



English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

Friday 16th January 2026

Another busy week here in school with lots of terrific learning and activities taking place for all! 😊

On Tuesday, Mrs Abbas welcomed Gaynor from *Let's Go Sing* into school for a rehearsal with the KS2 Choir who are taking part. The children amazed her, singing with enthusiasm, enjoyment and with 100% engagement! Gaynor commented about their fabulous behaviour and clear dedication in learning the songs. Well done children, you make us all so proud and well done and thank you Mrs Abbas for getting them this far! Of course thank you to all our families who have supported the children at home! 😊

Unfortunately, some children have returned after Christmas wearing a vast array of footwear. Some of them are not suitable for school, nor are they school uniform.

Whilst we appreciate and understand sometimes shoes break, children outgrow them and there can be times where it is difficult for us to instantly go out and buy new. However, please can we request that in these circumstances plain alternatives are worn such as black PE pumps, plain dark coloured trainers or other shoes, in line with our school uniform guidance. Thank you 😊

A bit of advance notice for everyone! On Thursday 12th February, we are having Mass in school, led by Fr Paddy and Team 2 of our Chaplaincy Team, celebrating being half way through the school year, with the theme of Love. Mass is at 1030am here in school and you are all welcome!

As part of our continuous school improvement, our website provider, Primary Site, has merged with a new company called Juniper Education. Part of this merge is a new website design. I had a meeting with one of the web designers last week and looked at different designs. As a school who value the opinions and ideas of our families and pupils, I would like to invite parents to express interest if you fancy joining myself, other members of staff, some pupils in a working party to decide on the final design. Part of the new design includes a new parent app so your thoughts really do matter! We want the new website to be user friendly for all! If you would like to be part of decisions, please let me know and we will sort out a mutual time.

We have a vacancy on our Governing Body for a Parent Governor and will be advertising formally in the coming weeks. If you are interested, have a chat with one of our Governors or Mrs Thomas our staff Governor for more info about the role.

Attendance Matters!

Being in school EVERYDAY and ON TIME is a non-negotiable and expectation for EVERYONE!

	Attendance	Punctuality (Lates)
Reception	94%	5
Year 1	96%	9
Year 2	96%	13
Year 3	95%	15
Year 4	97%	4
Year 5	91%	11
Year 6	95%	7
Total	95% 😊	64 😊

Pantry @ EM

We are 'open' any day at any time of there is ANYTHING you need to stock up on.

Please don't be shy, don't be proud or embarrassed, we are all here to help and support each other.

Please either ask in the office, ask Mrs Hewitson or Mrs Howarth, or any member of staff, or drop one of us an email and we will have a bag ready for you by the end of the day. 😊

What's on in School?	
Date	Activity
Each Thursday until Easter	Year 4 Swimming lessons
Tuesday 20 th January	Mr Souter working with Years 5 & 6 All about Money
Monday 26 th January	Joe Dowling (Engineering Assembly) 'If I was an engineer I would...'
Wednesday 4 th February	KS2 Schools' Dance Festival
Thursday 12 th February	Whole School Mass (1030am) 'Love'
	School closes at the usual times for the Spring Term Half Term Holiday
Monday 23 rd February	School reopens for Spring Term 2 at the usual times
Wednesday 18 th March	Year 4 Schools Linking Project trip to Burnley Youth Theatre

Sunday is World Religion Day, at EM we are incredibly lucky with all our diversity, where we see everyone as equal, where everyone is respected, appreciated, and valued, regardless of faith. Celebrate your faith this weekend, be proud of it!

"Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honour."

Proverbs 21:21



The theme for English Martyrs' Shining Stars this week
was chosen by Reception for...

'Happiness'

Nursery – Johann

Reception – Chukwudaalu

Year 1 – Ilmaz

Year 2 – Jovan

Year 3 – Ethan

Year 4 – Ronak

Year 5 – Amber

Year 6 – Jana



The Life-Long Learners at English Martyrs' theme for
this half term is...

'Enjoying Learning'

Nursery – Azan

Reception – Adam

Year 1 – Tabitha

Year 2 – Cristo

Year 3 – Kayson

Year 4 – Kendrick

Year 5 – Tanvi

Year 6 – Sati



Well done EVERYONE! You ALL always make us proud!

