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***Worship Together - Aspire Together- Excel Together***

**Remembrance Sunday**  - On the 11th November, the United Kingdom falls silent in remembrance of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the Nation. In the days before Remembrance Sunday, poppies are sold to raise money for the Poppy Appeal. Poppies are available to purchase from our school office. The Royal British Legion explained: “Wearing a poppy is a personal choice and reflects individual and personal memories. “It is not compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those it helps – our beneficiaries: those currently serving in our Armed Forces, veterans, and their families and dependants.”

We held a special R.E. assembly on Monday in which Mrs. Appah recited a special prayer for all those that have lost members of their family and friends, candles were lit by some pupils and staff in remembrance of those loved ones that are no longer with us. The school held a 2-minute silence to commemorate Remembrance Sunday on Friday 10th November 2017.

**September 2018 Admissions**  - If your child is born between the 1st September 2014 - 31st August 2014 they are due to start primary school in September 2018, you must submit your CAF (Common Application Form) online to Southwark [www.southwark.gov.uk/schoooladmissions](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/schoooladmissions) before the closing date – **Monday 15th January 2018.** If you have any concerns please call or speak to our admissions officer Mrs Taylor who is available Tuesday, Wednesday’s and Thursdays.

**School Open Days** - The school will be hosting three open days for prospective parents, who may wish their child to join English Martyrs’. This is a great opportunity for parents to come and see our school and what our hard working teachers and staff have to offer their child so please if you know of anybody who may be looking for a school place for their child please pass on this invite. The first of these open days will be held on 14th November from 2.00pm – 2.45pm.

**School Photographer -** The school photographer was in school on 8th November. Pupils will receive a notice with instructions on placing an order for class and individual photos soon. Next year the school photographer will be taking photos of siblings. All the children looked lovely in their uniforms and smiled beautifully for the camera.

**Anti bullying week.** We are celebrating what makes us “All Different, All Equal” for Anti-Bullying Week this year from Monday 13th – Friday 17th November 2017. During this week, the children will take part in a series of workshops. To find out more about this year’s Anti-Bullying National campaign, please visit the website link provided <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>. We are asking pupils to wear Odd Socks to school on as part of the theme – Different but Equal on Monday. This is to show that our differences should be celebrated and respected.

**Parent Workshops** – It is always a pleasure when we invite parents to workshops to help support their child’s learning. Thank you to those that attended the MyMaths workshop this week to help parents learn ways they can support their child in numeracy. Thursday 9th November Mrs Platt held an after school-cooking club for parents and pupils as part of our 3 week P.E. and healthy eating programme. Keep a look out for more workshops soon.

**School Educational Trips** - Year 3 will be visiting the Science Museum for their science topic Forces and Magnets. They will be participating in a feel the force show and doing a force hunt throughout the museum. The classes will travel by public transport.

**Chorister Outreach Programme Westminster Cathedral** - Both Year 4 visited Westminster Cathedral on Monday 6th November, in preparation for their grand finale concert.  Details for parents will be announced closer to the performance.

**Sharing Assembly** – Wednesday 15th November at 9.30am year 3 will be performing their new skills and hard work from Chance to Dance for parents. This year 3M are focusing on Swan Lake and class 3C Romeo and Juliet. They have been working very hard so far and we look forward to seeing them perform.

**Termly Learning Conferences** to be held on Wednesday 15th and Wednesday 22nd November 2017. This is a great opportunity to meet with your child’s class teacher to discuss their progress so far and to discuss ways you can help support their learning. It will give you a chance to ask questions and find ways to help and support your child’s learning at home; appointments have been made between parents and class teachers. If you have not made an appointment please contact the office.

**EMS is Growing** – We have some lovely lettuces growing and they are now ready to be harvested, these will be served in the dinner centre soon. We hope to have our broad beans ready; pupils are very excited to see their vegetables growing.

**We’re are going on a Bear Hunt** - This half term Reception classes are doing a topic about bears and they are finding out about the different environments which bears live in, this is part of their understanding about hibernation. Next week pupils will be displaying Lost Posters around the school looking for the bear!

**December Dates for your diary** – We are getting closer to a very busy month with lots of exciting events planned, we have West End in Schools returning to perform Beauty and the Beast for pupils as well as other special events. See below table of dates for your diary so far.

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| 1st December | Beauty and the Beast | In school for all pupils | |
| 11th December | EYFS and Nursery PM | 2.15pm Christmas Performance | |
| 12th December | EYFS and Nursery AM | 9.15am Christmas Performance | |
| 12th December | Year 3M, 4J and 5T | 2.15pm Christmas Performance | |
| 13th December | Year 3C, 4G and 5E | 2.15pm Christmas Performance | |
| 14th December | Christmas School Dinner | | |
| 14th December | Carol Concert Year 6 and orchestra 3.30pm – EM Church | | |
| 15th December | Year 1 and 2 classes | | 9.15am year 1 parents |
| 15th December | Year 1 and 2 classes | | 2.15pm Year 2 parents |
| 20th December | Whole school Christmas Mass 9.30am | | |

Last day of term for Christmas Holidays will be Wednesday 20th December 2018.

Pupils return Wednesday 3rd January 2018

It is getting darker earlier each evening, please be careful when out walking and remember to wear something reflective to be easily identified

God Bless

Mrs Appah