

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."

6th January 2023

Dear Parents,

On behalf of all staff I wish you and your families a very happy and healthy new year. I hope you had a restful and peaceful Christmas. We attended Mass today for the Feast of the Epiphany and on behalf of Fr Alex and all in school wish a Happy Christmas to the families who will celebrate Christmas this weekend.

During our staff training this week we reviewed our Behaviour Policy, Accessibility Policy and Plan and Equalities Policy and Plan. It was agreed that we need to re-establish discipline and sense of pride in our school. As a result, we will now expect all pupils to wear full school uniform every day. PE kits and trainers must be brought to school and pupils will change for PE on the day sport is timetabled, teachers will advise you which days your child needs their PE kit.

Please check the website for the school uniform policy and make sure your children wear the correct clothing, black school shoes, navy coat and have neat hairstyles. It is important that you support us and help instil self-discipline in your children, encourage pride in their appearance and respect for self and others.

We believe that every child is unique and made in the image of God and we strive to recognise and celebrate the good in every child. As part of our mission and values we have been focusing on 'courtesy' encouraging words such as please, thank you, good morning, good afternoon, excuse me and sorry.

We will continue to revisit other virtues during assembly, reinforce them during lessons and celebrate their achievement with extra play at the end of the week. The next virtue will be 'respect'.

We also agreed that meetings between parents and teachers should be made via the school office to ensure privacy. Parents should not visit teachers in classrooms without prior appointment which can be made easily at the office. Teachers are always willing to meet parents to discuss children's progress and will try to keep you informed of any issues that arise during the day.

Our school lunches are being cooked at Toby Lane and delivered to school. There will be taster sessions for parents and pupils to encourage all pupils to eat a healthy school dinner. There are guidelines for packed lunches which parents should follow. Please see document on school website in 'Letters & Leaflets' section under 'News' tab with links to a zoom meeting on $13^{\rm th}$ January for parents whose children have fussy eating habits.

Wishing you all a happy and restful weekend and thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent