with Byrchall High School so that we can offer most of the bus services for our pupils.

The services running are:-

- 1 x 950 (Finches bus not Vision)
- 1 x 950 (Vision)
- 1 x 951 (Finches bus not Vision)
- 1 x 954 (Vision to Westleigh, smiths lane)
- 1 x 954 (Finches bus not Vision)
- 1 x 603 (Finches)
- 1 x 652 (Finches)
- 1 x 655 (MandD to Newton)

Therefore, school will close for the summer at **12.10pm**. There will be no lunch service on this day, however, free school meals will be provided on request. Please follow the link and complete it by Thursday 20 July 2023 <https://forms.office.com/e/HQdtMaab6H> . The break time service will be available as normal.

### **School Uniform Swap Shop**

Please see our latest tweets for the details, from today until the end of term you are invited to come to the school hall from 3.15pm to exchange, donate or receive a free (used) school uniform.

### **September 2023 - Return to School**

School will open for pupils on Tuesday 5 September 2023 - (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> is an INSET day for staff).

Finally, whenever I get the opportunity, I tell everyone how proud I am of our amazing pupils – and yet again they have been superb throughout the year, with many fantastic achievements (please see our website and Twitter feed).

Just lately, pupil behaviour and attitudes have been exemplary; pupils took part in sports days with enthusiasm, showed interest and reverence during Mission Week, celebrated their successes on Review Day and the Year 11 pupils were simply incredible at their Leavers' Ball on Friday night. The outstanding young adults that they have developed into was on full display and their brilliant behaviour was a credit to their parents and families.

As ever, your support is hugely appreciated and on behalf of the whole school community, we wish you all a wonderful summer.

Yours faithfully



**M J DUMICAN**  
Headteacher