



English Martyrs School, St. Mark Street, London E1 8DJ

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www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk

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.”

16th November 2023

Dear Parents,

Class letters – You will be provided with a letter from class teachers to update you of their plans for this half term and advise you of how you can continue to support your child’s learning.

Maths & English meeting for parents - There will be a Maths & English meeting for parents of pupils in Years 5 & 6 on Wednesday 22nd November at 9:10am. The meeting will last for approximately 1 hour. This would be an ideal opportunity for parents to understand the curriculum which is being taught to their children. Thank you to those Year 1 & 2 parents who attended their meeting yesterday.

Attendance and lateness - Well done all for your commitment to school by ensuring that your child’s attendance is important. All classes have managed to reach above 95% which is excellent. We do need to improve punctuality as we cannot allow a consistent number of late arrivals each day disrupting the beginning of lessons.

Medical emergencies - We are a ‘nut free school’ packed lunches must not contain nuts or chocolate as we have staff and pupils with severe nut allergies. We also have families with members who have serious medical needs and must be informed of infectious diseases.

New Lunch Menu - The new menu started last week and the children took to the changes well. It is available for you to view on the website under the ‘Parent’ tab. Please share the menu with your children and encourage them to try new foods and flavours of the new menu.

Health and Safety - Staff attended Health and Safety training on November 6th. We will share the updated Evacuation and Lockdown Plans with you when they are revised and finalised with new staff members. We evacuate to English Martyrs Church and I will need to review and agree the plan with Fr Ray and Fr Alex.

English Martyrs Church Carol Service - English Martyrs ‘*Carols by Candlelight*’ Carol Service will be held in English Martyrs Church on Saturday 9th December at 4:30pm. There is a £5 entry donation, children under 10 are free. All pupils and parents are welcome to attend. Raffle tickets are available to buy from the school office costing £2 each and we hope all families will contribute.

We have been asked to provide a school choir to perform at the service and invite KS2 pupils to join this choir and perform at the Carol Service. Choir leader Joana would like choir members to attend practises on Saturday 2nd December 2-3:30pm and Saturday 9th December 10-11:30am. Please advise via text service if your children are able to join the choir for the Carol Service.

Christmas Jumper Sale - Our Eco Warriors are holding a Christmas Jumper sale at the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 26th November. They would like donations of good quality pre-loved Christmas jumpers to sell and raise funds for their future projects. Their aim is to '*Reduce Fast Fashion*' and '*Save The Planet*'.

Odd Socks Day - Thank you to all those pupils who supported the anti – bullying day activity wearing odd socks to celebrate their individuality and to show that we are all different.

Remembrance Assembly - Year 5 pupils presented the 'Remembrance Assembly' in the school on Friday 10th November. Parents who attended commented on their sombre and thought provoking performance. Well done and thanks to Year 5.

Children's Advent Workshops - Pupils are invited to help make a nativity scene to be placed outside the main entrance of St Patrick's church to give a little joy to passers-by and help them to connect with the real meaning of Christmas. Would your child like to help?

- **Workshop 1:** Making wire-sculptured figures. Sunday 12th November, 11.30-13.00, Year 6 and older.
- **Workshop 2:** Cutting, sticking and painting a collage of scenes from the Nativity stories. Sunday 19th November, 11.30-13.00, Reception - Year 5.
- **Workshop 3:** Dressing the wire-sculptured figures. Sunday 26th November 11.30-13.00, Year 6 and older.

All events take place in St Patricks school hall. Please register your interest online at: <https://rcwapping.typeform.com/adventworkshops>

STARS Gold Accreditation - The school has attained Gold accreditation for **STARS**. STARS stands for *Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe* and is an accreditation programme for schools and education settings across London designed to inspire young Londoners to travel actively, responsibly and safely.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent

Christmas productions - all events take place in the school hall

EYFS Advent Assembly	- Wednesday 29 th November 2:30pm
Years 1, 2 & 3 Nativity	- Tuesday 5 th December 2:15pm
Years 4, 5 & 6 Carol Service	- Tuesday 12 th December 2:15pm

Dates for your diary

Y6 Ragged School Museum	- Friday 17 th November
Y4 Museum of Docklands	- Tuesday 21 st November
Y3 Odeon Cinema Camden	- Tuesday 21 st November
Y1 Museum of Childhood	- Friday 24 th November
School Christmas Fayre	- Sunday 26 th November
Y2 St Paul's Cathedral	- Friday 1 st December
Y4 Greenwich Maritime trip	- Thursday 7 th December
EM Church Carol Service	- Saturday 9 th December 4:30pm
Y3 Natural History Museum	- Tuesday 12 th December
Thursday 21 st December	- School closes 2pm for Christmas holidays