

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr J Camilleri

NEWSLETTER

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear parents and carers

We started this week with our prayer and worship assembly when we reflected on Sunday's Gospel about when **Jesus called the first Disciples** to follow him.

On Tuesday we marked **Holocaust Memorial Day**. Children learned about the suffering many people went through during World War II and at other times and reflected about how the treatment they received was both inhumane and against God's wishes that we all live in peace.

Today, **Class 3C** led our **Class assembly** in Building 2 in which they shared a lot of examples of what they have been learning about recently. Thanks to all parents who attended.

We now look forward to next week when we'll be having special activities for National Storytelling week. This is our first themed week of the year as part of a range of events we have planned to mark the National Year of Reading.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

Week beginning 2nd February
Children's Mental Health week

Monday 2nd February
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Wednesday 4th February
Parent meeting at 9.00am -
Talk Boost
Year 1 & 2 (selected children)

Friday 6th February - 8.50 am
Class Assembly - 4J
Parents of children in 4J are invited
to attend in Building 2

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

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

STORYTELLING WEEK

Next week is **NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK** - a celebration of oral storytelling, reading and writing for pleasure. Children will be reading more stories in class and assemblies this week and there will be more activities and stories to follow on the National Literacy Trust and other websites such as the BBC Bitesize website.



WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

Wednesday 11th to

Friday 13th February 2026

Parents who have not yet cleared the payment for this trip are kindly asked to log on to **Arbor** to make the final payment.



HOMETIME

The school day finishes at **3:15pm for Reception and Years 1 to 6**. Please make sure your child is collected promptly at this time, unless they are staying for an after-school club.



For safeguarding reasons, if you have arranged for your child to be collected by someone who is **not a named contact** on your child's file, you must inform the school office **in advance**. The class teacher will not release your child unless they have been notified.

ENGLISH MARTYRS' PARISH CHURCH

Our school is part of the ENGLISH MARTYRS' PARISH community. The parish church is right next door to the school.

There are Masses regularly every weekend at the following times:

Saturday evenings at 6:00 pm

Sundays at 9.00 am

Sundays at 11:30 am

Sunday evening at 6:00 pm



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>

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, Chloe

Reception:
Ava, Daniel

Year 1:
Kevin, Eleanor

Year 2:
Stella, Kian

Year 3:
Mustapha, Miracle

Year 4:
Arnica, Donny

Year 5:
Kelis, Kashaun

Year 6:
Benjamin, River



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

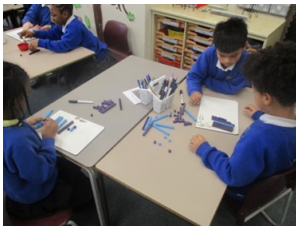
THIS WEEK

CLASS 2J

In 2J this week we have been **writing questions** to find out about a mysterious abandoned house held up by trees. In maths we have been **partitioning numbers into tens and ones**.

We have had a lot of fun learning

about the **continents and oceans** of the world in Geography as well as locating the **North and South Pole**.



We talked about some of **Jesus' miracles** and what they teach us about Jesus. Our new topic in science is **'Plants'** and we have recorded the



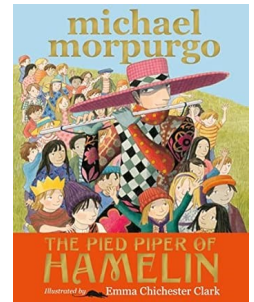
lifecycle of a sunflower. In Art we have been learning about the artist **Georgia O'Keeffe** and have tried to use different tones to colour

flowers.



CLASS 3C

In 3C we have started reading **Michael Morpurgo's** version of the **Pied Piper of Hamelin** during our English lessons. In class, we have **written in role** as people in the town including a **letter to the Mayor of Hamelin** advising him whether or not to pay the piper for his work.



In our History lessons we have started learning about the **Stone Age**. In our lessons we have looked at the different types of **dwelling** from the period and considered their individual advantages and disadvantages. We also made comparisons between our **diet** and the diet which of some-one from the Stone Age period.

Our science topic has been **rocks** and in our lessons we devised our own criteria and classified different rock samples. We also investigated the **hardness** of different rocks and what would happen when they came into contact with **vinegar** which we learnt is an **acid**.

In Religious Education, we have been learning about the **sacrament of Reconciliation** and in class we spent time reading the story of **Zacchaeus**. We reflected on what he might have done differently after meeting **Jesus**.

RE

The whole school have been working hard in Religious Education.

We began the half term by coming together to celebrate the **Feast of The Epiphany**.

In our Early Years classes, the children have been learning more about **Jesus** and how he showed love to children.

In key stage 1, year 1 enjoyed reading and doing work based on the story of the **Presentation in The Temple**. Year 2 have been learning about **John The Baptist and the Baptism of Jesus**.

In key stage 2, year 3 have been learning about the **sacrament of Reconciliation**. As part of this, they have studied the story of **Zacchaeus** the rich tax collector whose life was changed thanks to Jesus. As part of this, they wrote in role as Zacchaeus reflecting on the changes he made to his life. Like Year 1, Year 4 have been busy learning the story of the Presentation in the Temple. In The Church we celebrated this on the **feast of Candlemas** which is this Monday.

Year 5 have been reflecting on the **Beatitudes** and how they can live them out in their life and year 6 have been learning all about the **New Covenant Jesus** made with us. They have also been learning more about the **Mass**.

Finally Saturday is the **feast day of St John Bosco** the saint which 4J are named after.



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