

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

"where everyone is special"

Newsletter 1: 9th September 2022

www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk

office@emc.magnificat.org.uk

@EMCPrimary



Queen Elizabeth II

It is with great sadness that we have received the announcement of the passing of our reigning monarch Queen Elizabeth II. We would like to offer prayers as a school community, in thanks for her life of service and of course a prayer of consolation for her family and our community. The Queen has been a lifelong servant to the people of the United Kingdom, and we thank God for her 70 years of service to our nation. We would like to share and offer the following prayer.

Father in heaven,

We thank you that you have made us in your own image and have given us gifts in mind, body and spirit. We thank you now for Queen Elizabeth and what she meant to each of us. As we honour her memory, make us more aware that you are the one from whom comes every perfect gift, including the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Amen

Our Lady of the Magnificat Academy status



On 1st September 2022 the school officially became part of Our Lady of the Magnificat Academy. We are still in the process of converting and our systems continue to be changed but this is not without its glitches. Please bear with us as we ensure the new systems run smoothly and efficiently. Problems with our new email system is has now resolved so we will start sending out emails to you. You should receive next week, an invitation to register with the new payment pay system. **Please do not load any money onto the old Pay 360 system as we are unable to refund money.**



Our communication emails have changed but we are still able to receive emails from our old WeLearn addresses.

Year 6 – Mr Fitzgerald	dfitzgerald@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Year 5 – Mrs Skuse	hskuse@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Year 4 – Miss Long	elong@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Year 3 – Mrs O'Malley	komalley@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Miss Brown	hbrown@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Year 2 – Mrs Rouledge	lrouledge@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Mrs Curtis	ucurtis@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Year 1 – Miss Nleya	pnleya@emc.magnificat.org.uk
Reception – Mrs Jones	rjones@emc.magnificat.org.uk
School Office	office@emc.magnificat.org.uk

Welcome to new members of staff



Welcome to our school Mr David Fitzgerald who is our new Year 6 teacher and Mrs Roxborough who will be our TA in Year 5 and 6.



Whole school mass and classroom blessing



On Thursday 8th September Father Matthew came to school to bless our classrooms. The children prayed for a good start to the year, to keep us healthy and safe in school and to enjoy our teaching this year. We read out our class promises which incorporated our school rules: READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE. We look forward to a new school year with aspirational learning ahead of us.



Clubs to start next week

Monday morning Hotshots – letter went out with children on Thursday 8th September 2022

Monday afternoon after school **AK coaching** – letters sent

New - Monday **Gardening club** run by Ali Corbett – see flyer opposite – to start 19th September

Tuesday **Yoga** – contact Natalie McMahon via email: natalie@kidzloveyoga.co.uk or 07738630862

Wednesday **Tang Soo Do** – John Dove – flyer will be emailed today.

Thursday **Irish Dancing** - Declan McHale

After school Gardening Club

Mondays 3.30-4.30pm

Autumn Term 

Vegetable growing  

Bird feeders 

Bug hotels   

& much much more! 

Come join the fun!

We start Monday 19 September

£20 for 5 week Autumn term

Secure one of the 10 places with Mrs Copson in the office

Irish Dancing re-starting afterschool, Thursday 15th September 2022 @ 3.30pm – 5.00pm.

The McHale Academy of Irish Dancing established in 2016 in Coventry by 4x World Champion, Declan McHale. Declan was fortunate to perform with the touring production of Riverdance for 4 years and has performed at arenas and festivals all over the world, including the UK's most famous Music Festival, Glastonbury. The McHale Academy builds confidence and above all, promotes good health and fitness through Irish Dance within a professional and friendly environment. The McHale Academy has successfully managed to produce fantastic dancers who have competed and won major awards throughout the UK, Ireland, and North America.

Whole and Individual School Photographs

We have booked the professional photographer to take a photograph of the whole school on **20th September** in the morning. School individual photos will take place on **Tuesday 11th October**.

PE Timetable for the academic year

PE Timetable for the Hall - Autumn Term 2022/2023

Black is first half of each term Green is the second half term

MON			Year 1 Year 1		Year 5 Year 3	Year 6 Year 4
TUES	Year 4 Year 6		Year 2 Year 2			Year 5 Year 5
WED	Year 5	B R E A K	Reception Reception	L U N C H	Year 3 Year 3	
THUR			Mass		Year 2 Year 2	Year 4 Year 4
FRI	Year 3 Swimming session 9 th Sept to Feb 17 th Year 4 3 rd Mar to 14 th July		Year 1 Year 1		Year 3 From w/c 27 th Feb 2023	Forest School Reception Forest School Reception

Start of the day

Start of the day – the gate opens at 8.45am. Please ensure you do not stand on the drive as cars still need to come up the drive.

My vision is for 100% punctuality. Please be reminded that the start of our day is 8.55am.



Procedures for Punctuality and lateness



At English Martyrs, we would like parents to support us in trying to get every child to arrive in school on time. It can be very hard for children who arrive late to go into class once their classmates are settled. Arriving on time helps children to learn about routines and commitment. It gives children time to greet their friends before class and this can reduce the possibility of anxieties and disruptions in the classroom.

We understand that things may happen to make parents late for school, the occasional unexpected rough morning, spilled drink, flat tire or forgotten lunch box—these will happen to each of us. But what we want to avoid is children routinely arriving at school after the bell has gone at 8:55am.

If parents have difficulties or challenges in arriving to school on time, we encourage parents to discuss this matter with school where we can offer help and advice. We would like to help in any way we can to ensure children do not miss valuable school time and start to develop good life-long routines.

We have set out procedures to support families whose punctuality is a cause for concern and who persistently arrive late. Regular and punctual attendance at school is a legal requirement under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996.

Below are procedures which have been set out to support parent's punctuality:

1. School to monitor and assess concerns of punctuality and lateness of children
2. Address the issue with a letter of concern which offers support to parents
3. Parents who persistently continue to arrive late will be offered a meeting with a person of trust e.g. Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher
4. Clear targets and a set period of time discussed at this meeting to improve punctuality

5. After the set period of time, Governors will be informed if punctuality and lateness does not improve
6. Governors will arrange a meeting with the parents to further discuss punctuality
7. Referral to the Local Authority if matters do not improve

Safeguarding Statement

'Under the Education Act 2002 (Section 175 for maintained schools/Section 157 for academies/free/independent schools), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Parents/carers should know that the law (Children Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. Staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with the parent/carer and discuss the need to make a referral to Children's Social Care if that is considered necessary. **This will only be done where such discussion will not place the child at increased risk of significant harm or cause undue delay.** The school will seek advice from Children's Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later found to be unfounded. Parents/carers will appreciate that the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead carries out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acts in the best interests of all children.

The designated safeguarding leads for English Martyrs School are Miss Petras and Mrs Jones

Parent Welcome Meetings – meet the teacher (s)

Our Parent Welcome meetings will resume this year. Parents are invited to come to school and meet with the class teacher. You will find out about the expectations of the year group and you will receive information about the curriculum delivered during the year. The teacher will also explain how children are assessed in school. It will be a great opportunity to ask questions and see, first hand, what the teacher has planned for the year.

Year group	Date and time of meeting
Reception	Wednesday 14 th 3pm
Year 1	Friday 16 th 3pm
Year 2	Wednesday 14 th 3pm
Year 3	Tuesday 13 th 9am
Year 4	Wednesday 14 th 9am
Year 5	Tuesday 13 th 3pm
Year 6	Thursday 15 th 3pm

Parent consultation meetings

We will send out a Microsoft form in the next couple of weeks to consult parents on how you would like the Parent Consultation meetings to be delivered – remotely or face to face. This information will inform our plans for the year. We do hope that you will engage with this questionnaire so that we make arrangements that meet the needs of the majority of parents.

Harvest Festival Appeal 2022

Harvest is an important time in the foodbank calendar as it helps us to restock the essential items. We are seeing more people coming to our foodbank due to the cost of living crisis and we need to prepare ourselves to be able to help. Please help by donating an item or two from the list below. Please bring food into school from **19th September to 29th September**. We will show our donations at the Harvest festival mass on 29th September.

<https://rugby.foodbank.org.uk/2022/08/31/harvest-festival-appeal-2022/>

HARVEST APPEAL

HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOOD BANK WITH FOOD AND FUNDS THIS HARVEST

DONATE FOOD

Help by donating an item or two from the list to support people facing hardship.



SHOPPING LIST TOP FIVE ITEMS

Tinned vegetables
Tinned fish/meat
Tinned rice pud/custard
UHT Milk/fruit juice
Tinned snack meals

*Don't forget...
You can help transform more lives
with a financial donation too.*

DONATE MONEY

help to cover the costs of storing and distributing emergency food as well as delivering additional support and advice.



RUGBY FOODBANK
rugby.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1126487)
Part of the work of Hope4

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.

Online Safety Information

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 "**What Parents Need to Know about TikTok**". These are attached to the email separately. We are aware that parents find it difficult to put control mechanisms in place for these sites.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.

18

CENSORED

EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

W&#*!

TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become 'TikTok famous'. While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing' will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase 'TikTok coins', which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 99p to an eye-watering £99 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Duet' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using 'Restricted Mode'. This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the 'Digital Wellbeing' section. Under 'Screen Time Management', you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Diary Dates

September

5 th	Teacher Training Day
8 th	Class blessings followed by Whole school mass led by teachers
13 th	Welcome meeting for parents Year 3 (9am) and Year 5 (3pm)
14 th	Welcome meeting for parents Year 4 (9am), Reception (3pm), Year 2 (3pm)
15 th	Welcome meeting for parents Year 6 (3pm)
15 th	Mass: Year 5 (lead) and 2 mass
16 th	Welcome meeting for parents Year 1 (3pm)
19 th	New Gardening club to start
19 th	Start to bring in food for Harvest Festival – to be collected in classrooms
20 th	Whole school photograph on the field taken by professional photographer
22 nd	Mass: Year 4 (lead) and Year 1 mass
27th	Y6 Confirmation Parent Meeting 6:30pm (No children please) in the school hall
29 th	Last day for food collection for Harvest
29 th	Mass: led by Year 6 Harvest Festival whole school mass

October

11 th	Individual school photographs
13 th	Mass: Year 3 (lead) and Year 6 and Reception
16th	Year 6 CONFIRMATION enrolment mass at English Martyrs church 11am
20 th	Mass: Year 2 (lead) and Year 5
20th	Y3 Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Parent Meeting 6:30pm (No children please)

HALF TERM 24th OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 28th October

November

1 st	Parent consultation meetings 3:35-7pm
3 rd	Mass: Year 1 (lead) and Year 4
3 rd	Parent Consultation meetings 3:35-7pm
6th	Year 3 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION enrolment mass at English Martyrs church 11am
10 th	Mass: Year 6 (lead), Year 3 and Reception
16 th	Heights and Weights check - Reception and Year 6
17 th	Mass: Year 5 (lead) and Year 2
24 th	Mass: Year 4 (lead) and Year 1
30th	Year 3 Reconciliation service at 6.30pm English Martyrs church

December

1 st	Mass: Year 3 (lead), Year 6 and Reception
8 th	Mass: Year 2 (lead) and Year 5
15 th	Whole school Mass Year 6 lead
16 th	Carol Service/End of term presentations

January 2022

3rd

Teacher Training Day

4th

Children return to school for the Spring term

Year 5 Residential Beaumanor trip 5th – 7th July 2023

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: _____

