ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th November 2026

Dear parents and carers

Following the October half term break we returned to school on Monday and we started this first week of term with our worship gatherings reflecting mainly on **All Saints day** and **All Souls day**. We will continue with these themes throughout the month of November.

In RE this week, children have been learning about world Faiths, particularly about **JUDAISM**. Each year group has now also started focusing on new topics for Autumn 2. You can see more details on this term's curriculum in the Topic Overview sheets we're posting on the school website.

Other events that took place this week included the Football competition on Wednesday. A group of children from different classes formed our **football team** and took part in the competition together with a number of other Southwark schools. On the same day, **Year 3** children were on a trip to St George's Cathedral to take part in a recording session of Hymns they have been learning with the choir master of the Cathedral in their singing sessions every Wednesday.

Today, Class 4G led our Friday assembly in which they told us about a number of things they have been learning about in recent weeks.

Next week is another important week when we will be celebrating **Remembrance day** on Wednesday and thinking of those who gave up their lives for peace in the world.

Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The following are some of the important dates to remember:

Wednesday 11th November
Remembrance day

Wednesday 11th November
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
Individual children, Siblings, and Class Photos

Monday 16th November
Beginning of ANTI BULLYING WEEK
Odd Socks Day

Wednesday 18th November
Flu Vaccinations
Reception to Year 5 children

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children in **Year 4 or above** can apply for the **First Holy Communion programme** at English Martyrs Parish. Those who apply will need to attend **Catechism sessions on Saturdays** and also attend **Sunday Mass** regularly in Church with the Parish Community. Registration Forms are available from the church or the school office.



WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER

Ofsted raising standards improving lives | Ofsted GRADED GOOD | LifeSavers Helping children manage money wisely | HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON GOLD AWARD | UNICEF UK RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS AWARD BRONZE – RIGHTS COMMITTED | MUSIC MARK SCHOOL MEMBER | WE ARE A FAIR ACTIVE SCHOOL

CORE VALUE - AUTUMN 2



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

Do you always show respect to everyone?

REMEMBRANCE DAY

As **Wednesday 11th November** is Remembrance Day, we will be observing two minutes of silence at 11.00 am.
All children will be encouraged to think about the sacrifice so many soldiers and others have made for peace in our country and other parts of the world.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be in school on

Wednesday 11th November

to take individual pupil photos, and class photos. Sibling photos will be taken during the school day. If you would like your children to take a sibling photo, please complete the slip and return it to the school office.

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their full school uniform.



ODD SOCKS DAY

Monday 16th November is Odd socks day, this is to help raise awareness of bullying.
Children can come to school wearing odd socks on this day!



Every week our Mid-day meals supervisor's 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:
Emmanuel, Ohenenana, Reece
Reception:
Aminah, Maiol
Year 1:
Joshua, Raphael O, Pamilerin
Year 2:
Alisha, Makbel, Victoria O
Year 3:
Lorenzo, Fatima, Kane
Year 4:
Flourish, Hope
Year 5:
Harli, Fifi, Amy
Year 6:
Janet, Isabella, Kyla, Chiamaka





Mastering Times Tables: A Guide for Parents

Why are times tables so important?
Knowing times tables is essential to helping children progress in almost every area of mathematics. Being able to instantly recall multiplication facts helps learners answer questions more quickly, allowing them to tackle complex problem-solving in division, fractions, decimals, percentages, and algebra without being slowed down by the basic calculations.

Primary school children are expected to know all their times tables up to **12 x 12** by the end of **Year 4**. Here is the minimum timeline recommended by national expectations:

- **Reception:** Grouping objects in twos, fives, and tens.
- **Year 1:** Counting in sequences of 2s, 5s, and 10s; knowing doubles and halves up to 12.
- **Year 2:** Recalling and using facts for the **2, 5, and 10** times tables.
- **Year 3:** Recalling and using facts for the **3, 4, and 8** times tables.
- **Year 4:** Mastering all tables up to **12 x 12**.

Top Tips for Practising at Home

Short, daily bursts of practice are much more effective than spending hours studying once a week. Try integrating these fun, quick ideas into your routine.

Chant with a Twist: Have your child chant the number sequences (e.g., *3, 6, 9, 12...*) or full sentences (*"3 times 3 is 9..."*) using funny voices, like a robot, a parrot, whispering, or shouting.
Sneak it into the Routine: Quiz your child on the journey to school, while making dinner, or encourage them to chant a times table every time they walk up the stairs.
Use Visuals & Toys: Build arrays using Lego bricks or coloured sweets to help them visualize the math. Put a times table poster up near the dinner table or bathroom mirror.
Flash Cards: Create simple flashcards together with the question on the front and the answer on the back so they can test themselves or quiz siblings.

There are also many free multiplication and division **games** and songs available online:
Top Marks - Times Tables Games for 7 to 11 year olds - Topmarks
Times table games - Times tables games - Timestables.co.uk
Maths frame -Tommy's Trek - Times Tables - Mathsframe
Multiplication games - Master Multiplication Facts

Songs

Mr Demaio multiplication songs - Mr. DeMaio - YouTube
Number rocks - Focus Episode 1 + Addition Ad Desktop Arrow CTA

Thank you for your ongoing support.



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

Southwark Council
southwark.gov.uk