

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

"where everyone is special"

Newsletter 14: Friday 7th July 2017

www.englishmartyrs.warwickshire.sch.uk



**School Fete - Saturday 1st July 12:00pm-Raised
£2337.19**

A big thankyou to Mrs Pheasant, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Smith who were the main organisers of the fete and all of the volunteers and stall holders. There was a lovely atmosphere at the fete and a great community spirit. The School has purchased an additional staging system which can be used during productions and concerts; this includes a new set of steps to the stage. These are all easily stackable and can be stored when not in use. The money for the new staging was raised from the proceeds from the Christmas Fete and this Summer Fete. All monies raised from the fete is shared equally between the parish and the school.



The rescheduled day was a great success, with a cold lollipop to enjoy at the end of the races. The winning team will be announced in the final assembly.



English Martyrs Parish Meeting-Thursday 13th July 7:30pm in the Parish Hall

Father Gerry has arranged for a parish meeting for parishioners to share any ideas and thoughts and discuss ways for the parish to move forward. Everyone is invited to this meeting and it is your opportunity to understand what is happening in the parish and to have your say, in a Spirit of the Parish continuing to grow, flourish and develop in the future.



New Outdoor PE Kit

A big thankyou to the many parents who have already commented so positively, on the new outdoor PE kit. To clarify, there are no changes to the usual English Martyrs School uniform, it is only the PE Kit. The new indoor and outdoor PE kit is a blue polo shirt which must have the school logo on it. For outdoor PE, when it is the colder weather, the children are expected to wear the new navy hoodie with the school logo on it. If children wish to wear jogging bottoms, during the colder weather, they must be the bottoms purchased through schoolwear. If children do not have these bottoms they are to wear their usual dark blue plain school PE shorts. The new PE kit has been changed in part, to have a uniform which can be used in the various competitions that the school participates in. It will also stop children wearing their school uniform jumpers and polo shirts for PE which is unhygienic and also damages their regular school uniform. In addition many children have taken to wearing tracksuits and leggings/jogging bottoms which are not always functional and it has become more about fashion and branding, which a uniform ensures does not happen. The new PE blue tops, new blue hoodie and new blue tracksuit bottoms are to be purchased through the schoolwear company in town. As already explained in a previous newsletter, we understand that some parents may have PE tops which they hand down to younger siblings, this is the reason why the academic year 2017-2018 is a transition year when children can still wear the old white PE tops but in September 2018 all children are expected to have the new Kit. Any new child entering the school in September 2017 must have the new PE kit.



Athletics Competition



Gold: Luke in Year 5 for 80m



Silver: Lewis in Year 6 for 800m
Ambrose in Year 5 for High Jump
Lucy in Year 4 for High Jump

The athletics competition was an enjoyable day. The children tried their best and demonstrated great sportsmanship to one another. A big thankyou to Mrs Jones, who worked on her day off so that the children could take part and the many other helpers who took responsibility for the children. It was lovely to see so many children take part in competitive sports.

English Martyrs Parent Questionnaires 2017

Whole School Summary														
Q No	Numbers Returned							check	%				Totals	
	Rec'd	Blank	Total	SA	A	D	SD		SA	A	D	SD	Agree	Disagree
1	62	1	61	37	22	2	0	0	61%	36%	3%	0%	97%	3%
2	62	1	61	34	26	1	0	0	56%	43%	2%	0%	98%	2%
3	62	0	62	28	33	1	0	0	45%	53%	2%	0%	98%	2%
4	62	1	61	36	23	1	1	0	59%	38%	2%	2%	97%	3%
5	62	0	62	29	33	0	0	0	47%	53%	0%	0%	100%	0%
6	62	1	61	26	25	10	0	0	43%	41%	16%	0%	84%	16%
7	62	0	62	32	26	2	2	0	52%	42%	3%	3%	94%	6%
8	62	13	49	14	31	1	3	0	29%	63%	2%	6%	92%	8%
9	62	1	61	30	28	1	2	0	49%	46%	2%	3%	95%	5%
10	62	4	58	25	27	4	2	0	43%	47%	7%	3%	90%	10%
11	62	3	59	23	30	6	0	0	39%	51%	10%	0%	90%	10%
12	62	3	59	28	30	0	1	0	47%	51%	0%	2%	98%	2%

In total 62 questionnaires received, which is 28% of the school population. 1 questionnaire response is 2%

QUESTIONS

1.	My child is happy at school.
2.	My child feels safe at this school.
3.	My child makes good progress at this school.
4.	My child is well looked after at this school.
5.	My child is taught well at this school.
6.	My child receives an appropriate amount of homework for her/his age.
7.	The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.
8.	The school deals effectively with bullying.
9.	The school is well led and managed.
10.	This school responds well to any concerns I may raise.
11.	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.
12.	Would you recommend this school to another parent?

I would like to thank all the parents who took the time to complete the parent questionnaires. The parental responses were very positive about the school and the improvements that we have made over the previous few years. It is clear that parents are extremely happy with the school and feel their children are in a happy and welcoming environment, in which adults care about their children. However we are keen to continue to improve and we will be looking at parental views and comments closely, to link into future school improvements.

Question 6 which looks at homework is always difficult to analyse, although 85% were happy with the amount of homework the children receive. There will always be families who feel that homework is incredibly important and vital for their child's development and others that feel if the children work hard at school they should not be having to complete additional work at home. Homework is not meant to be challenging or extending learning, it is clearly to consolidate learning they have already done in class or to research information which will be useful for their learning in the class. Homework is an area that we continually revisit as a school, looking at the whole school picture and current parental views.

It is clear from both the parents and pupil questionnaire that the school has worked hard on improving its sporting facilities and activities with many children commenting on this as a strength of the school.



Dear Parents,

The members of English Martyrs Parish would like to invite you and your family to mass on Sunday July 9th at 11.00am followed by a picnic in the Presbytery gardens. We would especially like to welcome the children of Year 3 who recently made their First Holy Communion and the children of Year 6 as they move on from English Martyrs Primary School.

Weather permitting, we invite you to bring your own picnic. Refreshments, teas and coffees will also be available.

We look forward to seeing you at this family event.

Best Wishes,

Father Gerry and Father Matthew

Building Fund

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.

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 are currently 18 families who make 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 previously been distributed via email and a paper copy was 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.

Diary Dates

July

7 th	Author visit to Years 5 and 6
9th	PARISH PICNIC AFTER 11AM MASS
10 th	Key Stage 2 Public Speaking Competition
11 th	Eastern area Year 6 Induction day
11 th	Transition afternoon to meet new teachers for September 2017
11 th	2pm - 3pm Visit for new reception intake
12 th	Key Stage 1 Performing Arts Competition
13 th	Mass led by Foundation/Key stage 1
13 TH	Vocations assembly
13 th	Key Stage 2 Music competition
14th	PTFA Barn Dance (Tickets needed-being sold on the playground)
17 th	2pm & 6:30pm Year 6 production
18 th	Year 6 Retreat/Fun Day at Mater Ecclesiae Convent
19 th	Year 6 Leavers evening - Organised by parents
20 th	Mass - led by Year 6
21 st	1:30pm End of Term Presentations and Assembly
21 st	Last day of term