

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

"where everyone is special"

Newsletter 4: 18th December 2020

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@EMCPrimary

Reception and KS1 Christmas Videos



Year 2 have completed a Nativity, Reception have a Loom video of the Christmas Story with an Ebook. Year 1 have a Loom video of the Nativity and an action hymn. These will go out to parents. The children very much enjoyed dressing up and we tried to keep the atmosphere of the Nativity especially under these difficult circumstances. The videos are for personal use only. These cannot be shared on any social media or networking sites. If it is distributed unofficially, then unfortunately, school will not send out further videos. This would be a shame for all for parents as currently this is their only opportunity to see their children in school and the videos would have to stop.

Santa visits English Martyrs School



We had an exciting day on Monday 14th December because Santa came to visit school. The children were very excited. He dropped off sweets for the children, which will be given out today.

Extra-curricular clubs

We are awaiting further guidance from the Government regarding Rugby's Tier status and guidelines for running clubs at our school in January. We are very keen to have our clubs return, however, we would like to do this as safely as possible and follow government guidelines. No clubs will take place on the first week back. We will give more information at the start of the New Year. The club leader will contact you when more is known.

PE Timetable

Please find below the PE Timetable for classes starting back in January. Children will still be required to come to school in their PE kits next Spring Term. This will begin on the first week back. Please ensure that children have the correct school uniform for PE. This is on our website and in the school [Uniform Policy](#).

Reception and Year 1	Please bring in the school uniform PE clothes to be left in school. The children will require PE shorts, the school PE Tee Shirt and pumps. However, if you wish to buy the school jogging bottoms and hoodie, these will be used in the Summer term.
Year 2	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday and Friday
Year 4	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 5	Monday and Tuesday
Year 6	Monday and Wednesday

Thank you to members of our school community

As I am sure you are aware, the staff at school have worked tirelessly to keep children safe and happy during these difficult times, whilst continuing to keep some level of normality. They have been very vigilant and determined to ensure that children still receive a good level of standards. I am very proud to have them on my team and I wish to thank them for all their efforts.



Good News

We would like to congratulate Mrs O'Connor who is expecting a baby in the spring next year. We are delighted with her news and we wish her and her family the very best.



PTFA fundraising

Thank you for all your efforts with fundraising for PTFA during this difficult time and situation.

- We raised £350 from our Belgrade Panto
- Non-Uniform day raised £190
- Christmas Trees raised £85
- Christmas Cards £150

The PTFA have worked tirelessly to support our school. They have become very inventive with ways to raise money during these unprecedented times. I would like to thank the PTFA and the parents who continue to support our school.

News from the LA to support you during the Christmas period

Family Information Service (FIS): Information and advice for families and carers will be available via the Helpline **01926 742274** and fis@warwickshire.gov.uk from 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday. FIS will be closed to business from 25th to 29th December and on 1st January.

Christmas Holiday Activities

Christmas holiday activities including some virtual events can now be found on the Children and Family webpages:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/directory/46/christmas-holiday-schemes>

COVID-19 Winter Grant Scheme Update

If parents are having difficulty using the Winter Grant vouchers e.g. shops not accepting the voucher. Parents are to call PayPoint on **0330 400 0002**.

If the store assistant has any questions, they should call the PayPoint Contact Centre on **0800 310 0000**.

First bubble to go down

It is with regret to inform you that our first bubble went down today. The year group along with adults went home. The children will have to self-isolate until midnight on Christmas Eve. Parents of these children and their siblings do not have to self-isolate unless they have symptoms themselves.

Procedures for Covid-19 over the holidays

Below are English Martyrs track and trace procedures for the festive break.

If your child experiences symptoms within 48 hours after the end of term and they subsequently test positive for COVID-19, then you must inform me of this by phoning the school

mobile number: **07928048405**

Please do not leave a phone message on the school landline number

01788543423 as this will not be picked up.

We will then begin our track and trace procedures and contact parents of close contacts. In our discussion over the phone, please provide me with the following information:

- Date symptoms started
- Last date in school
- Test date
- Result date

If your child develops symptoms after the 48 hour period since they were last in school (Midnight on Saturday 19th December), then we would not need to follow a school track and trace procedure and therefore you do not need to contact me.

Pupil Premium

Schools are given a pupil premium for:

- Children who have qualified for free school meals at any point in the past six years. The school receives £1320 for each of these children.
- Children who are or have been looked after under local authority care for more than one day. These children are awarded a premium of £2300.
- Children from service families who receive a child pension from the Ministry of Defence. They are awarded £300.

In March 2018 the Government announced that free school meals would only be available to children in KS2 whose families have a net income of £7400 or under, effective from 1 April 2018. If your child was previously entitled to free school meals but is no longer, they will still receive pupil premium based on the 'Ever 6' qualification (a pupil who has ever had free school meals in the past six years).

Prior to April 2018, children qualified for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you received any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

These benefits have now been rolled into a single benefit, called **Universal Credit**. From April 2018, free school meals and pupil premium will only be allocated to pupils with a family income under £7400 (net) per year.

Schools spend this pupil premium based on what they feel are the needs of the children and schools can vary widely on how this is spent.

Since September 2014, all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 have qualified for free school meals, regardless of their family income, but only the children who would qualify for free meals under the above income-based criteria will receive the pupil premium. **If your child would qualify for free school meals, even if they are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 it is important that you register and claim free school meal via the Warwickshire website. The school does not automatically receive this money** and it is the only means schools have to receive the additional funding.

Link for applying for Free School Meals: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

Diary Dates

December

18th Teacher training day – school is closed

January

4th Teacher Training Day – school is closed

5th Children back to school

20th Health Needs Assessment Questionnaire (Year 6)

February

10th Proposed date for Year 6 Confirmation (TBC)

12th This day is now a teaching day and children will be in school

March

3rd Proposed date for Year 3 Reconciliation (TBC)

School Improvement Suggestion



As a school we are always striving to improve, a good school listens to suggestions and opinions which can often lead to school improvement and positive change. If you have any suggestions you wish to share with the school, please fill the slip in below and hand it in to the school office or in the white letterbox in reception. Parents can also visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk to complete the parent view questionnaire.

Signed: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____