



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."

Love - Respect - Honesty

18th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you can join us tomorrow at 10.30 am as we live stream Fr Alex's blessing of our school as we celebrate 50 years of education in our school. Sadly it is not possible to invite you to create a large gathering in a public place. Soon we hope!

Year 6 and Critical Workers joined schools in England today at Mass in Westminster Cathedral with Cardinal Vincent Nicholls. It was a beautiful ceremony and his Gospel and message were very appropriate for our children. You may wish to watch the Mass as a family.

<http://www.churchservices.tv/westminster>

Father's Day - We wish all dads a very Happy Father's day on Sunday, we hope you are truly spoilt by your loving families.

School Opening for N, R, Y1 and 6 - I did not get time last week to share with you that the children who are in school have been amazing; trying very hard to keep their distance as they play their usual games and they really just enjoy being able to see and talk to each other. They do know that the regular hand washing, one way system, keeping to each class bubble all help to keep each other safe.

Staff are enjoying having more children in school and are prioritizing pupils' emotional wellbeing following the school closure. Lessons in school mainly support Reading, Writing, Phonics, Maths and RE and Secondary School readiness for Year 6.

Remote Learning - Teachers unable to attend school for health or childcare reasons continue to work hard to provide on line learning. Remote learning will continue for the present, we are in the process of transferring to Google Suite which we hope will further develop our remote learning platform. Training has been provided. It is imperative that you inform the school if your internet access is limited and we will find a way to support you. Teachers would like remind pupils to upload work that needs feedback to their own folders on Purple Mash.

School Blog - Thank you for your contributions to the school blog, there are weekly themes and ideas that we hope will catch your child's interests and will be posted on blog section of the website each Monday. Next week is National Sports Week and there will be daily sport activities posted on the blog each day.

Update on opening of school for pupils in other Year groups - We received further guidance on Monday that shapes our offer of school places. The guidelines state that Critical Worker pupils, vulnerable and SEND pupils must take priority, followed by Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. After a careful risk assessment which takes into account, social distancing, size of classrooms, the amount of children in each group and staff availability we will only be able to offer a small number of places to children of Critical Workers.

For all other pupils we plan to offer face to face time with each class teacher before the end of the summer term to share their school closure experiences and say goodbye to their teacher. This will take the form of small groups (classroom size with social distancing only permits up to 7 children at a time in their classroom or music room for those whose classroom is already in use).

Each group will be allocated a morning session with their teacher from 9.30 to 12.30 and packed lunch will be provided. They will be able to share their experiences of lockdown and discuss any worries they may have, as well as discuss the work they have completed whilst away. We hope that it will provide a good ending to what has been a difficult year for everybody.

Year 4 will be invited to return next week, Year 2 week beginning 29th June, Year 5 week beginning 6th July and Year 3 week beginning 13th July. Nursery, Reception, and Year 1 teachers will confirm when they can meet the children. Teachers will text letting you know when your children can visit. Please adhere to the time allocated as all staff are committed to one of the school bubbles.

Free School Meals - If your circumstances have changed during Covid 19 and you think you may be entitled to FSM voucher of £15.00 per week per pupil, please contact the school as soon as possible so that we can help to set up the voucher scheme.

Thank you all for your support and cooperation this term. Wish you all a very restful weekend.
Best wishes,

Miss Nugent