

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear parents and carers

We started this week with our **Prayer and worship** gatherings on Monday. We focused on the previous **Sunday's Mass readings** especially the episode when **John the Baptist** spoke about Jesus and introduced him as the Son of God. Children then reflected on the example of John; how they too can be **witnesses** to Christ.

This week we continued with our work of reviewing the school **Menu**. We are being supported by '**Chefs in schools**' who are working with our kitchen staff to develop new recipes and introduce new dishes. They are working hard to prepare food using fresh ingredients every day. Feedback from children seem to be very positive. We will continue to develop this further to make sure all our children are getting nutritious meals everyday.

This week, we also had a practice of our **Lockdown Procedures**. We do such practice to make sure all pupils and staff stay safe at all times and that they know how to react and what procedures to follow in the event of a real Lockdown of the school. All children, including our little ones showed they are very able to follow all instructions and to take the right precautions. In the unlikely event that we have to Lock down the school for real, all parents will instantly receive emails and texts to inform them about the situation and developments.

Today, Year 2J led our Friday **class assembly** and told us about food chains in science, the future aspirations they talked about as part of LIFE-SAVERS Financial Education Programme and they also shared inspiring writing related to the book 'The Journey Home'.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

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:

Sunday 25th January
Feast of the Conversion of St Paul

Tuesday 27th January
Holocaust Memorial Day

Friday 30th January - 8.50 am
Class Assembly - 3C
Parents of children in 3C are invited to attend in Building 2

Week beginning 2nd February
Children's Mental Health week

Monday 2nd February
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

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



SAFEGUARDING

Are you concerned about the
Safeguarding or wellbeing of a child?

Make a record of your concern and
include facts such as date, time, what
you know and any witnesses.



Add your signature and submit to a member of our
Safeguarding team.

Ms Akpojotor - Mr Camilleri - Ms Essel
Ms Bentaleb - Ms Castaldi

Remember:

We all have a duty to share concerns

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:
Mariano, Tobi

Reception:
Ada, Shaydasha

Year 1:
Levi, Kamiah

Year 2:
Amelia, David,
Shaqir, Abdul K

Year 3:
Yasmin, Miracle,
Iman, Ethan

Year 4:
Arnica, Fifi,
Saramadi, Esosa

Year 5:
Simone, Elia

Year 6:
Linh, Benjamin



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>

Year 6 SATs Revision

Vocabulary Ninja will be uploading **weekly support videos** on their
YouTube channel for the next 16 weeks!

Each video will cover important topics that are likely to come up in the
SATs tests.

Please encourage your child to watch these videos to support their
revision.

<https://www.youtube.com/@vocabularyninja>

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 ad-
vance. 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.



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

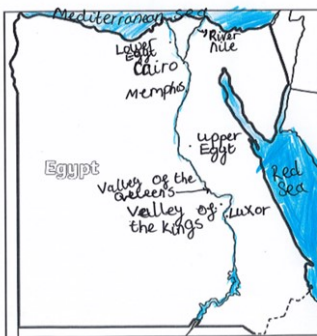
CLASS 4J

Leading up to Christmas, in RE, the children were asked to explain the true meaning of **Christmas**. On poster, they expressed themselves clearly and wisely with explanation such as, "Jesus is the best present people can receive as he brings peace."



Map of Egypt

Using what you know about Egypt, draw the River Nile on the blank map. Label some of the cities, including Luxor and Cairo, the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens on the map.



In Year 4, we have been learning about **Ancient Egypt**. The children have used maps and globes to locate **Egypt**. They have also located significant places and landmarks such as **The Valley of the Kings** where **Tutankhamun's tomb** was found, and the **River Nile**.

CLASS 6T

6T continue with '**The Last Bear**' book by **Hannah Gold** in writing and destination reader sessions. We are producing a **non chronological report** so have started with researching **polar bears** on the school's laptops. Next we will plan out our writing then we will edit and publish.



In maths, we have been looking at **measurements**. We have studied **time, mass, length and capacity**.



We have been **converting measures, ordering and solving reasoning** questions to embed our learning.

In RE we have been looking at the different parts of **mass** and reflecting on how we take part in them.

NURSERY

This term our theme is **All Creatures Great and Small** and we will be looking at some amazing fiction books by the author **Julia Donaldson** including **The Snail and the Whale, What the Ladybird Heard, The Guffalo, A Squash and a Squeeze, The Fly and Dear Zoo**. We will be using lots of **mark making and drama** to share our ideas and likes about these books. We will continue to learn a sound each week. So far we have learnt the **sounds, m, a, s, d, t, i and n**. 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** and will be following **Lighting the Path** and learning about how God made our beautiful world and how God loves everyone and we are all part of his family. Please remember that Nursery children need to come in wearing the correct **PE kit on Wednesdays and Fridays**.



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



*For full terms and conditions, please visit easypeasyapp.com/terms.

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