

ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr J Camilleri

NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th January 2022

Dear parents and carers

We have now started a new school term. This week we welcomed back all children for the Spring term and I was pleased to notice how well they settled in and how ready they are to continue with their learning.

It hasn't been the easiest holiday period as I know that a number of children and members of staff have been unwell during the holidays, some of whom have tested positive for Covid.

The Covid pandemic is clearly taking longer than originally thought.

We now have a revised our Risk assessment and we are all doing our best to ensure we take the necessary actions to avoid even more people getting infected and having to miss school. We ask everyone's cooperation towards this goal by sticking to routines and following all guidelines as suggested in our Risk assessment which was also circulated among parents and carers.

This week we celebrated the special feast day of the Epiphany - remembering when the wise men visited baby Jesus.

A big thank you goes to all the families who contributed food items towards our Christmas foodbank appeal. It was wonderful to see the generosity of our school community.

Thank you and have a good weekend.

Mr Camilleri - Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The following are some of the important dates to remember:



Wednesday 12th January
End of Consultation - Reduction of Rec class PAN number

Friday 14th January
Class 6T Assembly - Building 1

Saturday 15th January
Closing date for Reception class 2022 applications

Week beginning 7th February
Children's Mental Health week

CONSULTATION

The consultation for the Reduction in the Published Admission Number of our Reception class from 60 to 30 places from September 2023 closes on Wednesday 12th January. If you would like to know more about this please see the document published on our school website. You can send your comments by email to our chair of Governors at pgillespie@emps.school

WORSHIP TOGETHER - ASPIRE TOGETHER - EXCEL TOGETHER



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CLUBS

We are planning to start new after school clubs from **Monday 17th January**. These will be led by school staff after school for 1 hour **from 3.15pm to 4.15 pm**. If you would like your child to take part, please complete the form and return to the school office. A maximum of **12 children** will be able to enroll in each group but you can apply for more than one club if there are spaces available. Places will be offered on a first come firstserve basis. **£10 contribution** for the whole term.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

Advice for parents and carers to keep their children safer online. You can access these useful resources by visiting the 3 websites below (use Ctrl key and click on link)



1. [A parent's guide to privacy settings](#)
2. [Gaming: what parents and carers need to know](#)
3. [What is the Internet of Things \(IoT\)?](#)

LAPTOPS LENDING SCHEME

Children need to have access to and be able to use a device to work on the weekly homework tasks set for them by class teachers and for other online research work. Families can apply for a device through our **LAPTOP LENDING SCHEME**. An agreement has to be signed by parents and a **£10 termly contribution** paid. If you would like to benefit from this scheme please contact the school office for more details.



Families who are already using one of our Laptops will need to renew their agreement for the Spring Term now.

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: 15th January 2022.

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

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING

On **FRIDAY 10th DECEMBER** all children and staff were encouraged to wear their special Christmas jumpers and come to school in own clothes and help raise funds for **CAFOD**. Together we **raised a total of £262**

The money raised has been used to sponsor the following gifts for people in poor countries

The goat that gives - for a family to have milk to use and sell— £28



A Solar Lamp for a family to use where there is no electricity- £30

Marvellous Moo Cow to produce milk to use and sell- £150



A greenhouse for a poor farmer to grow vegetables - £54

Another big thank you goes to all families who supported our food collection for the Foodbank during the last day of the Autumn term and donated huge amounts of food items for those who are more needy.



FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

THIS WEEK

RECEPTION 1

This week Reception class have been reading a new book called, '**Here we Are**' by Oliver Jeffers which talks about life on planet Earth. The children were very interested in learning about the solar system, environments different living creatures live in and the diversity of people living in the world.

We also went on Google Earth and explored images of earth, the map of the world and the city of London.

Link: <https://bit.ly/3G3uEKL>



In RE we read the Bible story '**Let the Children Come to Me,**' and learnt how Jesus loves and welcomes each one of us. We discussed ways that we could show our love for Jesus and decided praying to Jesus, being kind to others and being a good role-model by showing good examples.



The children



enjoyed participating in parachute games and practicing ball skills during outdoor play time and engaging in a range of activities like painting, puzzles and maths activities in the classroom.

CLASS 2E

We have had a busy start to the term in 2E.

On the first day back we came into the classroom to find mysterious footprints all over the floor. In our English lesson we thought about what mystery creature could have made the footprints and wrote a description of it.

In science, we went outside into the school garden to observe the plants that are growing in the garden. We then came back into class and recorded our observations.

In Religious Education, we have been doing some work about the story of Jesus in Temple when he was a boy.

