

# ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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## NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd December 2021

*Dear parents and carers*

We have now started the month of December and the Season of **Advent**. This is a very special and exciting time when we look ahead and **prepare** for the big day - Christmas.

Children and staff in all the different phases of our school are working hard preparing for the **Nativity** plays planned for the last week of term. We hope to be able to invite parents for these plays but we may need to change plans and share these with you in a virtual way on MS Teams.

Next week all **parents** will have the opportunity to meet virtually with their child's **class teacher** to discuss progress this term and targets for next term. Please make sure you have your child's login details and that you log in a few minutes before the appointment times.

On Friday of next week we will be having our **Christmas Jumper day**. We are asking children to donate at least £1 that will go to sponsor gifts for families in poorer countries to **CAFOD**. Any parents who want to support this fundraising are welcome to contribute too.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The following are some of the important dates to remember:



**Tuesday 7th to Thursday 9th  
December**

**Termly Learning Conferences  
Teachers - Parents**

**Week Beginning**

**Monday 13th December**

**Nativity Plays**

See separate letter for details

**Friday 10th December**

**Own Clothes**

**Christmas Jumper day**

**Wednesday 15th December**

**Christmas Lunch**

**Friday 17th December**

**Last Day of term**



### This Sunday is the **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

As we light the second candle on our Advent wreath we think of how best to prepare for the coming of Jesus into our hearts.

**WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER**



## TERMLY LEARNING CONFERENCES

Parents meetings with class teachers on **Microsoft Teams**  
You will need your child's login details to access these meetings.



Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December

See appointment letters. Please login 5 minutes before your allocated time slot.

### CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - OWN CLOTHES DAY



On **FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER** all children and staff are encouraged to wear their special Christmas jumpers and come to school in own clothes and help raise funds for **CAFOD**. We ask for a minimum donation of £1.00 paid at the school gate in the morning.

The money raised will go towards sponsoring gifts for people in poor countries such as a water pump or a forest school.



### CERTIFICATES THIS WEEK

Every Thursday, class teachers and Teaching assistants award certificates to children in their class who excelled or tried hard during the week.



The following are the names of children who received **Good News Certificates** this week.

#### Year 1:

Alan, Emmanuella, Solyana, Tsion

#### Year 2:

Nile, Benjamin

#### Year 3:

Atinuke, Atiniire, Abdul

#### Year 5:

Arisha, Melvin, Teniayo

#### Year 6:

Muhammad, Sider, Catherine



### FOOD DONATIONS to SOUTHWARK FOODBANK Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

As we approach Christmas we want to be more generous and to think of others who are less fortunate. During the last week of term children will be encouraged to bring some food to be donated to **Pecan Southwark Food Bank**. They organise food parcels for homeless people as well as emergency packages for local families who may not have enough food and other necessities.



### RECEPTION CLASS 2022

If your child was born between **1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018**, they are due to start primary school in **September 2022**.

To apply for admission to English Martyrs you need to complete a supplementary form which you can download from the school website as well as the Local Authority admissions form.

See the Southwark admissions portal at:  
[School admissions - Southwark Council](#)  
Closing date: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**Please contact the school office if you who would like to make an appointment to visit our Reception class.**

# FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

# THIS WEEK

## ART

Children continue to enjoy their Art sessions and have produced some fantastic work, often related to their main curriculum topic. Year 1 have been using oil pastels to draw their version of the **Van Gogh** picture **Starry Starry night**. Year 2 enjoyed using all the bright chalk pastels to create **fireworks** drawings. Following their trip to the Golden Hinde Pirate ship, Year 3 produced drawings focusing on about **background and foreground**. Year 4 children made **replica Roman coins** using air drying clay. Making links with the Ancient Greeks theme, Year 5 pupils have started designing and



making models of **Greek vases and urns**. We look forward to admire the end products. Year 6 created **propaganda posters** using the World War 2 theme they have been learning a lot about during the Autumn Term.



## PE

The children throughout the school have been working hard on a range of different skills this half term. They have been focusing on the **ABCs: agility, balance and coordination**. These skills are transferrable to different sports are also important for everyday life. As well as this, all of the children have been working on their stamina through a range of different games that involve running without stopping and negotiating space; ie stuck in the mud, cat and mouse and cross the river.

The children have been making improvements in this regards but there is still more work to be done. This half term, the children have also been working on



their ability to analyse their own performance and also the performances of others. 5T have particularly impressed me with the way they can give and receive constructive criticism as well as praise for their gymnastic performances. With the festive period coming up, it is crucial to encourage your children to **keep active**; so we can have happy and healthy children! Also, remember it is important to keep yourselves as adults fit and healthy and you are the role model for your children

## 6M

6M have been working hard – last week we visited **The Horniman Museum** in Forest Hill. We experienced a deeper understanding of the life and culture of the people of **Ghana, Tanzania and Kenya**.



We looked at clothes, toys and musical instruments. There was also a skull of a lion and skins of crocodiles and snakes!

In literacy, we're finishing **Wargame**, about the First World War and have been writing a range of texts, including telegrams.

For RE, we have been looking at people who had a covenant with God, and this week was Moses and the Israelites. We know that when things go wrong, we have a tendency to complain, just like people did back then, and need to remember to be grateful for what we have.

We have also been trying **yoga**! A specialist teacher is helping us to stretch our bodies and calm our minds.

We had assessments last week, showing how hard we have been working, and the information will be on our reports.

