

# ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr J Camilleri

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th January 2026

### Dear parents and carers

We started this second week of 2026 with our **Prayer and worship** gatherings on Monday. We focused on the previous **Sunday's Mass readings** when we celebrated the **Baptism of the Lord** and the end of the Christmas season.

At the **good news assembly** on Thursday we reflected on the **core value for this term - WISDOM**. 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, handwriting and presentation, their perseverance and being a role model for others.

On Thursday, we also had the meeting for the parents of Year 6 children who will be going on the Residential Trip next month.

Today, Year 5T led our Friday **class assembly** and told us about forces in Science, kindness in RE and used lovely oracy skills which encouraged audience participation.

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 ARBOR.

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 **8.45 am** each morning.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

**Friday 23rd January - 8.50 am**  
**Class Assembly - 2J**

**Parents of children in 2J are invited to attend in Building 1**

**Sunday 25th January**  
**Feast of the Conversion of St Paul**

**Tuesday 27th January**  
**Holocaust Memorial Day**

**Sunday 1st February**  
**Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

**Week beginning 2nd February**  
**Children's Mental Health week**

**Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th February 2026**  
**Residential Trip - Year 6**

**Week beginning Monday 16th February**  
**Half term week.**  
**Children not in school.**

**WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER**



## HOMEWORK

Please remember that our teachers continue to set Homework for children on [MS Teams](#).

A schedule for the week is posted online by teachers every Monday for children to work through during the week. Our normal homework pattern is as follows:



- Mondays - Spelling**
- Tuesdays - Online Maths**
- Wednesday - The Wednesday Word**
- Thursday - Writing task**
- Friday - Reading task.**

Please make sure your child is able to access MS Teams and complete all homework tasks regularly and let us know if you need any support with this. Thank you.

## BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Parents who are interested in applying for a place in either of these clubs can sign in to **Arbor** and pre-book the session in advance. Numbers are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Breakfast club is from 7.40 am. While our After school club runs from home time until 5.30 pm each day.

## 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 **ARBOR**. When this is not settled places will be withdrawn and offered to other children on the waiting list.

## START AND FINISH TIMES

School gates will open at **8.30 am** every day and all children are expected to be in class by 8.45 am ready for the start of the school day. The table below shows home times for each year group as well as pick up places:

YEAR GROUP	HOME TIME	PICK UP GATE
Year 6	3.15 pm	Car Park Exit - B1
Year 3 + Year 5	3.15 pm	Gate by Church - B2
Year 4	3.15 pm	Main Gate - B2
Rec, Yrs 1, 2	3.15 pm	Main Gate - B1
Nursery	11.30 am 3.30 pm	Nursery Gate

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:**  
[Chloe, Yemariam](#)

**Reception:**  
[Adaluna, Victor, Maryam](#)

**Year 1:**  
[Levi, Alisha](#)

**Year 2:**  
[Olufela, Dream'rae](#)

**Year 3:**  
[Elkan, Flourish](#)

**Year 4:**  
[Harli, Grace](#)

**Year 5:**  
[Nadan, Tsion, Janet](#)

**Year 6:**  
[Leyla, Linh,  
Saron, Steven](#)



# FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK

## CLASS 4G

In Design and Technology this term, Year 4 explored **Mechanisms**, with a focus on levers and linkages. Class 4G learned how to design, make



and evaluate **greeting cards** with moving parts. The children particularly enjoyed this topic as they created festive Christmas cards, featuring Santa travelling around the world delivering presents. The pupils showed great creativity and enthusiasm throughout the project.



In RE, the pupils are learning about **Jesus the Teacher**. They began by learning about the presentation of Jesus in the Temple and have gone on to explore key events from Jesus' life, including



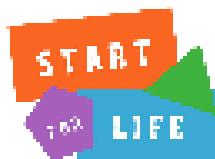
his baptism by John and how he chose his disciples. The children would also reflect on Jesus' parables, such as **The Sower and The Unforgiving Servant**. Below is a photo of the pupils taking part in a role play of Mary and Joseph searching for Jesus when he was teaching in the Temple.

## RECEPTION

In Maths, we have been exploring different ways to **represent numbers** using a range of **materials and manipulatives**. We have worked together as a class to understand how ten frames are used and how numbers can be represented using a **ten frame**.

We have been learning about different buildings from history. The children explored the features of a **castle** and thought about what makes a building a castle and how they could build their own. They then went into our provision to create their own castles and did an amazing job.





# Support your child's development for free

Get unlimited access by scanning the QR code\*



Parenting advice and activity ideas for children aged from birth to five, shared by our community and experts.

Available for all parents and carers in Southwark.



[easypeasyapp.com/southwark](http://easypeasyapp.com/southwark)



\*For full terms and conditions, please visit [easypeasyapp.com/terms](http://easypeasyapp.com/terms).

# MUSIC GROUPS AT



St George's  
Cathedral

SOUTHWARK

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](mailto:cathedralmusic@rcaos.org.uk)



NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME





# 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**