



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a busy start to the school year with September whizzing by! The children have all settled in brilliantly, cracking on with their work, making new friends and showing their teacher's all their gifts and talents. The first week of the year saw us thinking about our School Mission Statement. Much work was produced around the idea of 'Mission' including stewardship, responsibility and Seeing Heart. Hopefully, the children had opportunity to share the Mission Statement with you and as a family it is something that can be promoted within the household. Year 6 had a super time at the Briars and have made a positive start to their final year at English Martyrs'. Over the last two weeks, we have had two shelters erected – they are almost finished! We can't wait to be using these spaces as additional spaces to the current learning environments. Looking ahead in the diary there is so much taking place over the Autumn term, please continue to check the school website for updates and diary dates.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Breakfast morning for Macmillan Cancer Support. We raised a total of £138.82 for a wonderful cause.

Good Work Liturgies

You are invited to join us for Good Work Liturgies. Once every 6 weeks (or so), a small group of children will be recognised for their super class work/kind behaviour/excellent contribution etc to class and school life. All Liturgies will begin at 2.40pm (the KS1 playground will open for parking from 2.30pm).

- 29th September 2017 - Miss Coxhead, Miss Dickson and Mrs Pettifer
- 6th October 2017 – Mrs Ellis and Miss Sweeney
- 13th October 2017 - Miss Pugh, Miss Mannion/Mrs Gooden and Miss Macdonald
- 20th October 2017 - Mrs Chibbaro and Miss Radford/Mrs Oldershaw
- 24th November 2017 – Miss Coxhead, Miss Dickson and Mrs Pettifer
- 1st December 2017 - Mrs Ellis and Miss Sweeney
- 8th December 2017 - Miss Pugh, Miss Mannion/Mrs Gooden and Miss Macdonald
- 15th December 2017 - Mrs Chibbaro and Miss Radford/Mrs Oldershaw

Arrangements for Parents Evening

Parents Evening will take place on Wednesday 18th October 3.30 - 5.00pm and Thursday 19th October 4.30 - 7.00pm. For the benefit of new parents you can choose either day. Teachers will be available in the hall for you to discuss your child's progress and the classrooms will be open for you to view their work.

These meetings are for parents only. Please ensure that you collect your child as normal at the end of the school day. To book your slot please return the slip below by Friday 6th October to either the class teacher or via email to enquiries@englishmartyrs.derbyshire.sch.uk indicating your preference of date and time. We will do our best to allocate the time you indicate but cannot guarantee it. You will be notified of your slot no later than 12th Oct either via the home/school diary or e-mail.

St Francis Parish Mission

This Mission, the first week-long mission in our parish since 1990, is an opportunity for you to ask questions, to look at your relationship with God or share your hopes with us. English Martyrs' staff and children look forward to joining the parishioners of the parish during this very special week, Please take note of the following dates and do join us if possible:

3rd Oct, 9.30am – Mass in school

4th Oct, 7.00pm – Family mass at St Francis of Assisi, Tamworth Rd. The choir and representatives of the school will be taking part in the mass

Drop-ins

Reception are having a drop-in phonics session on 5th October from 8.50 until 10.00am. We highly recommend that you come along to see our phonics in action in order for you to support your child's learning consistently at home. Mrs Chibbaro will lead a jargon busting session following this to support your understanding of our phonic policy.

After the half term break Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar drop-ins will be held for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 on 30th and 31st October 8.50 – 9.30am and Years 1 and 2 on 1st and 2nd November from 8.50 – 9.30am.

Dinners

To celebrate National Poetry Day there will be a change to the school dinner menu on 6th October. The children will be having sausages and Yorkshire puddings with mashed potatoes, Shakespeare seasonal vegetables and Iggity Ziggity Ice Cream. A copy of the menu can be found on our website.

WANTED - Rabbit Holiday Home

Albert and Einstein, our school rabbits, are looking for a holiday home for the October half term. They would like to stay with someone who has experience of keeping rabbits or similar small mammals. Due to the size of their current hutch, the holiday home will need to provide a hutch for the week and a run. Unfortunately, Albert and Einstein are not always the best of friends and are best kept separate – they would be happy to go to two different homes. If you feel that you are able to offer our bunnies a holiday, please speak with Mrs Mann or Miss Sutton, our premises officer. Thank you!

Private Instrument Lessons

We would like to remind parents that any queries relating to Private Instrument Lessons **need to be sent direct to the respective Music Teacher** either through the Music Diary or by email. Mr Simon Hooley is the Leader of Instrumental Studies at **The Becket School** and he can be contacted at s.hooley@becketonline.co.uk. A full list of contact emails can be found in the Music Diary. The School Office only processes the payments and is unable to answer any questions regarding the lessons themselves.

Year 2, 6 SATs and Year 1 phonics screening

This year's Year 6 SATs tests will take place during week commencing 14th May 2018 with Year 2's tests taking place over the whole of May. Year 1 phonics screening will be w/c 11th June 2018. Please do not make holiday plans, dental appointments etc during any of these dates.

Hoodie Order Autumn 2017

The school hoodies are available to order again from now until **Wednesday 18th October 2017**. These are an optional uniform item for PE and can also be worn outside and on school trips as advised by the class teacher.

If you would like your child to try a hoodie on for size you can bring them to the school office from 8.30am each day.

The hoodies cost £13.50 each. They feature the English Martyrs' logo on the left hand side and can be customised with your child's initials on the right hand side, this is optional. Any initials will cost an additional £1.50 (total for maximum of 3 initials).

If you would like to order a hoodie for your child please complete the form below and return to the school office with a cheque made payable to English Martyrs' Academy alternatively return the order form and pay on-line.

Reception 2018/19 Intake

If you know any families who have children born between 01/09/2013-31/08/2014 and who would be interested in a place at our school please ask them to contact the school office.

Food in School

Please can we ask that no nuts (or similar) are sent to school as a snack or as part of your child's lunchbox as we have a number of children and a staff member who are allergic to such food stuffs. To promote healthy eating and ensure our children's eating habits are positive may we remind you that morning snacks must only be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Head Lice

Unfortunately Head Lice is a fairly common occurrence in all primary schools.

Daily brushing and combing of hair, preferably at night and the checking of wet hair by combing with a detection comb at least once weekly are good habits to get into for the prevention of Head Lice.

DO NOT use insecticide lotions for prevention as this encourages the development of resistant lice. The Public Health Agency's guidelines recommend that treatment only occurs where live lice have been seen.

Parent Hub

Thank you for your continued patience while we transition to our new communication app. So far, the vast majority of feedback has been positive. We look forward to developing and growing our use of the App and system over the coming months and school year.



If you haven't yet downloaded the Parent Hub app, visit your app store (iPhone or Android) and search for Parent Hub. You will then need to create yourself an account and choose "Add a School" and enter the school handle of @EnglishMartyrs

Once registered you need to subscribe to the channels for your child/children's class and year group only. Please be aware there is a specific channel for Bus Children – all information regarding delays, bus changes etc will be communicated via this channel.

Yours sincerely

Kate Mann
Headteacher

Important: slips for Parents Evening and hoodie order form on the next page

English Martyrs' Academy Diary Dates October 2017	
3 rd	Parish Mission Mass at English Martyrs' 9.30am
4 th	Family Service to celebrate the Parish Mission (Church of St Francis of Assisi) 7.00pm
5 th	Reception Phonics drop-in 8.50 – 10.00am
6 th	Mrs Ellis and Miss Sweeney Good work Liturgy 2.40pm
10 th	Miss Dickson class Mass 9.00am
13 th	Y5/6 Good work Liturgy 2.40pm
17 th	Miss Sweeney class Liturgy 9.00am
18 th	Parents Evening 3.30-5.00pm
19 th	Parents Evening 4.30-7.00pm
20 th	Miss Radford/Mrs Oldershaw & Mrs Chibbaro Good work Liturgy 2.40pm
	School closes for Half Term 3.10pm
w/c 23 rd	Half term holiday
30 th	School re-opens
	KS1 Autumn Watch week
	KS2 Spag drop in 8.50-9.30am
31 st	KS2 Spag drop in 8.50-9.30am

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy Parents Evening Autumn 2017 Return Slip

Child's Name.....

Class

Sibling(s).....

Class

I would like an appointment on:

Wednesday 18th October 2017	3.30 – 4.30pm	4.30 – 5.00pm
Thursday 19th October 2017	4.30– 5.30pm	5.30 – 7.00pm

Signed



Hoodie Order Autumn 2017

Child's name:		Class:
I have paid (amount)..... on-line on (date)..... or I enclose a cheque for.....		
<u>Size</u>	<u>Qty required</u> <u>@ £13.50 each</u>	<u>Optional initials</u> <u>(additional £1.50 for a maximum</u> <u>of 3 initials)</u>
3/4 years		
5/6 years		
7/8 years		
9/11 years		
12/13 years		
		Office use only: