



English Martyrs School, St. Mark Street, London E1 8DJ
Tel: 020 7709 0182
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."

Values: Love – Respect - Honesty

25th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Mrs Briggs will start her maternity leave earlier and her last day in school will be on Wednesday 4th October. We will have a leaving assembly for her on Tuesday 3rd October at 2:45 pm to thank her for her teaching service to our school and her leading role in Religious Education. Parents are welcome to join us should you wish. Mrs Briggs will be missed very much, her dedication and commitment to our school and parish has been immense and I hope that she returns to teaching when her family commitments allow. We wish her continued good health and wellbeing and look forward to meeting her new baby in December. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

While her replacement is not due to start until January 2024 we are pleased that Mrs Olszewska is able to take over Year 1 until then. She joined us today to work along with Mrs Briggs so there is time for transition. She is familiar with the Year 1 children having taught in the Reception Class last year and I am sure they will be very happy with her.

International Mass - The International Mass in English Martyrs Church yesterday was a lovely celebration of our parish. The readings, prayers and hymns were prepared in many languages and the delicious spread of food provided by parishioners really reflected this wonderful multicultural community. I would urge all Catholic families who live in the Parish of English Martyrs to be regular attendees at Mass on Saturday or Sunday and active members of the parish, children are welcome to join the choir on Sunday or be altar servers with Fr Alex at Mass. Please enable your children to be active in their Catholic life and mission.

May I remind you that our Autumn half term is a week later than the Local Authority and starts Monday 30th October. This means the cooked meals from Toby Lane will not be provided and our kitchen staff will prepare packed lunches for all the children. Parents who rely on Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme will need to make alternative arrangements. I am sorry for any inconvenience this will cause.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - You are invited to join us on Friday 29th September, 8.30-10.00 am to help raise funds to support people living with cancer. A take-away service will be available at the gate from 8:45am.

Open Evening - Parents will be invited to meet teachers during Open Evening on Thursday 12th October. Details will follow.

Attendance and punctuality - Well done to all who have managed 100% attendance so far this term, last week three classes had 100% attendance. 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 5th September 2023.

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

Thank you all in advance for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent



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Dear Parents,

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

I hope that this offers reassurance.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent