



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

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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.”

Love - Respect – Honesty

21<sup>st</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents,

### World Book Day 2023

We are delighted to announce a series of events for World Book Day that will span the next 2-3 weeks

#### Story Explorer Drama Workshops ~ Wednesday 22nd February

All classes from Reception to Year 6 will all receive a visit from ‘West-End in schools’ - This company provides theatre in education with professional West End Performers.

They will deliver Story Explorer Drama Workshops. By exploring children’s books through drama, children have the chance to experience storytelling first-hand. Using techniques drawn from professional theatre they will gain confidence alongside a new understanding of the characters and themes as they live and breathe the story. Reception and Years 1 and 2 will attend a workshop about ‘The Gruffalo’ and Key Stage 2 a workshop about ‘Boy at the Back of the Class’.

#### World Book Day ~ 2nd March

##### Whole School Activities

Children will be asked to 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 assembly.

##### Class Activities

Each class will also discuss their favourite books and authors - we will have a variety of online lessons and virtual author story times - including a live virtual event with **Michael Morpurgo** and a live online lesson with the BBC.

We will make time for – ‘drop everything and read!’ sessions and explore a number of new authors and titles linked to our free World Book Day vouchers.

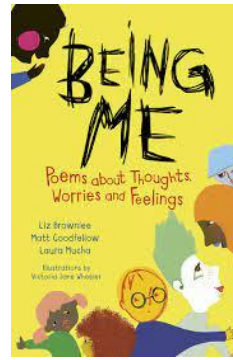
Each class will also have their own focus. For example, Year 3 will be visiting Waterstones. During this week Year 5 and 6 will visit EYFS and Key Stage 1 and be their storyteller for a session. They will share a favourite book from when they were young!

Parents in Key Stage 1 are invited to visit Year 1 or 2 during the week of 27th February to share your favourite book with the class. You can of course share your book in your own language. Please see the class teacher at the gate to arrange. Thank you.

##### Visit - Laura Mucher- Poet

On 9th March we are very lucky to have a visit from Laura Mucher - a poet. She will hold a poetry workshop with Years 3/4/5.

Laura Mucha is an award-winning poet whose books include *Being Me*, *Rita’s Rabbit*, *We and Dear Ugly Sisters*. She writes for young people and adults and has several fiction and non-fiction books forthcoming with Walker, Hachette, Nosy Crow, Audible and Bloomsbury. As well as writing, Laura works with organisations such as the Royal Society of Medicine, National Literacy Trust and UNICEF to improve the lives of children.



### Readathon ~ Read for Good

We are hoping to hold another Readathon at school this year. Date tbc -We had a wonderful response last year and raised a good deal of money for the Readathon charity which sends storytellers to visit children in hospital.

### Tower Hamlets Creative Writing Competition

We are also asking children to participate in a creative writing competition run by Tower Hamlets Library. Last year two of our pupils were winners and their stories were published in a book, which was then sent out to all schools in the borough. The children are asked to write a short story up to 500 words long or a poem up to 25 verses long. The theme this year is 'A Brighter Future'. Class teachers will set up the competition for their classes which may take the form of homework or classwork. We hope you all encourage your child to enter the competition.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Moore  
English Subject Leader