



English Martyrs School, St. Mark Street, London E1 8DJ  
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Headteacher – Miss B Nugent

*Mission Statement “We are special people on a journey, growing and learning together in search of excellence, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus.”*

Values: *Love – Respect - Honesty*

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

We look forward to welcoming our new Nursery pupils and parents this week and hope that they will settle into their new class routines as well as the rest of the school have started this new school year. Well done to all pupils from Reception through to Year 6.

I hope you have received the welcome letter from your child's teacher with information about what the class will be studying this term and how you can help their learning at home. It is important that you show your children that you have the same high standards for them as we do in school so please ensure reading, spellings, maths and writing activities are done regularly at home.

It has been brought to my attention that our half term week this term is a week later than the Local Authority. This means the cooked meals from Toby Lane will not be provided and our kitchen staff will prepare packed lunches for all the children.

**International Mass** - English Martyrs Church will celebrate International Mass on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 11am. Parishioners and visitors will bring food from their country to church and share with other after Mass. You are all are welcome to attend. Volunteers are needed to help. Please put your details on the sign-up list at the back of the Church and indicate the food you will be sharing.

**Open Evening** - Parents will be invited to meet teachers during Open Evening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Details will follow.

**Secondary Transfer Meeting** - Year 6 parents are invited to attend a briefing meeting about applications for Secondary Schools next week on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 9:00 in Year 6 classroom.

**Attendance and punctuality** - This statement below is from a letter sent to school leaders on mild illnesses and school attendance and the NHS link was included for us to share with you. Encourage excellent attendance and punctuality by telling your children that 'every day matters and every minute counts'.

*School attendance is vital to the life chances of children, it improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children attending school regularly. DfE 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.*

<https://nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

**Staff news** - We are delighted to share the good news that Mrs Briggs is expecting her new baby at Christmas. She will be going on maternity leave at half term. The sad news is that she has decided to resign and focus on being an amazing mum to her growing family. We have plans for a replacement teacher and will inform Year 1 parents as soon as the appointment is finalised.

**Healthy Schools London Award** - We are proud to share that we have achieved Silver standard in Healthy Schools London Award and believe we are very close to the Gold standard and your support in this will be much appreciated. We will keep you informed of the new initiatives that may be implemented.

**RAAC** - We completed to RAAC survey in August 2022 as requested by the DfE and were not alerted to it being present in our buildings. Following recent news around RAAC our Diocesan building contractors have reassured me that RAAC has not been used in our school. DfE letter to parents will be sent to all.

**Playground injuries** - While we supervise pupils at play, injuries can happen. We will notify you immediately if there is a cut or bruise to the head or face area. Other minor injuries will be reported to you at the end of the day. Parents must also inform the school of any cuts or bruises that happen at home.

**Music lessons** - Mrs Simon will provide after school keyboard lessons for 8 pupils from Years 4-6 Lessons run for 6 weeks each half term and cost £60 per term.

**Contact sheets** - Please make sure we have all yellow contact detail sheets returned by Monday and they contain up to date information. Should any circumstances change please notify office staff so we can update your information.

Thank you all in advance for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent