

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear parents and carers

Our week started with our worship assemblies when we reflected on **Racial Justice** which was celebrated the previous Sunday. A group of Year 5 and 6 children represented our school at the special mass at **St George's Cathedral** on Sunday 28th January.



On Wednesday, our Year 4 classes took part in a workshop led by an author who was invited through our links with the new Una Marson Library that has just opened in our local area in Thurlow Street. On Thursday, both Year 1 classes **visited the Vauxhall City Farm** where they had the opportunity to learn about different animals and other creatures. Our week came to an end today. **Class 3C** led our Friday assembly in which they told us about their recent work in Science, French and also shared reflections and singing on today's celebration of Candlemass.

We now look forward to **next week** which is the final week of this Spring 1 half term and yet another week full of special days and events including:

- Children's **mental health week**
- **Safer Internet day** on Tuesday 6th February, and
- The Year 6 **residential trip** to Grosvenor Park from Wednesday to Friday
- **China day** led by Year 1 on Friday

Thank you.

CORE VALUE - SPRING 1

Our Spring 1 core value is **WISDOM**. This is about being able to use knowledge, experience and advice to make the **right choices** in different situations. Are you always making the right choices?



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

Week beginning 5th February
Children's Mental Health week

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Wednesday 7th February
to Friday 9th February
Residential Trip - Year 6

Friday 9th February
Class Assembly - 2J
Parents of children in 2J invited
to attend in Building 1

Week beginning 12th February
Beginning of Half term week.
Children not in school this week.

Wednesday 22nd February
ASH WEDNESDAY
Beginning of the season of Lent

WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER



SCHOOL MEMBER



ONLINE SAFETY

Nowadays our children are exposed to a number of **social media** platforms that are not appropriate for their age.

One of these apps is **WHATSAPP**. Have a look at page 6 of this newsletter to find out more about how to make sure we are all using social media in a safe way.



Please make sure you always monitor what your children are accessing on laptops or mobile phones in order to ensure they are always safe online and away from any potential danger.

USED SCHOOL UNIFORMS

One of the ways we try to support families and parents of children who join our school is to enable them to use second hand uniform items.

Has your child grown out of their school jumper, trousers, dress etc? Are they still in good condition.

If so we invite you to consider donating them to be washed and recycled for use by other pupils in the future. Thank you.



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

Parents of children attending any of our After School Activity clubs need to make sure that the **£10 contribution** is paid using PARENT PAY. When this is not settled places will be withdrawn and offered to other children on the waiting list.

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.



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:

Acacia, Elioenai

Reception:

Lorenzo, Kian

Year 1:

Sami, Tiara

Year 2:

Avia, Harli, Darron

Year 3:

Nathaniel, Kaliyah

Year 4:

Daniella, Benjamin

Year 5:

Nairobi, Samuel, Tysha, Juma

Year 6:

Davina, Sean



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

CLASS 5E



This week in 5E, we have been exploring the **properties of materials** through a range of investigations. We have made **lava lamps** to see how the particles of liquids move and we have debated whether 'oobleck' (a mixture of water and corn flour) is a solid or a liquid – perhaps you could try this at home too! We also developed our **thermometer reading skills** in our investigation into what effects how well sugar dissolves in water.



CLASS 1K



In 1K this week, we have been learning about **animals** in Science.

Trotter the rabbit came to visit our class. We know that rabbits are

herbivores and are **mammals**. We are excited to go to the farm this week to meet some more animals! In maths, we have been **counting to 50**. In English we have been reading the book



we

Tadpole's promise and learning about different ways we use apostrophes. In Topic we are learning about **China**, next week it is Chinese New



Year, we will be celebrating by having a **China day** on Friday and going on a school trip on Wednesday. We are really looking forward to it!



CLASS 3M



Who knew that **rocks** could be so fascinating! 3M have been discovering just how wonderful rocks really are and have been exploring the rich history of the **Stone Ages**. In science, just like **Mary Anning**, we have become geologists and palaeontologists. This has included discovering unique characteristics of different types of rocks and uncovering all the different types of fossils that could be beneath our very own feet.

In history we have been transported back in time to the Stone Ages. They have been captivated by the lifestyles, tools and advancements of early human societies, as well as creating their own chronological timelines. In literacy

3M have been tackling **"The First Drawing"** by Mordicai Gerstain, which ties seamlessly with our exploration of the Stone Ages.

In Art 3M have been honing their skills to create **Stone Age cave paintings**, where they are using different creative techniques to bring to life the expressive and symbolic art forms from this period. Finally, in maths 3M have been continuing developing their understanding of **3D shapes** and looking at their different properties.



This February we're inviting everyone in our school community to embrace the



FIZZ FREE FEB challenge!

Why not join us? - look at the benefits....

Save money

Lose weight

Keep your teeth



Una Marson Library events

Una Marson Library, 62 Thurlow Street, SE17 2GN

Caribbean Voices: Craft and Learn

Thursday 15th February, 11am-12:30pm



Have you ever heard of Una Marson? What about her ground-breaking radio show, 'Caribbean Voices'? Come explore the story of this pioneer as well as guests on her show, with fun crafts for different ages and even a writing competition!

FREE, ideal for children aged 6-12 years

No advance booking required

 @southwarklibs

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