



# English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

*"where everyone is special"*

Newsletter 6: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015



## Recycle it, don't bin it!

## Raise money for your school

On the school car park is a recycling textile bin. By placing unwanted items in the bin the school is able to raise funds. The following items can be placed in the blue bin:

- Adults and children's clothing including underwear
  - Linen
  - Handbags
  - Shoes in pairs



## P.E KIT



Physical Education is a statutory lesson that all children must take part in and has to be offered as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Recently teachers are finding that a significant number of children are not bringing in their P.E. Kit which means the pupils have not been able to take part in the lessons. All children know when their P.E. times are happening and the timetables are also published on the website. If there is a genuine reason why a child is unable to take part in the P.E. lesson, eg sprained ankle, then a letter must be sent into school explaining to the teacher why they are unable to take part. The full policy is on the website and last year all parents were emailed a copy. Skorts are not school uniform. If a child is going to have their ears pierced

please do this in the summer holidays when they can keep their earrings in for six weeks. Earrings should be removed for PE lessons. If a child is unable due to medical reasons to go swimming (Year 4) then a note must be provided by the parents.

## Extract from P73 Uniform Policy

- Dark blue shorts with a simple white T-shirt.
- Older children, outside in colder weather, may in addition wear a sweatshirt or jogging suit.
- In Foundation stage and key stage 1 (Yr 1 and Yr 2) pumps are needed for PE lessons outside, bare feet indoors. For key stage 2 (Yr 3, 4, 5 and 6) trainers are needed for sports outdoors, bare feet indoors.

PE is part of the national curriculum and is compulsory in schools. For health and safety reasons children must change to do PE. Any child who is unable to take part in a PE lesson must have a letter from the parents informing the school of the reason.



If a child has a verruca then they are to notify the school by letter and their child will be permitted to wear black pumps indoors until the verruca has gone. The staff member will risk assess whether they are able to do all indoor activities eg wall apparatus would not be permitted with pumps.

No jewellery is to be worn, including watches and earrings.



## Swimming Gala

Like most local schools this year we have struggled to find swimmers to compete in the swimming gala. Year 4 is the only year group that each race, including the relay race has been filled. Many schools have decided not to enter this year due to low numbers of support. The children who are taking part had a practice session on Friday enabling them to develop their confidence. A big thankyou to parents and children for supporting the event.

## PARENT CONSULTATIONS

We encourage parents to make time, at least ten minutes before their allocated appointment time, to have a look through their child's books. We ask parents to only look at their own children's work, which will give a good indication as to how well they are doing. In years 1,3,4,and 5 there are no National Levels of Attainment. The new national curriculum has raised the expectation as to what children should be achieving in the year groups. This is the first year the new curriculum has been in place, consequently teachers are having to fill in gaps within each year group for them to be at the new, 'national standard'. In years 2 and 6 the SATS remain in place, with Levels, under the current format for only this year. The emphasis on the new curriculum is that children are not pushed through progressing hierarchically but broaden and deepen the age related standards more deeply and across other subjects. The school, as all schools, are working on formulating how these will be more formally assessed.



## LENTEN DRESSING UP DAYS

We have raised £320.51 for charity so far

*Well done everyone!*

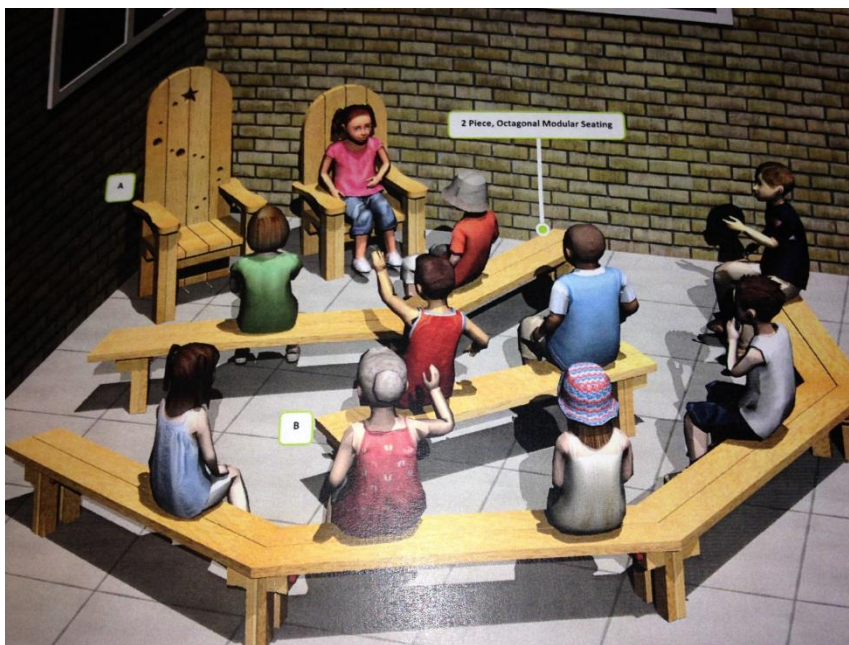






The school has invested in a 'Bug Club' online programme after a previous trial in the school. This means that children can access online books, which the teachers have allocated to them at home. This will enable them to read a wider range of materials within a structured programme to be an effective reader. The Bug Club has an extensive range of reading books, spelling, grammar and punctuation games. Once the programme is live and fully installed parents will be informed.

## FUND RAISING-PLEASE SUPPORT



**We are very keen to create an outdoor reading and classroom area. A number of companies have been invited into school to quote for the work. The above picture is an example of what it may look like. The school would ask parents and friends to support any fundraising activities, including PTFA events as these are the primary way a school can raise funds to provide additional benefits for the children, which the school budget can not cover.**



Mrs Wilson a teaching assistant in reception will be starting her maternity leave on Friday. We wish her and her family all the very best for the future.

## DIARY DATES

### March

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Lenten dressing up day 2 - Film/Cartoon Characters (£1 to go towards Lenten charities)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations 3:45-7:00
- 5<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations 3:45-7:00
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mass: Upper Key stage 2 (Y6, Y5)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Year 6 'Be bright, travel right' presentation
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year 2 Cake Sale (annual event to raise money for Myanmar organised by the children)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11am: School Parish Mass-Y5 to lead
- 10<sup>th</sup> Lenten dressing up day 3 - Sports heroes or heroes (£1 to go towards Lenten charities)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Swimming Gala Years 3 and 4
- 11<sup>th</sup> Year 3: Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30pm in Church (All candidates to attend with parents)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Mass: Lower Key stage 2 (Y4, Y3)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Lenten dressing up day -St. Patrick's theme (£1 to go towards Lenten charities)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Swimming Gala years 5 and 6
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mass: KS1 & foundation
- 20<sup>th</sup> Film Night for years 3 and 4
- 25<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Attending Frugal Parish Lunch to raise money for CAFOD (£1)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Netball tournament at Avon Valley
- 26<sup>th</sup> Whole School Mass - led by staff
- 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Easter service in school. Key stage 2 children are a choir with Year 3 and 4 leading the readings. After the service the trophy presentations will begin.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

## 30<sup>th</sup> March-Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April Easter holidays

### April

- 13<sup>th</sup> School Opens to pupils (Monday)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> PTFA Indulgence Evening

### May

- 1<sup>st</sup> Film Night Years 5 and 6
- 4<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday
- 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> YEAR 6 SATS WEEK (No absences will be authorised during this period)
- 15<sup>th</sup> PTFA Barn Dance (Adults only)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday Parish and school mass led by Year 4
- 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>: Year 5 Residential to Beaumanor Hall
- 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm FHC Parent meeting (please no children)
- 21<sup>st</sup> PTFA Cake Sale
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Friday Teacher Training Day

## 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> Half Term

### June

- 1<sup>st</sup> School opens to pupils
- 3<sup>rd</sup> School photographer
- 11<sup>th</sup> Trip to Holdenby House Year 2
- 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> First Holy Communion 2pm in school
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Presentation of First Holy Communion candidates to parish (all candidates and family to attend)
- 15<sup>th</sup> PHONICS SCREENING WEEK FOR YEAR 1 PUPILS AND SELECTED YEAR 2 PUPILS
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Youth for Christ assembly
- 25<sup>th</sup> First Aid Training for Year 5 pupils by St. John's Ambulance

### July

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Parish/school mass 11am led by Foundation and Key stage 1 children
- 7<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Induction day for Secondary school
- 11<sup>th</sup> PTFA Summer Disco
- 14<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Retreat day (more details to follow)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Last day of term
- 17<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm in church final assembly and presentations