



English Martyrs

Catholic Primary School

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve

Happy New Year!

Friday 12th January 2018

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome to the start of the Spring term and a new calendar year! I hope that your Christmas breaks were peaceful and happy with family and friends. I welcomed the children back with an assembly all about **Challenge** for the start of this term on Monday. We discussed ways in which we need challenge, in order to push ourselves to greater things. In particular, I asked the children to consider ways they could challenge themselves to make a positive difference to the world around them. Let's see how they go!

Latest News:

We are currently in the process of updating the school website. You may have noticed things changed earlier this week as the new theme was rolled out. There are plans for more information to be shared through our website, including trip and club letters for specific year groups. Please make sure you check it often! If you have any suggestions for us or things you'd like to see, please use the Contact Us form on the school website, thanks.



Miss Moriarty

Staff Update:

We welcome Sophie Moriarty, our new staff member to the office team, who started on Monday. Please say hello when you see her and make her feel welcome!

This term, we are also wishing Mrs McIntyre good luck as she leaves us this Friday. Taking over from Mrs McIntyre will be Miss Warrilow as Y2 class teacher, with Mrs Sothern becoming Acting Assistant Headteacher for KS1.

Attendance:

Today we issued 100% attendance certificates to **129** children across school for the autumn term! It is great to see so many achieving this! I want us to try really hard this year to achieve **at least 96% attendance** as a school by the end of the academic year - this is the national benchmark and **one we have been below for the last three years**. **Our target for all pupils is to aim for 100%!**

As a result, the tracking of individual pupils' attendance is extremely thorough. We are monitoring very closely pupils attendance who falls below particular levels and holidays in term time are not authorised without exceptional circumstance. The governors and I are no longer considering Family weddings overseas for a week or more as an exceptional circumstance. Unless children have contagious illnesses that are easily passed on, I would prefer to see children attending school! We will always call you if your child is struggling or not able to cope. *Help us ensure your child gets the best possible education they can by being in school every day!*

Please see our attendance page on the school website: <https://www.englishmartyrs.co.uk/attendance/>

Yours faithfully,

L. Dinsdale
Headteacher



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YEAR DATES

SPRING TERM 2018:

Monday 8th January
Friday 2nd February
Monday 12th—Friday 16th February
Friday 23rd March

Term Begins
INSET Day
Half Term—school closed
Term Ends 2pm

SUMMER TERM 2018:

Monday 9th April
Monday 7th May
Monday 28th May—Friday 1st June
Monday 4th June
Wednesday 25th July

Term Begins
BANK HOLIDAY—School closed
Half Term—school closed
INSET—school closed
Terms Ends 2pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 23rd January 3pm
Friday 26th January 7pm
Tuesday 30th January 9am
Friday 2nd February
Monday 5th February—Friday 9th February
Wednesday 7th February 9am
Thursday 8th February 9am
Tuesday 27th February 3pm

Y5 CHET parents meeting
PTA Race night
End of topic assembly—Y6 parents welcome
INSET Day—school closed
CHET Residential week—split week
End of topic assembly—Y2 parents welcome
End of topic assembly—Y4 parents welcome
Y6 Lakeside parents meeting