

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

"where everyone is special"

Newsletter 13: Friday 8th July 2016

www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk



Scholastic Book Fair

A big thankyou to all those who supported the recent Book Fair. In total over **£1300** was raised which has given the school **£800** to buy books for the children.

Rugby Schools Athletics Festival

During the recent athletics festival 28 of our children took part in key stage 2 and 22 in key stage 1. The children were amazing who attended the recent athletics competitive event. Their behaviour was impeccable and they were a credit to the school. Well done to the following children who won medals in various events:

Gold: Lewis in Year 5 – Long Jump



Silver: Ciara in Year 6 for 800m



Bronze: Efosa in Year 3 – High Jump, Luke in Year 4 – 60m Sprint and Jamie in Year 6 - Throwing



School Games Bronze Award



The school has recently been awarded the School Games Bronze Award. This looks at the PE curriculum and the level of participation of the school in competitive events both inside and outside of the school. English Martyrs has taken part in all the organised sports events from across the school and our level of participation in the school competitions is high. We were very close to being awarded the Silver and that will be one of our goals next year.

Altar Server Training

We have had many enthusiastic year 3 and year 4 children who wished to be trained as **new** altar servers. Father Matthew has led the training with the children and over time they will gain more experience in this role. We are very lucky at English Martyrs that we already have a committed team of altar servers who continually show their commitment to this role and support those less experienced.

School Fete

A big thankyou to all those who organised and supported the school fete. We were lucky with the weather as we seemed to avoid most of the heavy showers that were predicted. The fete raised £2560.55, with the proceeds being shared between the school and the parish. It was lovely to see so many children and their families attending on the day.



Sports Day

This year we have not been blessed with good weather on the organised Sports Day. We were lucky to be able to continue with Reception and Key Stage 1 who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and particularly enjoyed eating their ice-creams at the end of the morning. Due to the unpredictability of the weather and the two planned Key stage 2 sports day afternoons not being able to take place as planned, on Tuesday afternoon the children went out on the field whilst the weather was good and ran their races. The results will be announced in the final assembly. Due to the poor condition of the field the Foundation and Key stage 1 sports morning was held on the playground, we had many parents comment to teachers afterwards that they preferred it on the playground for the younger children.



Year 3 enjoying Table Tennis Lessons



Ice Pops

Ice Pops on Sale every Monday and Friday for 50p all monies raised for School Funds.

Year 6 Business Enterprise

Year 6 raised £191.53 by selling ice-creams and healthy snacks. This covered the cost of the additional props needed for their school production. For the first time at English Martyrs the children have had the opportunity to purchase an end of year book, which includes photographs and information about them and their friends which will have fond memories of their time at English Martyrs School. They have also been able to purchase a 2016 leavers' hoodie. I have been very impressed with how the children have presented their discussions and reasonings this year with great maturity and respect. Mr Burns has kindly agreed to film the year 6 production again this year and parents will be sent a link via email so they are able to download and access the video. More information will be sent nearer the time.



YR 6 LED THE WAY

Following a lesson about the EU in which the children were introduced to what the EU was, and to the Referendum, groups of children worked on speeches for both parties. They performed these to



the class, and Year Six voted for which children they thought should represent each side. These children worked at home in their own time on their speeches, and created Powerpoints. In addition, a third group created a speech and presentation to explain to the school what the Referendum was about. At English Martyrs School **74%** voted to remain in the EU. It was lovely to hear the children debating and discussing the vote around the school when they were trying to decide how to vote. Even Reception were discussing what will happen to the country if we stay in or go out, which brought a smile to Mrs O'Connor's face.

Published Writers in Key Stage 2

All the key stage 2 children had the opportunity to write a poem, prose or story for the English Martyrs book of writers. The venture was a huge success and the children have really enjoyed seeing their work in print. This will be a lovely memory to have as they get older and look back at themselves and their classmates in years ahead. All proceeds raised will be going towards updating the home school readers.



Going Down

Jamie

As the mighty Titanic sailed smoothly,
The wonderful music started,
But at midnight the sadistic waves grew.
In terror and panic, the ice-berg struck,
Petrified children ran helplessly,
The ear-piercing screams of women drowning,
The toxic sea raged on,
Innocent bodies lay silent,
There wasn't enough life boats,
We carried on playing our tune,
But now sad and high pitched,
We went down with the huge vessel,
But we still played our haunting tune.

INVICTUS GAMES

FOR OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS

ORLANDO 2016 MAY 8-12

The **Invictus Games** are an international Paralympic style, multi-sport event, created by Britain's Prince Harry, in which wounded, injured or sick armed services personnel and their associated veterans take part in sports including wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball and indoor rowing.

Through one of our parents at school we were able to make contact with a competitor in the Invictus Games this year. Anaesthetist and former Army Major Dr Jen Warren, who represented the UK Armed Forces Team in athletics, swimming and road cycling, came and spoke to the children about the events and inspired them to realise that you should never give up and always try your hardest in whatever you do.



SATs 2016

As you will be aware through the media and the school, this year has seen the first year for **SATs** without levels with a new completely new approach to measuring attainment and progress. Not only has the government introduced a new curriculum in which the expectations has been unrealistically and significantly increased. This has placed a huge burden and pressure on children and teachers but in key stage 2 especially, the tests were devised in such a way that children would struggle to make the expected standard for their age. A significant number of children nationally this year who would have attained a national expectation in previous years did not make the expected standard this year. Only 53% of pupils in year 6 nationally achieved the new expected combined standard in reading, writing and mathematics. Hopefully now the government will listen to those involved in education who have been expressing concerns for a number of years regarding these changes.

At English Martyrs once again our results were good against national standards and the children achieved well, the school and parents have remained calm and supportive of its pupils during this difficult year. As a school we have high standards and expectations and want our children to attain as well as they are capable of doing but of equal importance is a school where all children are special and developing the whole child, spiritually, socially and emotionally is just as important.

Classes for the Academic Year 2016-2017

Reception

Mrs O'Connor

Year 1

Mrs Charlick (Monday - Wednesday am)

Mrs Miles (Wednesday pm-Friday)

Year 2

Mr Bromage

Year 3

Miss Petras

Year 4

Mrs Jones

Mrs Rouledge

Year 5
Mrs Skuse

Year 6
Miss Pichon

Mrs Butterfield: SENCO (working 1 day a week)

Diary Dates

July

- 8th Year 2 Level 3 School Games Infant Agility competition
- 11th Youth for Christ assembly
- 11th KS2 Public Speaking Competition
- 12th Eastern Area: Year 6 Induction day for Secondary school
- 12th Moving up afternoon for children to visit new classes and teachers
- 12th Induction afternoon for new Reception Intake September 2016
- 13th Deadline for deposit for Lourdes Trip for current year 5
- 13th Y1 and some Y2 Phonics Screening Week/Test
- 13th KS2 Music competition
- 14th Year 6 Retreat day at Monks Kirby
- 15th Summer PTFA Barn Dance/Summer Disco
- 15th Foundation , Year 1 and Year 2 Performing Arts Competition
- 19th Year 6 Production 2pm and 6pm
- 20th Foundation Stage: Pirate picnic
- 21st 9:15 Mass led by Y6
- 21st Special Y6 leavers' disco at the Hillmorton Manor 7:00-9:30pm organised and run by parents of Year 6. Information has already been given out to children. Parents are welcome to stay with the children and enjoy the evening, if parents are unable to do this then they can leave their contact details with the organisers who will be responsible for the children. The organisers are: Mrs Basford, Mrs Treacy and Ms Marsella.
- 22nd 1:30pm End of term assembly/presentations
- 22nd Last Day of Term

