



12th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you all managed to have a lovely, relaxing break. The children have come back, recharged and raring to go. As I'm sure you are aware, this half term is an extremely busy and exciting one as we lead into the Christmas season. The diary is packed full of events which the staff and children are very much looking forward to. Please keep checking the website, ParentHub and e-mails for dates and updates.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind wishes and support as I start this term as the new Head of School. It was such an honour to be asked to step into Mrs Mann's shoes while she is on secondment and is the proudest moment of my career. I look forward to working alongside the staff, children and yourselves, building upon the fabulous work that the English Martyrs' pupils produce every term.

Parent Questionnaire/Parents evening

It was great to see so many of you at the recent parents' evening; I know many of you are impressed as I am with the range of work in the children's books. Thank you to those that completed the survey. The information gained is most useful and will inform school improvement. As always, if there is anything you wish to discuss further or have any additional comments please do not hesitate to drop an e-mail into the school or catch a member of staff on the gate.

Parent View Questionnaire Results October 2018

| 199 responses | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Don't Know |
|---|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| My child enjoys Religious Education | 68.5% | 30% | 0.5% | - | 1% |
| | 98.5% | | 0.5% | | 1% |
| I am happy with the Come and See RE curriculum | 65.5% | 33.5% | - | - | 1% |
| | 99% | | 0% | | 1% |
| I am satisfied with my child's standard of work in RE | 65.5% | 34% | - | - | 0.5% |
| | 99% | | 0% | | 0.5% |
| The school keeps me informed about my child's progress in RE | 56% | 34.5% | 6.5% | 0.5% | 2.5% |
| | 90.5% | | 7% | | 2.5% |
| The school keeps me informed about what my child is studying in RE | 52.5% | 37% | 6.5% | 0.5% | 3.5% |
| | 89.5% | | 7% | | 3.5% |
| The work my child does in RE enables them to think spiritually, ethically and theologically | 61.5% | 38% | - | - | 0.5% |
| | 99.5% | | 0% | | 0.5% |
| RE is well led | 62.5% | 32.5% | - | - | 5% |
| | 95% | | 0% | | 5% |

NB: 0.5% is the equivalent to 1 response

Website

Please check the school website over the next week or so for your child's class newsletter, outcomes booklet, medium term planning and homework for this half term. This will also be sent to you via ParentHub.

ADVENT FUNDRAISING

Each class has now been allocated their charity to focus on for this year.

| Charity | Class |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| The Derbyshire Wildlife Trust | Mrs Chibbaro |
| The Canaan Trust | Miss Mitchell |
| Guide Dogs UK | Mrs Ellis |
| Heartlink | Miss Daykin |
| Cancer Research UK | Miss Coxhead |
| Mary's Meals | Miss Dickson |
| Building Hope in Bunkpurugu | Miss Pettifer |
| Nottingham Children's Hospital | Miss Sweeney |
| Rainbows Hospice | Miss Pugh |
| Treetops Hospice | Miss Macdonald |
| CAFOD | Chaplaincy Team |
| Children in Need | School Council |
| Cystic Fibrosis Trust | Staff |

CANAAN TRUST

Harvest Food Collection

Today we held an assembly for pupils to highlight the work of the Canaan Trust and their Food Bank project. We are asking pupils to bring in donated items for the Food Bank for the remainder of the week.

The following items are always appreciated: tinned food including: tuna, baked beans, meatballs, spaghetti Bolognese, chilli con carne, tins of chicken or lamb curry, stew, corned beef, Spam, tinned ham, tinned Fray Bentos meals, thick vegetable or meat based soups (not purely liquid soups), pot noodles, flavoured noodles, tinned potatoes or vegetables, pasta, rice tea bags, coffee, sugar, long life milk. Any other non-perishable foods. NB Ring pull cans are especially useful. They can also use the following toiletries: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel, deodorant, shampoo, razors and shaving foam.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Open Door

On **Wednesday 14th November** we will be hosting a Tea and Toast for Pudsey breakfast. This will start at 8.30am. Parents welcome to stay until 9.45am, children will need to go into class at the usual time.

The Big Spotacular – Friday 16th November

Our theme for Children in Need is 'let's go spotty for Pudsey'. The children are invited to dress in anything spotty – as much or as little as they like, donating £1. Each KS2 class will be hosting a fund raising event. Each activity will cost between 20p and 50p to participate in – so bring those extra pennies!! Please note there will be no Tuck Shop on this day.

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.

- 16th November 2018 – Miss Coxhead, Miss Dickson and Mrs Pettifer
- 23rd November 2018 – Mrs Ellis and Miss Daykin
- 7th December 2018 - Miss Sweeney, Miss Pugh and Miss Macdonald
- 14th December 2018 - Mrs Chibbaro and Miss Mitchell

Reception 2019/2020 Intake

If you know any families who have children born between 01/09/2014 - 31/08/2015 and who would be interested in a place at our school please ask them to contact the school office as soon as possible. There will be an open morning in school for new families on Wednesday 21st November 9.30 – 11.30am.

Road Safety

Many thanks to those families who, despite the cooler weather, have continued to avoid travelling down Bracken Rd by car. The Walking Buses are well attended and the children always seem happier, brighter and invigorated from their walk.



School Christmas Dinner Thursday 20th December 2018

ALL Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 children who would like a Christmas Dinner will need to pre-order it using the slip below by **9.00am Thursday 16th November 2018 at the very latest, this includes any KS2 children entitled to Free School Meals.** Please note this is the absolute deadline. Meals cost £2.10 and can be paid online through your SCOPay school dinner account. If you have prepaid for the term or your child's account is in credit, then you do not need to make a separate payment, just return the order form. The payment will be deducted from your child's account upon receipt of the order, providing funds are available.

A meal will only be provided to children returning the reply slip, regardless of whether payment has been made online. Any child that has not pre-ordered a Christmas dinner will not be given a school dinner that day and will therefore need to bring sandwiches.

Important: Return slip for Christmas Dinner is at the end of this Newsletter

Reception, Years 1 & 2 children will automatically be provided with a Christmas Dinner under the Universal Free School Meals scheme, therefore if your child does not wish to have a Christmas Dinner, please let the School Office know by **9am Thursday 16th November 2018.**

Christmas Season

There will be two separate school Christmas productions. Mrs Chibbaro and Miss Mitchell's classes will perform *Shine Star Shine* on Wednesday 12th December at 2.15pm and Thursday 13th December at 3.15pm. Mrs Ellis and Miss Daykin's classes will be performing a Christmas Extravaganza on Wednesday 12th December at 3.15pm and Thursday 13th December at 2.15pm.

Both productions will be ticketed to enable us to ensure that we do not exceed capacity in the hall and to ease congestion/parking around the site. Full details of how to apply for tickets will be sent out in a separate letter later in the term.

After school clubs; All places have been allocated. Please note the start and finish dates for this term are:

Chess club: start 05/11/2018 finish 03/12/2018

Art Club: start 05/11/2018 finish 03/12/2018

Christmas Cards: start 06/11/2018 finish
04/12/2018

Portrait Club: start 06/11/2018 finish 04/12/2018

Colouring Club: start 06/11/2018 finish 04/12/2018

Dough Disco: start 08/11/2018 finish 06/12/2018

Football (Yr 3 & 4): start 08/11/2018 finish 06/12/2018

Tag Rugby (Yr 5 & 6): start 09/11/2018 finish
07/12/2018

Choir: start 08/11/2018 finish 06/12/2018

Winter Weather

The weather is changing!! May I remind you that the children play and do PE outside throughout the year and need the appropriate clothing in school at all times. A plain, dark coloured tracksuit may be sent in for the children to wear during PE, the school hoodie may also be worn.

May we remind you to label hats, scarves and both gloves so they can be easily returned to their rightful owner!

If for any reason we should need to close the school e.g. faulty heating system we will text out the decision as soon as it is taken.

Threadworms and Headlice

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.

Threadworms

Infestation with worms is very common in children. If infestation occurs **ALL** the family should be treated at the same time to prevent reinfection, with a single dose of piperazine which should be **repeated in 14 days time**. Mebendazole can be used which does not require a repeat dose, but it **cannot be used in children aged under 2 years**.

Again, welcome back to the new term, it has been a busy and enjoyable first week - a pleasure to be in a full school once again!

Yours sincerely



Emma Jones
Head of School

Friends of English Martyrs'



Please find below information regarding our Christmas Fayre, please try and support them

Christmas Fayre Non-uniform Day – Monday 26th November 2018

There will be a non-uniform day on Monday 26th November in exchange for donations for the Christmas Fayre. Donations of chocolate items, bottles, fancy goods, raffle prizes, lucky dip items and cuddly toys. All donations greatly received.

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 8th December 2018 11am – 2pm

The FEM are looking for helpers for our Fayre. As this is our biggest fundraising event, please consider giving an hour or two to help us make it a success.

If you think your workplace would be willing to contribute to our raffle by donating vouchers, please let us know.

Also if anyone is interested in renting a table please email the FEM about this or offers of help at FEM-parents@outlook.com

| Nov-18 | | Dec-18 | |
|------------------|--|--------|--|
| 5th | School re-opens | TBC | Family Carol celebration (Church of St John the Evangelist, Stapleford) |
| w/c 5th | KS1 Autumn Watch Week Harvest Food Bank collection for The Canaan Trust | 4th | MAT Drop-in 9 - 10am Advent Liturgy (pupils only) |
| 6th | KS2 SPAG Drop-in 9 - 9.30am | 5th | Becket Christmas Fayre |
| 7th | Flu Immunisations - Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 KS2 SPAG Drop-in 2.30 - 3pm | 7th | Miss Sweeney, Miss Pugh & Miss Macdonald's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm |
| 8 th | Years 5 & 6 - Games of Remembrance Yr 1/2 SPAG/Phonics Drop-in 2.30 - 3pm | 8th | FEM Christmas Fair 11am - 2pm |
| 9th | Yr 1/2 SPAG/Phonics Drop-in 9 - 9.30am FEM Family Quiz night | 11th | Advent Liturgy (pupils only) |
| w/c 12th | Anti-bullying week | 12th | Miss Chibbaro & Miss Mitchell's Christmas Production 2.15 - 3pm Mrs Ellis & Miss Daykin's Christmas Production 3.15 - 4pm |
| 12th | Primary School Applications 2019/20 open | 13th | Mrs Ellis & Miss Daykin's Christmas Production 2.15 - 3pm Mrs Chibbaro & Miss Mitchell's Christmas Production 3.15 - 4pm |
| 14 th | Open morning /Children in Need Breakfast 8.30 - 9.45am | 14th | Mrs Chibbaro & Miss Mitchell's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm |
| 16th | Children in Need Day Miss Coxhead, Miss Dickson & Mrs Pettifer's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm | 17th | KS1 Panto am & KS2 Panto pm |
| 21st | Open Morning - 2019/20 New Reception Intake | 18th | Advent Liturgy (families invited) 2pm |
| 23rd | Mrs Ellis & Miss Daykin's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm | 20th | Christmas Dinner (With Jumpers) Carol singing (pupils & governors only) 2.00pm |
| 26th | FEM Non-uniform Day(Donations of items for Christmas Fayre) | | School closes for Christmas holidays 3.10pm FEM Uniform Sale 3.10pm School Playground |
| 29th | Mass 2pm | 21st | Inset (school closed) |
| 30th | Inset (School Closed) | | |

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**ENGLISH MARTYRS' CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY
CHRISTMAS DINNER PRE ORDER**

**If your child is in year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and would like a Christmas dinner you must return this form by
9.00am on Thursday 16th November 2018**

Name of pupil..... Class

I would like my child to have a Christmas Dinner on Thursday 20th December 2018

A payment of £2.10 has been paid online through SCOPay on(Date)

I enclose a payment of £2.10 (Cheques payable to English Martyrs' Academy

No contribution enclosed as my child is entitled to Free School Meals

Special **dietary** requirements, including vegetarian requests.....

Signed..... Dated.....