

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs G Deery

Friday 27th January 2017

Re: Reintroduction of the school building fund at English Martyrs

Dear Parents

English Martyrs is a Catholic voluntary aided school. This means that while most of our income is derived from local Government funds, as a Catholic school, we must contribute 10% of the cost for major improvements and for the maintenance of our school buildings. Without the school having the money to contribute the 10% we are unable to apply for any funds through LCVAP (capital funding from government) or devolved formulae capital to enhance the school and maintain the site.

As you are aware, the school was successful in bidding for funds to have a new boiler installed, which happened over the summer, radiators were also updated in the Ark Building. The boiler at the time was obsolete and was not in operation in any other schools due to its age. We would have been unable to make any repairs on the boiler as its parts were also obsolete. The school had to pay from its budget 10% of the total cost, which was around £13,000. The school did not have the money within its own budget to do this and on this occasion, due to the severity of the problem (if your boiler is not working a school would have to be closed), the diocese allowed the school to repay the £13,000 over the next three years which we are very grateful for.

Governors and staff are committed to providing a high standard of learning environment and there is still a lot that we would like to achieve but we do need to continue to finance additional projects and essential maintenance works. There is an ever continuing need to refurbish our existing facilities to meet the requirements of today's education standards and improve the learning environment of the school for the benefit of all the children, staff and parents. As such schools are depending more on the generous voluntary contributions of parents.

Over fifteen years ago, The Archdiocese of Birmingham introduced a Building Fund, in which parents contribute money which can be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually. The school can then use this money towards building projects. English Martyrs has always been part of this scheme and there is currently one family who makes regular contributions.. In some schools they have been able to raise enough money to build new classrooms or libraries. Parents can set up standing orders and contributions can also be Gift Aided, which means that the school can reclaim from HMRC the basic rate tax you have already paid on your contribution. This increases the value of your contribution and at no extra cost to you. For each £100 that we receive we can claim back an additional £25. If parents wish to contribute in cash then we are also happy to receive this. All forms are to be returned to the school office in a sealed envelope, addressed with your child's name and **Building Fund** on the front of the envelope.

The forms have been distributed via email and a paper copy has been given to each child in the school. We would ask you to strongly consider making donations to the building fund and we thank you in advance for your continued support. If parents contributed at least £10 a term the school would be very grateful.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gillian Deery
Headteacher



NEW GIFT AID ONE OFF DONATION FORM

If you wish to make a one off donation to this school, please complete the declaration below. This will allow the school to benefit from a tax rebate.

SCHOOL NAME	LA NUMBER
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Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity No. 234216

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I
YOUR FULL NAME (PLEASE USE CAPITALS)

Of

.....

.....Postcode
YOUR HOME ADDRESS (INCLUDING POST CODE)

want to Gift Aid my donation of £

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

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Signature of Donor

Date of Declaration

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Data Protection Act 1988.

The Diocese will use the information supplied by you to reclaim tax from HM Revenue and Customs. Apart from this the Diocese will only use the information internally.