



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a busy start to the school year with us already ticking off a month! The children have all settled in brilliantly to their new classes and have already produced some beautiful pieces of work that we are all very proud of. During our first week of the year we brought to the centre of our thinking the school's Mission Statement. Much work was produced around the idea of 'LIGHT' including stewardship, responsibility and friendship. 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'. 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.

Staffing

As you will be aware from previous communication from our Chair of governors, I will be going on a secondment at the end of this half term; taking on a full time role as Director of Performance and Standards for the Saint Ralph Sherwin Multi Academy Trust. In my absence Mrs Jones will become full time Head of School with Mr Andrew Monaghan taking on the role of Executive Head teacher (one to two days per week). Mr Monaghan has previously worked at English Martyrs' as Deputy Head teacher and is currently working as Head teacher at St Alban's in Derby. His role will fundamentally be supporting Mrs Jones in a strategic capacity, however, he is keen to get to know our children and families, working with the community of English Martyrs' to ensure the high standards of teaching and learning are maintained and the Catholic life remains at the core of all we do.

Fundraising

This year, the school has reviewed its fund raising plan and charity support, it was decided to take a new approach seeing each class focussing on just one charity throughout the whole academic year. Our hope is that the children have opportunity to not only raise funds for a charity but to learn more about the impact of their fund raising efforts. Over time, the pupils will be able to make greater links between their Catholic Life and their charitable actions. Over the next few weeks our Chaplaincy team will be selecting 10 charities (a mixture of local, national and global). We invite families to put forward suggestions of charities that we could support this year (and if not successful this year consider for future years). Nominations to Miss Pugh or Mrs McElhone by Monday, please.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraising events. Our open morning raised £90 for The Canaan Trust and our Jeans for Genes day raised £175-00.

Harvest Food Collection

On **Monday 5th November 2018**, we will be holding an assembly for pupils to highlight the work of the Canaan Trust and their Food Bank project. The residents at Canaan Trust often arrive with nothing at all, and may have to wait for up to two weeks before receiving any benefits. Therefore the project has a food bank in order to be able to feed those who come to stay, as well as homeless individuals who come asking for help with food and toiletries. Following the assembly we will be 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.

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).

- 5th October 2018 – Mrs Ellis and Miss Daykin
- 12th October 2018 – Miss Sweeney, Miss Pugh and Miss Macdonald
- 19th October 2018 – Mrs Chibbaro and Miss Mitchell
- 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

Arrangements for Parents Evening

Parents Evening will take place on Wednesday 24th October 3.30 - 5.00pm and Thursday 25th 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 Wednesday 17th 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.

Drop-ins

Reception are having a drop-in phonics session on Thursday 4th 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, teaching and learning.

After the half term break Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar drop-ins will be held as follows:

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 on Tuesday 6th November from 9 – 9.30am and on Wednesday 7th November from 2.30 – 3pm.
Years 1 and 2 on Thursday 8th November from 2.30 – 3pm and Friday 9th November from 9 – 9.30am

WANTED - Rabbit Holiday Home

Einstein, our school rabbit, is looking for a holiday home for the October half term. He would like to stay with someone who has experience of keeping rabbits or similar small mammals. Due to the size of his current hutch, the holiday home will need to provide a hutch for the week and a run. 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 13th May 2019 with Year 2's tests taking place over the whole of May. Year 1 phonics screening will be w/c 10th June 2019. Please do not make holiday plans, dental appointments etc during any of these dates.

Hoodie Order Autumn 2018

The school hoodies are available to order again from now until **Tuesday 23rd October 2018**. 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 2019/20 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.

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.

Instagram and Twitter

After half term, we will be launching an Instagram and Twitter page to celebrate all the amazing things our school does on a weekly basis. We will be using the green forms to inform us of the children who can be photographed for publication so please do come to see the class teacher if you want to adjust the green form accordingly.

Social media is an excellent tool to engage with parents and to share our pupils' successes. As part of our Home-School Agreement as Parents/Carers, it is agreed to use social media with thoughtfulness and respect for the feelings of others, therefore comments will be monitored and on occasion may be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely



Kate Mann
Headteacher

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

English Martyrs' Catholic Voluntary Academy Parents Evening Autumn 2018 Return Slip

Child's Name.....

Class

Sibling(s).....

Class

I would like an appointment on:

Wednesday 24th October 2018	3.30 – 4.30pm	4.30 – 5.00pm
Thursday 25th October 2018	4.30– 5.30pm	5.30 – 7.00pm

Signed



Hoodie Order Autumn 2018

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

ADVENT TERM	
Oct-18	
4th	Reception Phonics Drop-in 8.50 - 10am
5th	Mrs Ellis & Miss Daykin's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm
12th	Miss Sweeney, Miss Pugh & Miss Macdonald's Good Work Liturgy 2.40pm
16th	MAT Drop-in 9 - 10am Mrs Ellis Class Liturgy 9am
18th	RE and Catholic Life Parents Information evening 6 - 7pm
19th	Mrs Chibbaro & Miss Mitchell's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm FEM "Day of the Dead" Disco 6 - 9pm
24th	Parents Evening 3.30 - 5pm
25th	Kemble House Mass 9am FEM Uniform Sale 3.10pm School Playground Parents Evening 4.30 - 7pm School closes for Half Term 3.10pm
26th	Inset (school closed)

Nov-18		Dec-18	
5th	School re-opens	TBC	<i>Family Carol celebration (Church of St John the Evangelist, Stapleford)</i>
w/c	KS1 Autumn Watch Week	TBC	<i>Choir SNCAT Christmas performance Albert Hall</i>
5th	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	7th	Miss Sweeney, Miss Pugh & Miss Macdonald's Good work Liturgy 2.40pm
7th	Flu Immunisations - Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 KS2 SPAG Drop-in 2.30 - 3pm	8th	FEM Christmas Fair
8 th	Years 5 & 6 - Games of Remembrance KS1 SPAG/Phonics Drop-in 2.30 - 3pm	11th	Advent Liturgy (pupils only)
9th	KS1 SPAG/Phonics Drop-in 9 - 9.30am FEM Family Quiz night	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	18th	Advent Liturgy (families invited) 2pm
26th	FEM Non-uniform Day (Items for Christmas Fayre)	20th	Christmas Dinner (With Jumpers)
29th	Mass 2pm		Carol singing (pupils & governors only) 2.00pm School closes for Christmas holidays 3.10pm FEM Uniform Sale 3.10pm School Playground
30th	Inset (School Closed)	21st	Inset (school closed)