



English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Special Edition Newsletter May 2020

Dear Parents, pupils and staff. I hope you and all your family members remain safe and well. I know these past few weeks have been very hard for everyone, thank you for your continued support and we hope to be able to see you soon. Sending you all God's Blessing and warm regards, please keep in touch with us and keep safe. Mrs Appah

Rainbow Posters

As a school, we would like to honour our NHS and Key workers by asking you to create a 'Thank You' rainbow poster on display in your window, also share your picture with us with a short message from you as a family.

Send your pictures and messages to the office email address so we can put show them off on our website



Teachers have been in school contacting their class pupils by telephone over the past couple of weeks, it has been really nice speaking to you all, catching up on how you're all doing, encouraging and praising you all for your home learning. It was wonderful speaking to the children, they all sounded happy, so well done parents. It is making us miss you even more when we hear your voices and please know you're all in our thoughts every day.

Ofsted Report

Our Ofsted Inspection report is available to view on our website, I am so very proud of all our pupils, parents and staff for their hard work and support, on behalf of the School Governors and the Leadership Team-Thank you

Home Learning Packs – Thank you to the many parents who have collected their children's home learning packs. Staff have worked tirelessly preparing these and new ones for collection from 11th May. We are here to support you, please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns

VE Day 2020 takes place on Friday May 8 in the United Kingdom, commemorating the same day back in 1945 when the war finally ceased. May 8th 1945, people from across the globe flocked to the streets for parties and get-togethers, enjoying their freedom for the first time in six years

This year, Friday 8th May will be a Bank Holiday to specially to honour the 75th anniversary of **VE Day**. As part of the homeschooling experience, visit BBC Bitesize which has plenty of [WW2 interactive revision guides](#) to help your children learn more about this period in history, with a quiz at the end so that they can test their knowledge. If you have created any pictures to celebrate this special event or found creative ways to celebrate at home during lockdown, send us your pictures. It could a drawing, poem, and prayer, dairy or even baking a VE cake!

Facts about VE Day: Did you know...

The then Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II), and her sister Princess Margaret slipped out and joined the crowds outside Buckingham Palace celebrating the end of the war on VE Day! Under the darkness, the Princesses were able to celebrate unnoticed.

The Queen allegedly called it "one of the most memorable nights of my life".



A number of children have been working hard and we would like to celebrate them and their families for a job well done. Keep it up! ☺

Congratulations to the families of

Reception- Leah, Ugochukwu and Daniela

Year 1- Chantelle, Jomata and Onyinye

Year 2- Joel, Sofia, Sebastian, Bersable, Alicia and Alisha

Year 3- Jessiah, Tiana, Teniayo, Ethan, Joel A.

Year 4- Isreal, Sorimond

Year 5- Will, Uzo and Juan - Diego

Year 6- Gabriel, Laura, Daniel and Jeremiah.

Special Mention from Ms Brewu

Well Done to Enock for using capital letters and full stops in his writing and improving his Maths and comprehension skills.

Milly for improving her reading comprehension skills and making an effort with each piece of work.

Emmanuel for submitting an excellent piece of research and writing on tropical rainforests.

Luwana, Kayla, Mercy, Angel, Edward, Enock, Minh, Ethan and Emmanuel for their beautiful, vibrant rainforest butterfly paintings!

Free School Meals Update

There have been many issues, concerns and confusion regarding pupil's eligibility to receive a food voucher, the school are not issuing food vouchers personally to parents, only pupils who are on our Pupil Premium list or have NO access to public funds (evidence required). This decision was made by the DFE and the Local Authority. There have been lots of problems with the company (Ednerd) issuing the vouchers and it seems we may be making some progress. Applications for Pupil Premium are not being processed by Southwark at the moment but we will keep parents updated.

Messages from Parent and Pupils during Lockdown

Richard gave us a diary of what he has been doing each day- wakes by 7am and reads morning prayer before brushing his teeth. He enjoys mixed fruits before getting ready for breakfast with the whole family. He and his brother then dash off with their Dad to exercise for a while in the living room. It always ends up in a playful hide and seek game to start off the day on an active note.

Richard watches education programmes which sharpen his numeric and literacy skills for an hour. In between this time, he would ask for snacks.

Most mid-mornings are allotted to doing parts of his online assignments and other things to improve his arithmetic skills. . With the help of his Mum or Dad, he works online with a computer for an hour or two to complete parts of his assignments.

Everyday around midday, Richard takes his lunch and resumes watching TV for educational purpose for a few hours. Later on in the day, he takes his bath and plays with his brother as they build castles with rubber bricks/blocks in the living room. They would occasionally step out in the balcony to take some fresh air or sunbath with a set of toys under the supervision of Mum or Dad. During sunset, Richard has a set of story books he refreshes his mind with. He does reading and spelling with his brother frequently at night.

Richard sounds super busy and well done Richard, mum and dad for all your hard work

Message to Parents

As you may already know, there have been discussions on how schools can reopen, (predicated date 1st June) we are awaiting Boris Johnsons update over the weekend.

Please be assured we are in the process of meeting with staff and planning how we can accommodate pupils return so that all pupils, staff and parents remain safe.

We are all desperate for this lockdown to be lifted and for our lives to go back to some normality, but everyone's safety and health is the main priority.

Parents will be updated on how and when the school will be able to reopen and the measures that have to be followed in due course.

Atiniire from 1L- 'I have been reading my books and building creative blocks'.



Saron and Joel working hard at home



"Hello everybody I am Juan-Diego from year 5."

"I am calm here at home but I really miss my friends back at school and hope that they are safe. I hope everyone who is reading this is having a great time even in quarantine. In my time here, I have been playing around and doing my homework that my teachers left me.

Also I have some advice to stay home so that all of this ends soon.

God bless you all!"

A fantastic message – thank you Juan-Diego

Since **Alan (Nursery)** has been at home he has been doing so many things like:

- blending and writing words
- writing numbers
- tracing numbers and letters (I print out the letters and numbers from the book that he struggles with)
- reading books
- drawing
- playing with a play-dough
- doing puzzles
- we were able to complete 3 Activity Books
- Alan uses PurpleMush App

Well done Alan and family😊

Healthy Children and Young People at Home

LEARN: PSHE, Mental Health & Wellbeing at home

NEW primary and secondary home learning lesson packs exploring different strategies children can use to help them manage their mental health and emotional wellbeing during this challenging period. And don't forget your free registration as part of Southwark's Healthy Schools Partnership: www.pshe-association.org.uk/southwark
For free resources www.pshe-association.org.uk/content/coronavirus-hub

Evening entertainment

WATCH: A giant baby puppet

Zara is a giant outdoor performance suitable for the whole family, telling the epic story of a mother and her fight to protect her baby. The live performance took place outside the Imperial War Museum last April. **WATCH HERE UNTIL 11 MAY @** www.mind-the-gap.org.uk/productions/zara/

