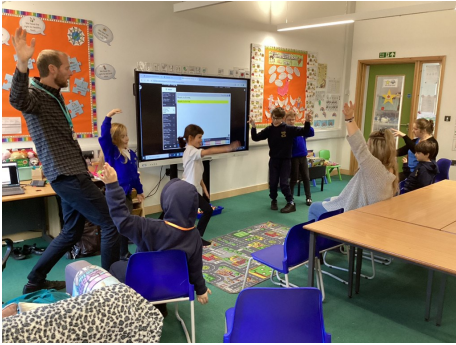




## Music Making in the Nest

This term the KS2 children in Kingfishers and Owls classes have started learning how to play the Ukulele with Mr Watson from the County Music Service. They have been learning to sing songs with actions and their confidence is growing session by session. The children have learnt how to hold the ukulele and how to strum the instrument. They are now learning each of the string notes and singing songs whilst strumming the ukulele. Learning to play an instrument is helping develop the children's concentration, focus and musical expertise and they're having a great time whilst doing so.



## Year 2 Church visit

Recently, the children in Year 2 went to visit Fr Sean at St Edmund's Church to support their learning about the sacrament of Baptism. Fr Sean talked to the children about the 5 universal signs and symbols of baptism. They learnt about the font and the Baptismal candle and saw where these were located in our parish church. They were shown a white shawl and the oil of chrism. They talked about the use of holy water and learnt about the significance of each of these symbols.



## New Trikes and scooters

The children have been having a great time making use of a number of new trikes, scooters and other wheeled vehicles that have been purchased this term. Thanks to your support at events such as the summer fair, bake sales and the second hand uniform sales, the Friends were able to donate £1000 towards the purchase of these.



### Anti-bullying Week—Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday we marked Anti-bullying week with many of the children, staff (and a few parents too) coming in wearing odd socks to celebrate our uniqueness. There have been some really valuable discussions that have taken place in school this week when thinking about why we all need to 'Choose Respect' when interacting with others and empowering the children to do something positive to counter the hurt and harm that unkindness can cause.



### Young Carers—Support for Young People

There are many children who take on a caring responsibility within their family unit. Young Carer is a term used to describe a young person, who is caring for or emotionally affected by a family member who has a physical or mental illness or disability. Some children take on a caring responsibility for a sibling and are affected by a brother or sister's disability, illness or additional need.

Caring for a family member isn't always 'doing something' to help. The impact of caring for someone can lead to young people feeling scared, angry or worried about the person and about what is happening now and what could happen in the future.

We work with Alex from Suffolk Family Carers who comes into school each half term and supports a group of our children who are registered as Young Carers. They often have fun engaging in arts and crafts based activities. In addition to the support she provides in school, the children are also invited to attend various events outside of school such as swimming sessions, trips to the theatre and craft nights. These provide the children with some respite and the opportunity to form friendships with other children and young people who too have caring responsibilities. If you think that your child would be considered as a Young Carer and you would like us to register them and enable them to engage with the support provided by Suffolk Family Carers, please speak to Mrs Copeman.

### Travelling Cribs - Celebrating Our Faith

To help the children prepare for Christmas and have a chance to develop their faith, we will again have a Travelling Crib in each year group which the children will be able to take home to share with their family.

The Posada is a Mexican tradition which is designed to help us take time to reflect during Advent making time for prayer and to think about all those people who are homeless and poor and to thank God for all we have. The Posada (Travelling Crib) will contain a guidance sheet, a crib set, some books and a candle, which your child can keep overnight.

If your child would like to participate, please click on the consent tick box on Scopay under trips and events – Posada by 1st December 2024, so a rota can be organised for each class. We kindly ask that only 1 request is made per family to maximise the number of families who can take the cribs home. Of course, all children in the household are welcome to complete one of the enclosed crib sheets.

## Diary Dates

Tue 19th Nov	Diocesan Ignite Team workshops
Wed 20th Nov	Whole School Mass—St Edmunds Feast day
Thur 28th Nov	Annie/Sue OM Health and Wellbeing in school
Fri 29th Nov	Friends Christmas Disco events 4:30-6:00pm (EY/KS1) and 6:30-8:00pm (KS2)
Fri 6th Dec	Whole School Mass (Advent) 9am
Tue 10th & Wed 11th Dec	EYs/KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm
Tue 17th Dec	KS2 Carol Service—2:30pm
Thur 19th Dec	Rocksteady Gig 9am
Fri 20th Dec	Whole School Mass 9am

## Reducing Parental Conflict Awareness Workshop

Everyone has arguments from time to time, they are a normal part of family life and relationships. Children who are around adults who shout loudly, argue a lot or ignore each other often, don't see and learn how to resolve conflict in a healthy way.

A stable family environment (whether parents and carers are together or not) is key to delivering the best outcomes for children and young people. As part of Suffolk County Council's strategy to reduce parental conflict, Suffolk parents are now able to access free digital resources to help support and improve communication within their relationship. More information about the digital offer developed by OnePlusOne can be found on the following website <https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/>

## Christmas card sales

Thank you for making purchases of the Christmas cards that your children designed earlier this term. As a result of your purchases, we've raised £514 for the school.



## Safeguarding reminder

In order to support us in safeguarding the children, please can we remind you that parents are not permitted to enter the school building to use the children's toilets whilst waiting for a child to come out of school. As the children are collecting their belongings to get ready to go home, they often make use of the toilets and therefore it would not be appropriate to have adults in the toilet areas at that time.

Please speak to a staff member on the playground if there is an urgent need to use a toilet and we will accompany or direct you or your child to an appropriate toilet facility. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.



## OPAL—Outdoor Play and Learning—Storage boxes



Many of the smaller toys and items that the children have access to play with at lunchtimes are stored in large weatherproof black storage boxes. At present we have been storing these away in the shed at the end of each lunchtime. We have talked to the children in a Play assembly today about the fact that we're going to now be storing some of these in designated spaces outside around the grounds so that they can have direct access to these items in the playground zone in which they are played with. From next week, you will see some of these around the school grounds. PLEASE can we ask for your support in ensuring that the children do not open these and access the equipment stored inside of them when you collect them from the playground at the end of the day. If you could help reinforce the message that the contents is only for use at lunchtime and that we don't sit on or stand on the boxes either.



## This month's requests

We are in need of:

- toilet roll tubes
- Unused crutches
- Unwanted puppets

If you have any of these, please drop them into the office.



### Year 6 Art workshop

Last Friday the children in Year 6 took part in an art workshop led by Michelle Freeman from Crafty Foxes. The children were designing and making Aladdin themed tree decorations using repurposed CDs. Their creation was part of a larger project that Michelle has led to decorate Christmas trees across the town. On the back of the CDs the children have then written their wishes. These are now hanging on the tree outside the Theatre Royal so do stop and take a look if you're walking past or if you're heading to the panto.



### Curriculum Visions

#### FREE access to digital books

As a school, we have a subscription to Curriculum Visions which provides us with access to a range of non-fiction books that we use in school to support our teaching. These non-fiction books support a range of curriculum areas such as History,

Geography and Science. As well as the staff log-in, we have a log-in that the children can use to access these books at home. If your child would like to access them at home, all you need to do is log in to the website below using the Username and password noted below:

<https://www.curriculumvisions.com/index.html>

Username: StEdmunds/1 Password: Newton



### Year 5 Street Art

The children in Year 5 have just completed a unit of art focused on looking at how artists portray a powerful message. They have explored this from Ancient Maya through to modern day street art. The children have then applied their understanding of the impact and effect to create a powerful piece of Street Art.

