

# English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

*"where everyone is special"*

## Newsletter 8: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

[www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk)

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@EMCPprimary

### Congratulations!



Congratulations to Mrs O'Connor on the birth of her baby son Harrison Leo Hall born on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April weighing 7lbs and 11oz. We wish her, and her family, our very best wishes and are so pleased about her delightful news.

### School Masses

We have now been told that school mass can commence next week. After discussions with Father Gerry, it was agreed that one class bubble can attend church with the parishioners. There will be no singing and children will be reading from the lectern. Masses will begin from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. However, parents are not invited to these masses due to Covid-19 regulations. 11 am



### Parent Consultation meetings



Our Parent Consultation meetings will take place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 3.45pm to 7pm and again on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 3.45pm to 7pm. Booking invites have been sent out by Mrs Copson through our Teachers2Parents Booking System. We have decided to use this application for our video call meetings. A video link invitation will be sent out an hour before the meeting. Guidance has already been sent out. Please read this carefully before the meeting next week.

### Extra-Curricular Clubs



Extra-curricular clubs have started again. Please see the table below. There are limited numbers for these clubs which are written in brackets. This is part of the school's Risk Assessment for hall use. To run these clubs safely, children must not mix with children from other bubbles. If there was a case from an extra-curricular club, then the whole group would not be in school for ten days. Some clubs still have spaces: Yoga (1), Irish Dancing (10), Martial Arts (5).

Day	Extra-Curricular club	Year groups attending
Monday morning	Basketball (15)	Years 5 to 6
Monday	Football (15)	Years 3 to 6
Tuesday	Yoga (9)	Year 1 to Year 6
Wednesday	Martial Arts (15)	Reception to Year 6
Thursday	Irish Dancing (15)	Reception to Year 6

## Sacraments

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Father Gerry and I have drawn up a calendar for children to make their sacraments before the end of the school year.

We have decided on our celebrations to be simplified but to have a special mass for the children making their First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

First Holy Communicants in Year 4 will be split into two groups to alleviate the numbers of attendees in the church. The maximum number English Martyrs church can hold is 60 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The celebrations will be:

Saturday June 12th 11am FHC 1

Saturday June 19th 11am FHC 2

There will also be a service of reconciliation for the First Holy Communion candidates on Wednesday 26th May at 9.30am but this will be held as a class event in the church without parents.

Confirmation will take place on the following dates and again in two groups:

Saturday July 10th 11am Confirmation 1

Saturday July 17th 11am Confirmation 2

I am very aware that there are very few dates left to hold Year 3 First Holy Communion celebrations this academic year. However, there will be a Reconciliation service for Year 3 in the summer term but this will be held in the church without parents present.

Arrangements will be made for Year 3 to make their First Holy Communion in the Autumn Term in the next academic year.

## The Big Ask

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The 19th April marked the launch of [The Big Ask](#). This is the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 - 17 years which has been set by the Children's Commissioner for England: Dame Rachel de Souza.



The hope is that the children will be able to share concerns and aspirations over the future and will put children at the heart of the COVID Recovery Programme.

Parents, Carers and adults working with children are also invited to respond, so if you would like to contribute, then please click on the link below:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/adults/>

## Microsoft Teams Homework

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We would like to reassure parents and carers of the reasons why we continue to use Teams. Children must be familiar with accessing their Microsoft Teams accounts in the unfortunate event that their bubble has to close and children must isolate. Work will be sent via Microsoft Teams and live lessons can be delivered. It is imperative that those children who attended school during the last lockdown and did not have to use Microsoft Teams, should know their usernames, passwords and know how to access their Teams account.

## Over and Above award – Ice lolly Friday

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We have introduced an 'Over and Above' award. All staff in the school are looking for children who go over and above what is normally expected. This behaviour is not just for academia but can be for anything that a pupil has done which is more than the minimum and it gives them something to reach for. We have recorded the names of children who achieve this recognition on our website.



## Reading competition

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Our Reading competition has been in place for several weeks (since Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March). Here is an outline of the awards that children can win if they read books:



The graphic has a purple background. In the top left corner, there is a small image of an open book with a warm, golden glow. To the right of the image, the text is centered and reads:

**Reading Competition**

- We want to start our reading competition again to encourage reading

**Bronze award**  
Read 20 books and get a bronze certificate and a pencil

**Silver Award**  
Read 40 books and get a silver certificate and an enamel badge KS1 R  
A bookmarker KS2

**Gold award**  
Read 60 books and get a Gold certificate and a special ticket for the prize draw

At the bottom left of the purple box, there are small navigation icons: a home icon, a back icon, a forward icon, a search icon, and a refresh icon.

Special ticket will be put in the prize draw and an Amazon Fire 7 tablet 16GB will be given to one person in Reception and KS1 and the other for KS2. Children can read any books e.g. home reading book or books from Bug Club online. Teachers will record the amount of books read from Bug Club. All we ask is that parents sign the Green reading record book as proof that their child has read the books. In Year 5 and 6, children have been asked to spend thirty minute sessions reading a book.

Some children are already on Bronze awards but we would like more children to take part in reading at home as much as possible. Please see below nine hints and tips for families to read together. Happy reading everyone.

## 9 creative ways to read as a family

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1. Nourishing the Meal Time, have your kids read recipes aloud to you while you're cooking dinner. From ingredient lists to cooking directions, this kind of family reading will help build vocabulary, fluency...and dessert!
2. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? While your family is eating together, discuss what your favourite characters would have for dinner – Harry Potter might like pumpkin juice and chocolate frogs while Geronimo Stilton could crave some cheese! Incorporating characters of favourite stories into your eating routine is a delicious way to promote deep thinking about character traits and motivation.
3. Story Charades - Choose a story your family knows well, like a well-read book or fairy-tale — and act out the beginning, middle, and end of the story. If you have more family than characters, a few could do the acting and the others can be the audience or be the narrator. This activity helps readers re-examine and understand story lines and details.
4. Who Am I? Choose one of your child's favourite book characters, then describe his or her personality traits, problems, and physical descriptions until she guesses the character's identity. This game is a fun way to pass time when you're stuck in traffic or at a bus stop.
5. Book Nooks Create "book nooks" with your child. Book nooks are comfy places to sit and read. They should have good lighting and containers filled with sticky notes, colourful pens, pencils, and a small dictionary. Book nooks will motivate your children not only to read, but to select favourite parts with sticky notes, or look up words they don't know.
6. Marking the Spot Making book marks together is a great, simple family reading activity. Just cut bookmark-sized cardboard from cereal or shoe boxes, then get crafty! Use brightly-coloured markers to write titles, authors, and favourite quotes. Younger readers can draw or cut and paste pictures from old magazines.
7. Reach Out and Read Boost family reading by involving loved-ones who live far away. Using Zoom or another video conferencing program, have your child share a book with relatives. Make sure the book is one that your reader has read a few times already; repetition is a fantastic way to enhance reading skills. Younger readers love to show-off their fluency, and oral reading builds confidence. Grandma will be pretty thrilled as well.
8. Kid Karaoke - Download songs and their lyrics for a family karaoke night. Seeing words and singing them at the same time is a fun way to develop vocabulary...and practice your Elvis impersonations!
9. Family Reading Web pages - Using simple and free online programs, create a family reading Web page. Include sections for each family member's book reviews, favourite book lists, "authors I'd like to lunch with" lists, pictures of famous authors, links to local libraries, kid-safe fan pages, and reading games.

## The Year of St Joseph

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Pope Francis has proclaimed the year from 8th December 2020 to 8th December 2021 to be the "Year of St. Joseph."

This is to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph in the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart") as Patron of the Universal Church.

This year we are invited to follow St. Joseph's example, pray with him and entrust our work to him as the patron saint of workers.

St Joseph's Feast Days are this Friday, 19th March and **1st May** which is fast approaching.



### **Prayer for the Year of St Joseph**

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph to us too,  
show yourself a father and guide us on a path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.

**Amen**

## Support for Families

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**Family Information Service (FIS):** Information and advice for families and carers will be available via the Helpline **01926 742274** and [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk) from 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday.

### Family Information Service (FIS)

We provide information, advice and one-to-one support for families with children and young people aged 0 to 25 across Warwickshire on issues including:

- family relationships
- finance
- housing
- parenting support
- special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- childcare
- health and wellbeing



Here is information for CWRISE which has useful information accessible to professionals, children, and parents on their website. <https://cwrise.com/>

There is also advice and information on this website when supporting with covid19

challenges. <https://cwrise.com/advice-and-important-information-during-covid-19>

## Pupil Premium

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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.

School's 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>

## Online Safety Information

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English Martyrs Catholic Primary School is committed to promoting the safe and responsible use of the internet and as such we feel it is our responsibility to share advice and tips for parents about different online platforms or social media sites that some children may be using. Look out for further tips shared on our website, Twitter and Facebook page. In this newsletter, we have attached "**Setting up parental controls on android and iPhone**"

Look out for Mr Bromage's video for "[Online safety tips for parents](#)" which can be found on our school website under the tab "Webzone". Please watch this video as it will give you many tips on how to keep children safe online.



The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers and how to act safely when using the internet.

We are delighted to inform you that we are now part of the National Online Safety (NOS) for online safety for the whole school community which will enable our school to deliver an interactive online workshop for all our parents & carers.

The course can be taken at your own convenience and covers:

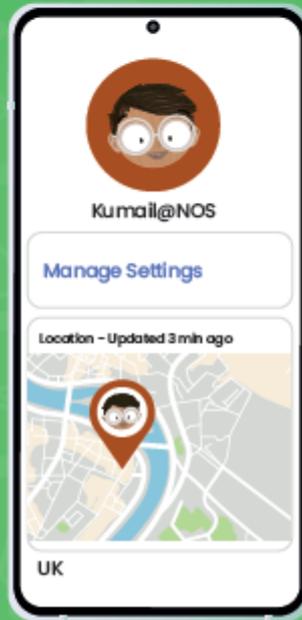
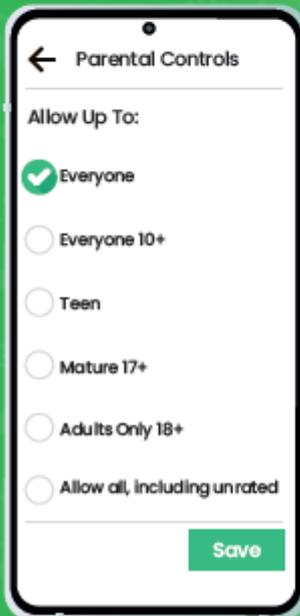
- Information about online dangers and the newest platforms
- What online risks to look out for and how to protect your child

The school will be working to become a certified school. We will send out more information in due course.

# How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS to limit age-inappropriate CONTENT Android Phone



The settings on an Android device allow you to prescribe certain rules for when your child is using it. For example, you can block specific types of content to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to a age-inappropriate material (music with explicit lyrics, for instance, and games, TV shows or movies that are unsuitable for young people). There are two ways to access parental controls on an Android phone: through Google Play or via the Google Family Link app. You can also lock your changes behind a PIN, so your child (or anyone else) can't change them back.



## Set up parental controls with Google Family Link

- 1 On your phone, install Google Family Link for Parents
- 2 Tap Open and review the information
- 3 Tap Get Started
- 4 Tap Next to set up your child's device
- 5 On your child's phone, download Google Family Link for Children & Teens and enter the Family Link setup code provided
- 6 On your phone, open the Family Link app
- 7 Tap your child's name
- 8 Tap Manage Settings
- 9 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 10 Tap the content you would like to restrict
- 11 Choose how to filter or restrict access

## Set up parental controls with Google Play

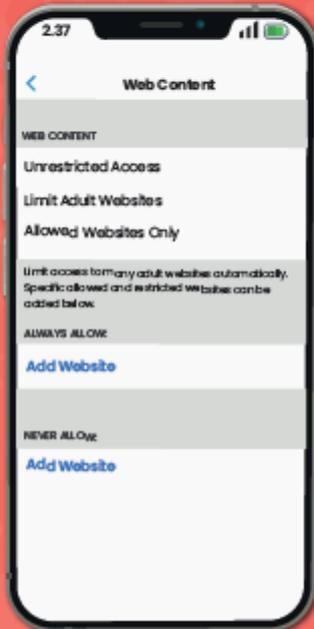
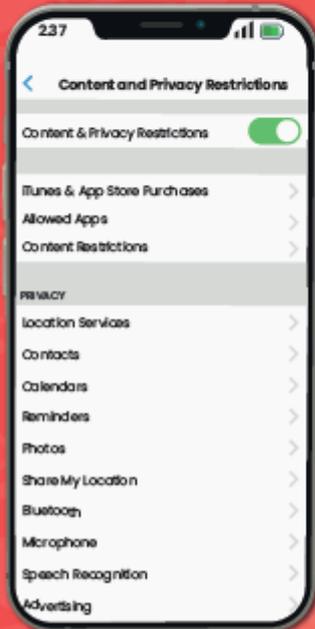
- 1 Open the Play Store app
- 2 Tap Menu (represented by three horizontal lines)
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Parental Controls
- 4 Enable Parental Controls
- 4 Create Pin
- 4 Tap the content you would like to restrict
- 4 Choose how to filter or restrict access



# How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS to limit age-inappropriate CONTENT iPhone



The parental controls on iPhones allow you to block or restrict certain apps, features, content, downloads, or purchases. Setting limitations on content ratings, Siri and web searches enables you to filter out age-inappropriate content and vastly reduce the likelihood of your children being exposed to unsuitable material and information.



### 18+ Set up content rating restrictions

Content filters keep your child from viewing unsuitable material. They block apps, films and TV shows with specific age ratings, and music and podcasts with explicit content.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Enable Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 5 Choose the Settings for each feature you wish to restrict

### Set up web restrictions

Website content filters restrict age-inappropriate content on Safari. You can also blacklist certain websites or allow access only to approved sites.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 4 Tap Web Content
- 5 Choose between Unrestricted Access, Limit Adult Websites and Allowed Websites Only
- 7 Choose which websites you wish to allow/block

### Set up Siri web search restrictions

You can screen out explicit language to avoid Siri displaying inappropriate results. You could also disable Siri entirely, so your child can't use it to search the web.

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions
- 5 Scroll Down to Siri
- 6 Choose to block either or both Web Search Content and Explicit Language

# Diary Dates

I have included more diary dates below but this is purely dependent on Boris Johnson's Road Map Step 3 which will be released on 17<sup>th</sup> May and Step 4 on 21<sup>st</sup> June. We do hope that things will get back to some sort of normality soon.

## May

- 4<sup>th</sup> Virtual Parent Consultations 3.45pm to 7pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> Virtual Parent Consultations 3.45pm to 7pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Reconciliation Service Year 4, 9.30am at church without parents
- 28<sup>th</sup> Teacher Training Day – No school

## 31<sup>st</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> June Half-Term

## June

- 7<sup>th</sup> Children return back to school after half-term
- 12<sup>th</sup> First Holy Communion Year 4 group 1 at 11am - English Martyrs church
- 15<sup>th</sup> New Reception Parents meeting (TBC restrictions permitting)
- 19<sup>th</sup> First Holy Communion Year 4 group 2 at 11am - English Martyrs church
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sports Day (TBC restrictions permitting)

## July

- 6<sup>th</sup> Reports out to parents
- 7<sup>th</sup> Induction Day (New Reception pupil's afternoon only)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Year 6 group 1 at 11am - English Martyrs church
- 17<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Year 6 group 2 at 11am - English Martyrs church
- 21<sup>st</sup> End of School year

## 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](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk) to complete the parent view questionnaire.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_