



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.”

5th March 2024

Dear Parents,

We were very saddened to learn that one of our ex parents Maebh Glemser, mother of Caspar, died suddenly last week, may she rest in peace. Maebh was chair of the Parent Fundraising Group and was extremely active in supporting the school. Her imagination, energy and enthusiasm were an inspiration to others. She was a great friend to all in school and returned often to support Reading and Art in KS1. Caspar also helped out at Sports Day and was keen to encourage us to develop our environmental skills. Maebh retained her close friendship with a lot of our parents and kept in close contact with the school, I am sure her husband Jochen and son Caspar will appreciate all our prayers at this sad time.

We continue with the Season of Lent when we fast, pray and give to charity. Pope Francis has asked that we take time to pray more during Lent as we prepare for Easter. Please make time to pray with your children and help them to learn the traditional prayers of the church and responses and prayers of the Mass.

Thank you to Fr Alex and Sr Nasreen from English Martyrs Church who continue to support us with aspects of our Catholic life and mission and prayer and worship. Year 2 and 3 pupils had a very informed visit to church last Friday to learn about The Mass. Year 4 will visit on Friday to meditate and pray the Stations of the Cross. Parents are welcome to come along. Parents are the first teachers of their children and they will learn more from you through your active participation in prayer and worship.

World Book Day – 7th March - All classes from Reception to Year 6 will all receive a visit from ‘West-End in schools’ - This company provides professional West End Performers who will deliver Story Explorer Drama Workshops. By exploring children’s books through drama, children have the chance to experience storytelling first-hand. Children may come to school as their favourite book character OR choose 3 items that explain their book. (For example, red shoes, a witches hat and a stuffed lion for The Wizard of OZ) and we will all try to guess the title. During the day each child will have a chance to show their costume or props at our world book day parade. All classes will participate in a World Book Day live lesson from BBC Teach. Each class will also discuss their favourite books and authors - we will have a variety of online lessons and virtual author story times. Year 5 and 6 will also watch an online production of Hamlet from the National Theatre.

Wizard School - To celebrate World Book Day, the PTA are holding a Wizard School on Friday 8th March from 3:30 until 5:30pm. The cost will be £5.50 per child with activities including potion and wand making and many other activities. To book tickets please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/englishmartyrspta>.

Sponsored Reading Bingo - The PTA have devised a fantastic Reading Bingo activity for your children to complete during the month of March. Teachers will set the task in class, so keep an eye out for the sponsor form! A way to encourage reading for pleasure at home, whilst also raising money for books in class.

Walk & Wheel - The school is taking part in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel 2024, the UK’s largest inter-school walking, scooting and cycling challenge. The event will take place from 11th to 22nd March 2024. This is a fantastic way to encourage our pupils to come to school by walking, scooting or cycling. Active travel is a great way to build physical activity into children’s daily routine. Each day of the challenge, we compete with other school to see the greatest number of pupils walking, scooting and cycling to school.

Assessment Week - Teachers will carry out end of Spring term assessments during the week beginning 10th March.

Holiday Childcare Scheme - The Easter Holiday childcare scheme is now open for bookings. It will be held in St Mary and St Michael Catholic Primary School, Sutton Street, E1 OBD. More information can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent