

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th January 2024

Dear parents and carers

We started this second week of 2024 with our **Prayer and worship** gatherings on Monday. We focused on the previous **Sunday's Mass readings** especially the lovely story of the boy **Samuel** and God's call when he was in the temple.

On Tuesday, we had the meeting for the parents of Year 6 children who will be going on the Residential Trip next month. At the **good news assembly** on Thursday we reflected on the **core value for this term - WISDOM**, and the beginning of the **Week of Prayer for Unity of Churches**. It was also so wonderful to see so many children getting Good News **certificates** awarded to them by members of staff for a range of reasons including work in class, their perseverance and being a role model for others.

Today, Year 5E led our Friday **class assembly** and told us about what they have been learning about recently including

This week, we also started the after school activity clubs for this term. There are a wide range of clubs including, Arts and Crafts, Science clubs and other sports based clubs. We remind parents to make sure they collect children on time at 4.15 pm on such days and that they settle the contribution due on PARENTPAY.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY

We are very proud of our high percentages of our pupils' school attendance over these last few years. However, parents are reminded that **no holidays or travel should be booked during term time** and that all children arrive by no later than **8.55 am** each morning.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

Friday 26th January

Class Assembly - 2E

Parents of children in 2E are invited to join us in Building 1

Saturday 27th January

Holocaust Memorial Day

Sunday 28th January

Racial Justice Sunday

Year 5/6 group of children attending Mass at St George's Cathedral

Week beginning 5th February

Children's Mental Health week

Wednesday 7th February

to Friday 9th February

Residential Trip - Year 6

WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER



ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGES THIS WEEK

YEAR GROUP	ATTENDANCE
Reception	91%
Year 1	92.7%
Year 2	91.5%
Year 3	96.2%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	88.9%
Year 6	97.4%

Well done to **Year 6** pupils who registered the highest attendance percentage this week - very close to 100%

Every week our Mid-day meals supervisors award stars to pupils who show our school values during lunchtime breaks. The following are the names of our Star children for this week.



Nursery:

Lewis; Khadija

Reception:

Lorenzo; Joseph

Year 1:

Adriel; Mya

Year 2:

Channel; Enoch

Year 3:

Lillie-Mae; Jana

Year 4:

Jheison; Deborah; Tatiana

Year 5:

Gloria; Edward; David

Year 6:

David; Feyikemi; Veronika

LAPTOPS LENDING SCHEME

As children are now carrying out more work online, we have **laptops** available to offer on loan to families who need them to use for home learning and to work on the homework tasks set for them by teachers. Laptops are loaned on a **termly basis** and an agreement has to be signed by parents. A £10 contribution per term applies. If you would like to benefit from this scheme please contact the school office.



THE WEDNESDAY WORD

Every Wednesday we ask our children to have a look and read through THE WEDNESDAY WORD. This is a Catholic flyer about the Sunday Mass readings and includes a range of activities for children. Use the link below to share this Sunday's gospel as a family.



<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/prayer?pid=MTA101634&v=17.8>



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

CLASS 6T

In writing, Year 6 is using the text 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. The book is about a man's journey to find a better life for him and family. For one lesson, we have imagined we were on a boat and wrote a character description explaining about ourselves and why we were travelling. We are thinking about why people need to travel, how they might feel and what they want to achieve.



In humanities, our history topic is 'The Victorians' as part of our time travellers unit. This week we looked at schools and compared education to modern times. We investigated the school day, subjects that were taught and punishments the children got for not making the right choices. For many of the children it was a shock to see the sizes of the classes in those times.



Every week, we are very lucky to have singing with one of the choir masters from St George's Cathedral. Thank you to Charlie who really does make sure the children hit all the right notes!

CLASS 4J



In Science, we have been learning about **electricity**. The children made **predictions** about whether or not they think the pictures of some circuits were com-

plete or incomplete. After that, they carried out tests to see if their predictions were correct or incorrect.

The children have been enjoying a wide variety of activities in PE. They also develop transferable skills such as listening well and team work skills that they can apply to other curriculum areas.



NURSERY



This term our theme is All Creatures Great and Small and we will be looking at some amazing fiction and non-fiction books including The Snail and the Whale, What the Ladybird Heard, The Fly and Tadpole's Promise. We will be using lots of mark making and drama to share our ideas and likes about these books. We will continue to follow Ruth Miskins's Read, Write, Inc phonics. In Maths we will be counting objects, reciting numbers to 5 and beyond, sorting different objects into groups, begin to learn that numbers are made up of smaller numbers, talk about and identify patterns around us and create our own patterns, show an awareness of shape similarities and differences between objects and explore full and empty. The children will continue to gain in confidence and sing some of their favourite nursery rhymes and songs and participate in lots of messy Arts and Crafts. In RE we will be looking at stories about animals from the Bible.

Please remember that Nursery children need to come in wearing the correct PE kit on Wednesdays.

I look forward for your continued support throughout this term.

A big thank you once again!

