



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

**Head Teacher’s Message** – A special warm welcome back to all pupils, staff and parents after the summer holidays. I hope you all had a relaxing, safe and restful holiday. After a very successful academic year, we are looking forward to continuing to grow from strength to strength and ensure all pupils excel in their learning.

Ofsted Health & Wellbeing - Monday 11th September English Martyrs’ were inspected by Ofsted, the inspection focus was on Healthy Eating, Obesity and Physical Activity. This is a new focus brought in by Ofsted and we were one of the first schools to be inspected. The feedback received was good. Ofsted have requested that parents complete an electronic questionnaire, the questionnaire’s are anonymous. Please visit the link below to access the questionnaires from 18th September.

Parent – [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Thematicstudy-parents](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Thematicstudy-parents)

**School Start and Finish Times –** Please make sure your child arrives at school on time, and is collected on time each day. Gate Opens - 8.40am, (Whole School Inc Nursery). Collection Times – Reception, Years 1 & 2 – 3.00pm. Years 3-6 – 3.15pm. The Education Welfare Officer will be informed if children are persistently arriving late or being collected late. It is the parent’s responsibility to communicate with any After School Club and to introduce to the teacher anyone new who has permission to collect your child. If you are collecting your child from Building 2 please do not cross the white line and wait for the teacher to dismiss your child.

**New Nursery Entrance –** Over the holidays, a new separate entrance for Nursery parents has been installed. Nursery parents can start using this entrance in for drop off and collection at lunchtime. **Please do not press the buzzer for the main school gate if you are to drop off or collect your child from nursery.** Drop off and collection times for Nursery are - AM Nursery start time 8.40am and collection between 11.30am – 11.40am, PM Nursery start time 12.30pm and collection from 3.10-3.30pm.

**Meet the Teacher meetings** – Teachers have sent out invitation letters to parents to attend a brief meeting with their child’s new class teacher. This is a great opportunity to meet the teacher, see their classroom and to find out more about your child’s learning for this school year. It will give you a chance to ask questions and find ways to help and support your child’s learning at home. Dates and times are as follows. Please do attend and arrive on time.

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| **Reception Classes** | **Monday 18th - 2.30pm** | **Year 1 Classes** | **Tuesday 19th - 9.00am** |
| **Year 2 Classes** | **Wednesday 20th - 2.30pm** | **Year 3 Classes** | **Friday 22nd - 9.00am** |
| **Year 4 Classes** | **Wednesday 20th - 9.00am** | **Year 5 Classes** | **Thursday 21st – 9.00am** |
| **Year 6 Classes** | **Tuesday 19th - 2.45pm** |  |  |

**Swimming** - Swimming has begun for Year 3 and 4 pupils. Swimming is a very important life skill; therefore, your child should attend their swimming lessons every week. Swimming bags and hats (compulsory) can be purchased from the school office. Year 3 swimming started Monday 11th September and will continue every Monday. Year 4 began on 12th September and will continue every Tuesday.

**After School Clubs** – After school club letters have been given out to parents. If your child is attending a club, it is very important that they are collected ON TIME, and attend regularly, places are limited and there is a long waiting list. If your child is collected late more than once or they do not attend, they run the risk of losing their place. Details on clubs will be provided to children soon.

**Edible Gardens -** Over the summer we have transformed our playground into an Edible Playground by creating lots of green space for the children, including a running track in the middle to get our children active and forming healthy lifestyles. The school grounds are now a vibrant outdoor space for playing, sport, growing and education!  By transforming our school into an oasis for growing fresh fruit and vegetables, we are instilling the principles of eating healthy food in our children. Once we have our first harvest, we will be opening up the children’s kitchen (in our dining centre) to parents/carers so that they too can support the school in trying to encourage us in our campaign towards healthy eating. Healthy eating and the new garden will become embedded in our school’s curriculum. We are now proud to say we have two beautiful gardens on each building and two greenhouses.  Beetroot that pupils had grown in our garden was handpicked and given to our school kitchen to use with our salad options. It was delicious and children have shown an interest in eating it. **Healthy Lunches** – If your child brings a packed lunch to school please make sure it is a healthy option, a sandwich, fruit and yogurt, school provides water or milk, no crisps, cakes or chocolate. We have a wonderful three-week rotation menu for school dinners that can be viewed on our website, please have a look.

**Birthdays** – Just a reminder that as a healthy school we will not allow sweets or cakes to be given out for a child’s birthday, instead, if you would like you can provide some fruit or donate a story book for your child’s class.

**Family Explorer Trails at the Totally Thames Festival –** Southwark are launching, brand-new trail, ‘The River’, and are inviting as many families as possible, to come and celebrate.

**Date**: Sunday 17 September 2017, **Time**: 13.00- 16.00hrs, **Location**: Potters Field, London, SE1 2AA.

It will be a fantastic afternoon celebrating the famous river, with loads of exciting free workshops and activities to join in on. it is set to be a fun afternoon. There is no need to book, just turn up. You will be able to collect a free copy of all four trails, plus some other giveaways too!  Find out more <https://www.london.gov.uk/events/2017-09-17/london-curriculum-family-explorer-trails-event-potters-fields>

**Term Dates 2017-2018 –** The new term dates are now available to view on our school website under Our Parents – Term dates. Please keep an eye on our events diary for planned activities, class assemblies etc. All Inset days have been planned and can be viewed on this page.

**Parent Contact Details –** Please make sure the school office has your most up to date contact details, email, home, work and mobile numbers. This is very important. We do send texts and emails to parents and in cases of emergencies. We need the correct contact details. If your child suffers from any allergies please also inform the school office in writing.

**School Uniform –** All pupils look very smart in their new school uniforms. Our uniform represents our school and our values. To maintain our high standards we ask that all pupils have a school bag and are wearing plain black shoes, no trainers. White polo shirts and plain grey, black or white socks. Only small stud earrings are permitted. No bracelets are to be worn. Hairstyles should be kept neat and tidy and off girls’ faces, no shaved patterns on boys. No coloured beads in their hair. School coats should be black or navy blue (no bright colours please) P.E. kit is a plain white t-shirt and plain black or navy blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms. Please do not send your child into school with their nails painted. **Make sure uniform is labelled clearly, and please speak to your child as looking after their uniform while in school is their responsibility.**

**Our Newsletter can be downloaded and viewed on our website and a copy also emailed to parents.**

**Wishing you all a happy, safe and enjoyable weekend.**

**Best wishes**