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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."

31st October 2019

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable half term holiday and welcome back for part two of the Autumn term.

You are welcome to join us in English Martyrs Church for Mass tomorrow at 9:30 am for the Feast of 'All Saints'. During November a 'remembrance focus' will be in the school foyer for us to remember our loved ones who have died. You are invited to add the names of family or friends to the Book of Remembrance and we will pray for them and for you during assembly each week.

**Remembrance assembly** - Year 5 will present the Remembrance Service on Monday 11th November at 9:30 am, all parents are welcome to attend.

**Election News** – Following the announcement of the Election on 12th December we have been notified that school will be used as a Polling Station, therefore we will not be open for pupils that day. The Nativity Play will now be held on Tuesday 10th December.

**Dates for 2020 -2021** – I can confirm that the first day of school for pupils in September 2020 will be Thursday 3rd September. Dates for the rest of the year should be finalised soon and you will be notified when they are posted on the website.

**First Holy Communion 2020** – If you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion in English Martyrs Church please register interest as soon as possible at the school office or at English Martyrs Church. The programme for parents and pupils will begin in January 2020.

**New lunch menu** – Each October and April the lunch menu is changed, we have yet to receive copies of the menu to give to parents and the website link provided was incorrect. The menu is on the school website under the 'newsletter' tab. It would be great if you could introduce food from the menu at home so your child gets used to a wider variety of foods. Please help your children to use a knife and fork correctly to cut food into bitesize portions, and encourage good table manners such as leaning over the plate when putting food in mouth and not to talk while eating.

**Independence** - Please encourage your children to dress and undress independently, this is important so that they can manage their personal needs when toileting, changing for PE lessons and particularly dressing and undressing for swimming lessons.

**Harvest Festival Sale** – Thank you for your support for the Harvest this year, the total raised from refreshments and food donations was £408.14. All funds raised will be given to CAFOD.

**Christmas Cards** – Each child has been given an Artwork Template for use in the Christmas Art project. If you wish to order your child's personal Christmas Card please return the template by Monday 4th November. Please follow the instructions carefully on the back of the template. You will receive a proof of their artwork with an order form for cards, wrapping paper, placemats and other goods you may wish to order.

**School Uniform** - Autumn/Winter uniform for key stage 1 & 2 for boys consists of grey trousers, white shirt, navy v neck jumper, red tie, grey/black socks, black shoes (not trainers) & navy/black coat. Girls wear navy pinafore or skirt, white shirt, navy v neck cardigan, red tie, navy/white socks or tights, navy/black shoes (not trainers) and navy/black coat. Please check to ensure each item of uniform is labelled clearly. All unclaimed clothing is taken to a local charity shop at the end of each half term.

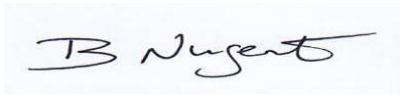
**PE Kit** - Please ensure your child brings the PE kit to school each Monday and takes it home to wash on Friday. The correct PE kit for pupils in Years 1 - 6 consists of plain navy shorts, plain white t shirt and plimsolls for indoor dance/gymnastics and trainers for indoor and outdoor games. Navy tracksuit bottoms may be worn in winter months for outdoor lessons.

**Worried about your child?** – If you are worried about your child's emotional or behavioural needs or have experienced bereavement or separation we can provide support through our Rainbows Programme. The facilitators are Mrs Moore, Mrs Paterson and Mrs McInroy who is also our Learning Mentor, you can arrange to talk to one of them about the programme.

**Gym and Drama clubs** – We are able to provide drama class in the music room and gym club in school hall on Monday. At present these are for pupils in Nursery and Reception, we will offer to Year 1 pupils if there are places available. The cost for each club will be £40 per term.

**Gate congestion** – To ease the congestion at the KS 2 gate, pupils from Years 3,4,5,and 6 with siblings in KS 1 or Early Years are welcome to exit via the KS 1 or Nursery gates, please advise your child to meet you at one of these gates. This would also help parents who have to collect children from all three gates. Please notify your child's teacher if you would prefer this arrangement.
It would also ease congestion at the KS 2 gate if families from the KS 1 and Nursery gates crossed to the opposite side of Scarborough St and families move away from Key Stage 2 gate when you have collected your children. Your cooperation in this matter would be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Miss B Nugent