



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School
St. Mark Street
London E1 EDJ
Tel: 0207 709 0182

Dear Parents,

18.9.20

Welcome to English Martyrs Reception class. We are very pleased with how well the children are settling into our classroom routines. A very warm welcome also to the new children and their families who are new to our school community this year - we are delighted that you have joined us! They are actively forming friendships and enthusiastically introducing themselves to all the adults in our phase!

This half term the children's English topic will be *Marvellous Me!* We will explore this through talk and listening; sharing what makes us different and special, shared reading, role-playing and creative arts as well as beginning to write some words and phrases as the children learn to access new letter sounds through our daily phonics sessions.

We love to celebrate your child's marvellous moments captured at school and at home. To help us do this we ask you to fill in a WOW star and send it in your child's pack folder and we can add it to our learning journey wall. I will be sending out WOW stars on Fridays. These are a fantastic way to link home and school learning and celebrate them together. We will also send home your child's Learning Journal for you to read with your child when it is their focus week. We encourage you to include experiences from home in this book as well as photos and examples of your child's work such as pictures.

Our RE topic is 'God's World.' This focuses on the creation of our beautiful earth, and we will follow the plans from the Way, the Truth and the Life. You can support children at home by helping them to learn the simple prayer (we will give you the words separately) and by discussing the prayers you say as a family with your child.

I am sending reading books home to read from our scheme. Please write a comment in the accompanying reading record, including details such as whether your child enjoyed the book, which letter sounds or words they recognised or found challenging. We read with every child twice a week and will be also sending sets of high-frequency words home to learn to read and write. We use the pre-cursive Nelson handwriting and I will be sending a sheet of the letters in this style for your reference. Please encourage children to form letters with the entry strokes when they start writing.

PE takes place on Wednesday mornings. For the first half term, the children will not be changing as they have a suitable uniform for the dancing and movement that is our focus during these weeks. After half term we will change for PE and expect a clean kit on Monday morning which will go home on Fridays for washing.

Thank you for the support you give in developing language and vocabulary by speaking and reading to your children. Please continue to talk to your child constantly, encouraging them to use new words and develop their sense of wonder.

Thank you for your brilliant support,

Miss Cutts