



English Martyrs Newsletter

11th January 2026

Our Mission Statement

To accept each individual as they are and to enable them to develop their full potential within a Christ-centred, worshipping community in a spirit of love, happiness and understanding

The Baptism of The Lord

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

Matthew 3:13-17



Aquatics Festival

At the end of last term, eight children represented English Martyrs School at an Aquatics Festival held at Windlesham School. The children competed in a variety of races as well as a water polo event.

They performed brilliantly, winning three out of four water polo games and were awarded silver medals for the festival. A special mention to Isabelle who came first and Morgan who came second in their breast stroke races. Well done to all the children who took part, and thank you to Mrs Whattingham for accompanying and supporting the children throughout the afternoon.



World War II Gingerbread Biscuits

Year 6 enjoyed making gingerbread men using two different recipes. One was a modern-day recipe, while the other was based on a World War 2 recipe using traditional ingredients such as treacle.



The children then decorated their gingerbread men using a variety of icing and were lucky enough to add modern-day treats such as marshmallows. After all, it was Christmas!



Class Christmas Presents

At the end of last term, each class received Christmas presents for their classrooms. These included reading books, craft equipment, board games, and much more.

Early Years had to wait a little longer for part of their gift, which was a brand-new digging area complete with child-sized spades for the children to use.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their presents and would like to say a huge thank you to The Friends, who organised and generously funded these gifts.



Spring Term Dates for your Diary

Monday 12th Jan	Spring term clubs begin
Thursday 15 th Jan	Last day to apply for 2026 intake Year 6 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Monday 2 nd Feb	Year 3 and 4 Open Classroom from 2:45pm
Tuesday 3 rd Feb	Year 1 and Year 2 Open Classroom from 2:45pm
Wednesday 4 th Feb	Early Years and Year 6 Open Classroom from 2:45pm
Thursday 5 th Feb	Year 1 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Friday 6 th Feb	Year 5 Open Classroom from 2:45pm
Thursday 12 th Feb	Year 5 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Friday 13 th Feb	Inset Day—no children in school
Monday 16th to 20 th	February Half Term
Monday 23 rd Feb	Children return to school after half term break.
Thursday 26 th Feb	Year 4 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Thursday 12 th Mar	Year 3 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Thursday 19 th Mar	Year 2 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Monday 23 rd Mar	Parent Consultation Meetings times tbc
Wednesday 25 th Mar	Parent Consultation Meetings times tbc
Thursday 26 th Mar	Year 3 Butser Farm Trip
Friday 27 th Mar	Last day of Spring Term

Sporting & Staffing Update

I wanted to update you that unfortunately Mrs Cleary will not be returning this term, as she is still experiencing problems with her hip. I'm sure that you will join me in wishing her well and hoping that she will soon be on the road to recovery.

During Mrs Cleary's absence, I am very grateful to the staff members who have been leading sporting activities—Mrs Jobbings (dance and gymnastics), Mr Neve and Mr Rondeau (football) and Mrs Whattingham (a whole host of different activities!). Please don't forget that if you would like your KS2 child to take part in any sporting events after school, you need to have completed the surveys by Monday. The links are as follows:

Year 3 / 4:

<https://forms.office.com/e/44xYBZ529m>

Year 5 / 6:

<https://forms.office.com/e/TFBQ7qsH5Q>

There will be a letter and link sent out to KS1 parents this week.

Club News

After school clubs will start on Monday 12th Jan, registrations have gone live. There are still places available for the following clubs:

Monday—TT Rockstars Y2-6

Tuesday—Scratch club Y1-3

If you would like to register, please do so via the app under clubs.

If there is a club your child would like to join that is full, please join the waiting list..

For any external clubs, please register directly. Flyer below for details of Karate and Musical theatre..

Piano and Violin lessons

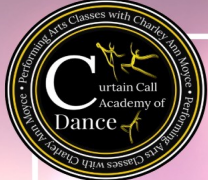
We have been contacted by Piano Fun Club to offer piano and violin classes during school time. Further details are in the flyer below, if you are interested please use the link on the flyer or via the message sent on the app to register your interest.



Donations Requests from Monday 12th January

As we prepare for the launch of our new OPAL playground project, please can we remind you we would be grateful for donations of the following:





CURTAINCALLWORTHING

AWARD WINNING PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL
BASED IN WORTHING



JOIN NOW!

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSICAL THEATRE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

"My child is thoroughly enjoying their lessons, they have a new favourite day of the week now that they get to attend musical theatre."

"My children love it! As a mother, I feel that it is a well organised and welcoming place."

"My children have a super time! They love the singing and dancing! The teacher has been so lovely and really reassuring."

"Great classes! My little one feels much more confident since they started with Curtain Call!"



ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THURSDAYS | 15:15-16:15

CURTAINCALLACADEMY@OUTLOOK.COM



• SING • DANCE • ACT • PERFORM •

Reaching Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person in West Sussex who has, or may have, special educational needs and disabilities?



Reaching Families is a parent-carer led charity which aims to empower parent-carers and families of children & young people with special educational needs and disabilities in West Sussex through the delivery of information, advice, training and peer support.

Making Sense of it All

In-depth parent-carer guide covering SEND issues from birth to adulthood

Fact sheets

Covering a range of SEND issues localised to the needs of West Sussex families

Umbrellas

Parent support groups based at locations across West Sussex and online, via Zoom

Benefits Advice Service

1-2-1 advice & claim checking support for families applying for DLA, PIP & Carers Allowance

Training

Workshops and courses on a variety of issues delivered online, via Zoom

NDP Navigation Service

Support service for parent-carers of children undergoing assessment on the West Sussex Neurodevelopmental Pathway (via referral from a professional)

Face-2-Face

Peer based befriending for parents of children undergoing diagnosis

Facebook Group

An online parent support group providing news, information and peer support

Animations

Short animated films on a variety of subjects

If you would like more information about how Reaching Families can help, please contact:

Email: admin@reachingfamilies.org.uk
Telephone: 01903 366 360



Reaching Families

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

UMBRELLAS

Parent Support Groups

Spring Term 2026

Connecting parents and carers of children and young people in West Sussex with special educational needs and disabilities



Burgess Hill Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
The Cherry Tree Centre
13th Jan / 3rd Feb / 3rd Mar

Littlehampton Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
Creative Heart Community Hub (upstairs)
14th Jan / 11th Feb / 11th Mar

Worthing Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
Durrington Community Centre
20th Jan / 10th Feb / 17th Mar

Umbrellas Online

Thursdays via Zoom
7.30 - 9pm

15th Jan / 12th Feb / 5th Mar

Horsham Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
Horsham Family Hub
21st Jan / 25th Feb / 18th Mar

Shoreham Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
Adur East Family Hub
27th Jan / 24th Feb / 24th Mar

Bognor Regis Umbrellas

Thursdays, 10 am - 11.30 am
Arun West Family Hub
29th Jan / 26th Feb / 26th Mar

If you would like more information about Umbrellas or the link to join Umbrellas online, please contact our outreach team.

outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk

TRAINING SPRING TERM 2026



WORKSHOPS

Making Sense of Masking	Tuesday 13 th January	7.30 - 9.30 pm
Understanding Demand Avoidance	Thursday 15 th January	10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Making Sense of Wellbeing: Self-care skills for parents and carers	Tuesday 20 th January	7.30 - 9.00 pm
Understanding Sensory Processing Differences	Wednesday 28 th January	10.30am - 12.30pm
Making Sense of Anxiety in Adolescence	Tuesday 3 rd February	7.30 - 9.30 pm
Making Sense of Personal Independence Payment (PIP)	Wednesday 4 th February	7.30 - 9.30 pm
Making Sense of Annual Reviews	Thursday 5 th February	10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Understanding Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	Thursday 12 th February	10.30 am - 12.30 pm

All of the above training will be delivered on Zoom

For further information visit our website or email: outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk

Reaching Families
www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

Dove Lodge, 49 Beach Road,
Littlehampton, BN17 5JG

Registered Charity No: 1150906
Company Limited by Guarantee No: 8261096



SCAN ME

All our workshops are free of charge. For more information or to book a place, please visit our Eventbrite page or scan the QR code.

reachingfamilies.eventbrite.com

Reaching Families

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1150906
Company Limited by Guarantee No: 8261096

Date: Sept 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Introducing: **PianoFunClub**

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to play music. We would like to offer your child the chance to learn the **Piano, Guitar and Violin** during school hours.

The Lessons are open to all children and will be arranged, and taught by visiting professionals from **PianoFunClub** along with all teaching material.

Each pupil will receive 10 lessons per term - they will need to be booked in and paid for at the beginning of every new term and half term.
The tutors will collect each child from their classroom for their lessons.

Instruments for school lessons will be provided by PianoFunClub, and you will have the opportunity to have an instrument to keep at home for a £50.00 deposit.

Stage 1 lessons: 1 x 20 minute paired lesson weekly £45.00 per half term

Stage 2 lessons: 1 x 20 minute individual lesson weekly £90.00 per half term

Stage 3 lessons: 1 x 30 minute individual lesson weekly £135.00 per half term

BOOKING PROCESS:

Please fill in this form from their website to if this would be of potential interest:

<https://www.pianofunclub.co.uk/parent-page>

SOUTHERN MARTIAL ARTS KIDS KARATE

Confidence
Self Defence
Discipline
Respect
Etiquette
Behaviour
Control
Awareness
Anti Bullying
Co-ordination



努力報酬

NO
monthly
costs or
Direct Debits

£6
pay as you
go

All non
contact

**English Martyrs RC Primary
School**
Wednesdays **3.15 - 4.00PM**

**Call or email to book
your place**

01903 537 272

E: southernmartialarts@outlook.com

For Years
1 and up

New beginners welcome along anytime

Wear your PE kit or similar for the first few weeks