

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr J Camilleri

NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th January 2026

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back for this new term. We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year break and that you had a good start to the new year 2026. We have now started our **Spring Term** and it's been wonderful to see all the children back in school and ready for a new term of learning and activities. It's been a very cold week but our children did their best to carry on with their work on their new topics in all areas of the curriculum.

Our week started on Tuesday when we gathered in the parish church to celebrate the feast of the **Epiphany of the Lord**. On Thursday we had the first Good News assembly for this year when many children received Gold, Silver or Bronze certificates for completing tasks on the **Reading Passports** last term.

A big thank you should go to all the families who contributed food items towards our **Christmas foodbank appeal**. It was wonderful to see the generosity of our school community. Please see Page 3 of this newsletter to find out more about the **CAFOD gifts** purchased using the money collected at our Christmas Jumper Day in December.

Please make sure you continue to read this **school newsletter every Friday** so everyone is aware of what's going on in school every week. It is published on the school website every Friday and sent by email to all parents. **After school Activity Clubs** will be starting again next week. Letters to parents of children who have been offered places went home before the Christmas holidays.

We wish everyone in our school community a blessed and prosperous new year 2026.

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 11th January
The Baptism of the Lord

Thursday 15th January
2.30 pm: Meeting for Parents of Year 6 Pupils - Planning for the Residential Trip.

Friday 16th January - 8.50 am
Class Assembly - 5T
Parents of children in 5T are invited to attend in Building 2

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

NEWSLETTER ONLINE

For an extended version of our school newsletter please visit our website or use the link emailed to parents.



WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CLUBS

Our after school Activity Clubs resume from **Monday 12th January**. These will be led by school staff after school for 1 hour **from 3.15pm to 4.15 pm**. Before the Christmas break we sent letters to parents of children who have been offered places. Some children had to be added to the waiting list as we had more applications than there are places.

The contribution for taking place in these Activity clubs is **£10** for the **whole term and must be paid in advance**. Parents please use **ARBOR** for this and make sure children are always collected on time.

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.

PE DAYS

Children can still come in their **PE kit** on the day they have their PE lessons on the days shown below.

CLASS	PE DAY
Year 4 and Year 5	MONDAYS
Reception and Year 3	TUESDAYS
Nursery	WEDNESDAYS
Reception	THURSDAYS
Nursery, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6	FRIDAYS

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:

Amaya, Tobi, Al-Amin

Reception:

Joshua, Ava, Matteo

Year 1:

Makbel, Alisha

Year 2:

Jaiye, Freda

Year 3:

**Ethan, Adriel,
Lavie, Mia**

Year 4:

Enoch, Nadia

Year 5:

Jana, Canaan, Cosam

Year 6:

Saron, Tatiana, Chesner



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY FUNDRAISING

On **THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER** all children and staff were encouraged to wear their special Christmas jumpers and come to school in own clothes and help raise funds for **CAFOD**, a Catholic charity that supports families in poor countries in so many ways.



Together we **raised a total of £172.22**

Below are images and some information about the items we raised money for.



Winter warmth × 1
eCard / Christmas Stable



Back to school × 1
eCard / Jubilee



Trees for life × 2
eCard / Jubilee



Water for a family × 1
eCard / Jubilee



The goat that gives × 1
eCard / Christmas Stable

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