



English Martyrs School, St. Mark Street, London E1 8DJ

Tel: 0207 709 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.”

Love - Respect – Honesty

6th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back for the 2023-2024 school year. I am sure that all the children will settle well into their new classes and work hard for their teachers in the year ahead. We extend a warm welcome to all new pupils and families who have joined our school, we look forward to getting to know you and hope you will feel welcome in our school community.

All staff attended training on Monday and Tuesday and key priorities were RE, Speech and Language, Phonics, Writing and Reading, teachers will keep you informed about your children's needs this year and trust you will support us in our efforts to raise standards across the whole curriculum.

Catholic life of the school - Fr Alex will celebrate Mass to pray for a blessing for our new school year on Friday 8th September, Feast of The Birth of Our Lady. Parents are welcome to join us in English Martyrs Church at 9.30am.

Return of Contact Forms – Each child has been given a Pupil Contact details sheet to enable us to update our records. We must have up to date pupil allergy information and contact details. Please complete one per child and return to school this week. You will shortly receive via text a Home School Agreement and Pupil Permission online Google forms. These must be completed one per child.

Swimming – Swimming will take place on Friday morning for Year 4 starting next week. Pupils should bring a swim costume, towel and hat. Goggles may be worn but are not obligatory.

After school activities – Afterschool multi-sports lessons resume next week on Tuesdays 3:15 until 4:15pm for pupils in Years 3 & 4 for this term. Year 1 and 2 can attend in the Spring term and Y5 and 6 in Summer term. Lessons cost £60 per child per term. Please register interest at the office. There is a maximum of 20 places available.

Texting Service - The school uses a texting service to inform parents of any changes to the normal school week. Please make sure that the school has up-to-date mobile telephone numbers so we are able to register you for this service. If you have an urgent enquiry please ring the school and speak to a member of staff.

Condolences - It is with great sadness we share with you the passing of one of our ex pupils, Jaiden Blondell who died suddenly just days before her 21st birthday. Jaiden completed a work placement in our Nursery. Her mother is also an ex pupil and her family are our Scarborough St neighbours. We extend our sincere sympathy to Jaiden's family at this sad time. Her funeral will be held in English Martyrs Church on Monday 11th September. May she rest in peace.

School website - To ensure you receive all newsletters from the school, select the following link <https://www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk/newsletters--leaflets.html> and complete the 'subscribe to our newsletter' section at the bottom of the page.

Building fund - As a Voluntary Aided school we have to contribute 10% of any building projects, such as roofing, lighting, flooring etc. Building fund is a once a year payment of £45 per child or £100 for families for 3 or more children. Payment can be made online and bank details are available from the school office.

Secondary Transfer - Year 6 Parents will soon receive details for applying to secondary schools for September 2024. Please contact the school if you require any extra help when completing the online application. I will share information received from Secondary Schools and would encourage you to visit as many schools as possible. Please see the following update from Bishop Challoner.

'Bishop Challoner Catholic School has served the families of East London for 90 years, and has grown and evolved throughout that time to best meet the needs of our community. We are excited to be embarking on a new chapter in our history this year as we have amalgamated our boys' and girls' schools to become a single mixed school. We would be delighted to welcome you to one of our open events, where you can see for yourself all that Bishop Challoner has to offer.

To register, please visit www.tinyurl.com/bcopen23. For further information please contact Reception on 0207 791 9500'

Thank you all in advance for your support and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Miss B Nugent