

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr J Camilleri

NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st November 2025

Dear parents and carers

The really cold weather arrived this week, but the children were brave and resilient, facing the chilly temperatures with determination and good spirits. On Monday we welcomed six **6th Form students** from Christ the King college and they will be with us again for their second week of work experience next week.

Besides the teaching and learning in every year group, this week we also gathered for our **Worship** everyday, starting on Monday with our reflections on the **celebration of the Mass**, the **Holy Souls** and the school value we're currently focusing on - **Respect**.

On Thursday, **Class 5E** visited the monument of a **local soldier** from Bermondsey killed in World War II. They presented the wonderful poppy wreath they made in class and thought about the sacrifice brave soldiers made for peace in our country. Our week came to an end today with an online **celebration** with other schools for the end of the **Jubilee Year 2025**.

We now look forward to next week which is our formal **Assessment** week for the Autumn term. Children will be carrying out different tasks and tests to show how much progress they made since the beginning of the term. Parents will then have the opportunity to meet with class teachers to discuss progress **between the 9th and 11th December** after school. It is also **Parliament week** so we'll be having our elections for the new school council on Thursday.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

CORE VALUE - AUTUMN 2

Our Autumn Term 2 core value is **RESPECT**. This is about helping, supporting and working with others no matter who they are.

Do you always show respect to everyone through your actions?



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

Sunday 23rd November
Solemnity of CHRIST THE KING

Monday 24th to Friday 28th November
ASSESSMENT WEEK

Monday 24th November
Beginning of Parliament Week

Thursday 27th November
School Council elections

Thursday 27th November
Year 6
Junior Citizenship workshops

Sunday 30th November
First Sunday of Advent
Beginning of the new Church Year

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[@EngMartyrsPS](https://www.instagram.com/EngMartyrsPS)

WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER





This Sunday is the Feast of

CHRIST THE KING

We think of Jesus as our true King who leads us in the ways of truth and love.

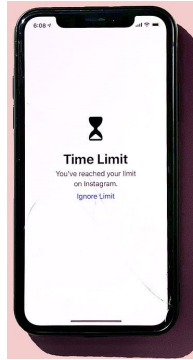
SCREEN TIME, SMARTPHONES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Along with 20 other schools across Southwark, we have collectively pledged to address the issues associated with **screen time, smartphones and social media**.

Headteachers have worked collaboratively to create a **SET OF PRINCIPLES** which we will work towards when educating your child on screen time, smartphones and social media.

We also hope that all families in our school community will support these principles at home too.

Please see **page 4 of the newsletter** which shows recommendations for screen time, social media and smartphone use.



NOVEMBER - THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

We are now in the month of November - a time when we remember the Feasts of **All Souls and All Saints**. We think about loved ones who are no longer with us and pray for them. We pray especially for people who have passed away and are related to members of our school community.

Starting Reception School in September 2026

If your child was born between

1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022

Your child is due to start primary school in September 2026

You will need to complete the online local authority form using the following link <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk>

before the closing date

Thursday 15th January 2026

Applications made after this date will not be considered for the first round and will be 'a late application'.

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:
Aslan, Lemlem

Reception:
George, Isabela

Year 1:
Elioenai, Mardiyah, Khadija

Year 2:
Dion, Deborah, Chloe

Year 3:
Nathan, Yasmin

Year 4:
Harli, Saramadi

Year 5:
**Alan, Jade,
Jairy, Isabella**

Year 6:
Deborah Y, Clarice, Leyla



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

CLASS 2J

In 2J this week we have been reading a book called 'A Walk in London' by Salvatore Rubbino. The book has inspired us to write a walking guide about Walworth so we went for a **walk in the local area**. In maths we have been learning about **measures** and have carried out some **investigations** involving length. We have had a lot of fun sorting pictures of **living**



things as part of our science. In History we have begun learning about the **Gunpowder plot** and the origins of **fireworks night**. As part of our RE this week we have been learning about **The Holy Trinity**.



CLASS 3C

In 3C, we have been working hard. In Writing, we have been doing work inspired by the book **The Tear Thief** by **Carol Anne Duffy**. We have written character descriptions using **figurative language**, practised using **speech punctuation** and this week we have been writing **newspaper reports** about the Tear Thief coming to our class to steal a bottle of tears.



This week in Science, we investigated to see what objects were attracted to **magnets** and which were not. We found out that even though they were all made from metal not all our coins were magnetic.

In History this half term, we have been learning about **British heroes**. Earlier this week, we learnt how **Elizabeth Fry** improved conditions in prisons in Britain. We are looking forward to learning about more heroes such as **Florence Nightingale** and **Emmeline Pankhurst**.

RE

In Religious Education, the whole school started the half-term by learning about **Judaism**. Each year group learnt about a different aspect of the Jewish faith for example, in Year 2 children learnt about the **Torah** and why it is so important. In year 3, children learnt about the **synagogue** and how it is similar and different to Catholic churches. Our next world faiths' week will be in the summer where we will be learning about **Islam**.



We are now working on our units from **The Way, The Truth and The Life** scheme. In EYFS, the children are learning about **God's Family**. In Year 1, the children have been learning about **Mary**. Children in Year 2 have been learning about mysteries including the mystery of **The Holy Trinity**. As part of this the children designed their own symbols for The Holy Trinity. In Year 3, the children have been learning about the **Annunciation** and in lessons reflected on paintings and who or what they thought was most important and why. The children in Year 4, learning has also included Mary and how she showed trust in God. In Upper Key Stage 2, children in Year 5 have been learning about The **Commandments** and in Year 6 children have been learning about Justice including whether or not refugees should be welcomed into the country. As part of this, the children made links with scripture.



The table below shows our recommendations for screen time, social media and smartphone use are therefore presented as the 'best advice' we can give based upon the current evidence available.

Age/Year group	Maximum screen time per day?	Outside of school hours, what are appropriate <i>amounts</i> and <i>types</i> of screen time?
Birth to 18 months	5 minutes	Access to short supervised video calls to close family/support network Avoid access to any other screen time of any kind especially in the hour directly before sleeping
18 months to 2 years	Up to 1 hours	Access to up to 1 hours of age-appropriate TV* per day and/or short supervised video calls to close family/support network Avoid access to any other device including computer games, any phone or tablet Avoid screen time in the hour directly before sleeping
2 years to Reception	Up to 2 hours	Access to up to 2 hours of age-appropriate TV per day* and/or short supervised video calls to close family/support network Avoid access to computer games and any type of phone, tablet or social media Avoid screen time in the hour directly before sleeping
Reception to Year 2	Up to 2.5 hours	Access to up to 2 hours of age-appropriate TV per day* Access to a tablet/laptop/PC for educational purposes for up to 30 minutes a day Avoid access to computer games and any type of phone, tablet or social media Avoid screen time in the hour directly before sleeping and no screens in the bedroom overnight
Year 3 to Year 5	Up to 3 hours	Access to up to 2 hours of age-appropriate TV show content per day* or age-appropriate computer games** Access to a tablet/laptop/PC for educational purposes for up to 1 hours a day Avoid access to any type of phone or social media Avoid screen time in the hour directly before sleeping and no screens in the bedroom overnight
Year 6 to Year 9	Up to 4 hours	Access to up to 2 hours of age-appropriate TV show content per day* or age-appropriate computer games** Access to a tablet, laptop or PC for educational purposes for up to 1 hour a day Access to a 'brick phone/non-smartphone' for communication to/from school. Avoid access to any other device including smartphones and social media Avoid screen time between 21:00 and 07:00 and no screens in the bedroom overnight
Year 10 to Year 11	Up to 5 hours	Access to up to 2 hours of age-appropriate TV show content per day* or age-appropriate computer games** Access to a tablet, laptop or PC for educational purposes for up to 2 hours a day Access to any phone, although not to be used between 21:00 and 07:00 Avoid access to any applications/social media with age restrictions above the child's age Avoid screen time between 21:00 and 07:00 and no screens in the bedroom overnight

MUSIC GROUPS AT



St George's Cathedral runs a thriving **music programme** for **children aged 0-18**. All choirs are **free** to join and open to boys and girls.

Small Sounds (New from November 2025)

Weekly music classes on Wednesday mornings for children aged 0-5 and their grown-ups.

Children's Choir

Informal singing group for children aged 5-7 on Wednesday afternoons.

Junior Choir

Church choir for young singers aged 7-12 on Thursday afternoons.

Cathedral Choir

Auditioned, selective choir for talented singers aged 9-13 on Friday afternoons and Sunday mornings.

Cathedral Consort

Liturgical choir for older children aged 13-18 on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings.

For more information and to register please visit <https://stgeorgescathedral.org.uk/music/> or contact cathedralmusic@rcaos.org.uk



NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME





SmallSounds
by CATHEDRAL MUSIC TRUST



SMALL SOUNDS

Free, drop-in music sessions for
children aged 0 - 5 and their grown-ups

Shake, rattle and roll with your little ones and
discover the joy of music through songs and play

WEDNESDAYS at 10:15 in
term time

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL
Lambeth Rd, SE1 7HY

Scan to join our mailing list:

<https://www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk/smallsounds>



LOCAL MUSIC LESSONS

Dear parents

PEMBROKE ACADEMY OF MUSIC offers music and instrumental lessons to local children mainly those in Year 3 to Year 9.

Please see the poster below for more details about dates and times as well as fees for lessons.

We would like to support this initiative and children from our school who would like to take part and start learning how to play a musical instrument.

Please see Mr Camilleri if you would like to discuss further.

Thank you.



Wednesdays (term time) **6:30pm-8:15pm**
At Pembroke House 80 Tatum St SE17 1QR

For Ages 7-14 (Yr3 - end of Yr9)

Weekly high-quality music tuition in a range of musical instruments, music theory and ensemble performance at subsidised rates for all participants.

Contact by email or phone:

lucy.duncan@pembrokehouse.org.uk
020 7703 3803

Fees per term:

Full Price: 1st child-£55,
2nd child-£44, 3rd child-£33
Concession fees available.



WALWORTH LIBRARY HOMEWORK CLUB



WELL, WE CAN HELP!



**Need support
with
homework?**

We are offering pupils the support needed to complete homework or revision

**Every
Tuesday
4-5PM**



Children's
Area

TERM TIME ONLY