



# English Martyrs Newsletter

## 1st March 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



### Book Amnesty

Could you please return any reading books you are not using as soon as possible as we are running very low. Books can be sent in with the children or to the office.



### 2nd Sunday of Lent

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

**Matthew 17:1-9**

### Year 6 Netball

What a fantastic performance from our Year 6 Netball team! They grew in confidence with every match and demonstrated brilliant teamwork and sportsmanship throughout. Despite the added challenge of playing with adult-sized nets, they adapted brilliantly and worked together seamlessly. We are so proud of them!



### Communication with teaching staff

Please can we give a reminder that if you need to send a message to a class teacher, this should be through the official school channels, which is the year group email addresses (e.g. year2@englishmartyrs.school) or via the office. Early Years & Year 1 parents can also send messages about their children's learning via Tapestry. If you need to contact Mrs Jobbings, the email address is senco@englishmartyrs.school and, for Dr. Townsley, please contact her via the office (office@englishmartyrs.school). Messages sent to staff via their personal social media accounts will not be responded to. If you need any more information about how to contact a member of staff, this can be found within our Communication Policy on the website. Thank you for your support.

### SEN Coffee Afternoon

Following the lovely success of our first SEN Coffee Afternoon, Mrs Jobbings would like to warmly invite parents and carers of children with SEN, along with anyone who has concerns about their child's development, to join us for our next Coffee Afternoon on **Tuesday 24th March at 2pm.**

This is a relaxed and friendly opportunity to meet other parents, share experiences, and build supportive connections within our school community.



## Parent Survey Highlights – A Big Thank You!

We're delighted to share some wonderful feedback from our parent survey that took place at the last Parent Consultation Evening. **Thank you to every parent and carer who took the time to respond**; your insight, encouragement, and honesty help us continue to strengthen our school community and ensure every child thrives.

There were a few surveys where ticks had been put in more than one box, which meant that they couldn't be analysed so haven't been included in the results. However, the results paint a very encouraging picture of school life, with overwhelmingly positive responses across all areas:

### A Happy and Safe Environment

- **98%** of parents agree that their child is **happy** at school, with **75% strongly agreeing**.
- **100%** say their child **feels safe**, including **77% who strongly agree**.

This is at the heart of everything we do, and it's fantastic to see that reflected so clearly in your feedback.

### Respectful Behaviour and a Supportive Community

- **99%** feel the school enables their child to **behave respectfully** (80% strongly agree).
- **99%** agree that the school is a **joyful and supportive community** (79% strongly agree).

We're proud of the culture we've built together; one where every child feels valued.

### Living Out Our Mission

- **100%** of parents understand and support the school's **Catholic Mission** (74% strongly agree).
- **99%** agree the school supports their child's **spiritual and moral development** (74% strongly agree).

### Learning and Progress

- **99%** agree that their child **does well** at this school (78% strongly agree).
- **99%** feel **confident supporting their child's learning** at home.

This partnership between school and families is something we deeply value.

### A School You'd Recommend

- **97%** of parents would **recommend the school** to another parent, with **74% strongly agreeing**.

This is one of the biggest compliments we could hope for - thank you. It means so much to the whole team.

### Areas for Improvement

While the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, parents also highlighted helpful areas where we can continue to grow. We are grateful for these constructive suggestions and will use them to guide our ongoing development.

The main themes from parents included:

- **Improving the quality and clarity of communication**, particularly around school updates and key information.
- **Increasing consistency and timeliness of feedback** on children's learning and progress.
- **Providing more opportunities for parents to engage** with the school and better understand what children are learning.

We truly appreciate this input; it helps us ensure we're meeting the needs of all families and continually improving the experience for every child.

From the Governing Body

## Spring Term Dates for your Diary

Thursday 5th Mar	World Book Day
Thursday's 5th to 26th March	Year 1 Woodland sessions, every Thursday
Wednesday 11th Mar	Year 5 Bikeability
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 3 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Friday 13th Mar	Year 5 Harry Potter day at Oscar Romero
Monday 16th Mar	KS2 visit from Author David Fuller (see details on page 4)
Monday 16th Mar	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am parents welcome
Tuesday 17th Mar	Year 5 Annie show at Oscar Romero
Wednesday 18th Mar	Class photos
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	*Date change* Parent Consultation Meetings
Thursday 19th Mar	Fire Brigade visit Year 1 & 2
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Parent Consultation Meetings times tbc
Tuesday 24th Mar	SEN Coffee Afternoon
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 3 Butser Farm Trip
Thursday 26th Mar	Year 5 Fire Brigade visit
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 2 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Last day of Spring Term
Friday 27th Mar	Spring Disco— KS1 4.45-6.15pm KS2 6.45-8.15pm

*\*Please note that we have needed to change the date of the parent consultation as we have since been notified that this is the date of the South-East Regional Finals for our Year 5/6 footballers, so a number of staff will be out. We apologise for any inconvenience the change of date may cause.*

## Summer Term Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th Apr	Children return to school after Easter break
Thursday 23rd Apr	KS1 Hedgehog visit
Friday 24th Apr	Year 3 Egyptian workshop
Tuesday 12th May	Year 2 Arundel Wetlands visit
Thursday 14th May	Year 4 Lodge Hill day visit
Friday 22nd May	May Procession—Details TBC
Friday 22nd May	Last day of half term
Monday 25th to 29th	May Half Term
Monday 1st June	Inset Day
Tuesday 2nd June	Children return to school
Tuesday 2nd—5th June	Year 6 Residential
Thursday 11th June	Year 4 Fishbourne Roma Villa trip
Tuesday 16th June	Year 5 Life of Christ play trip
Thursday 2nd—3rd July	Year 5 Blacklands Farm Trip

## Governor Contributions

As part of their role, the School Governors are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the school buildings. Over the half term the pumps in the septic tanks for the Year 6 toilets were replaced, and in the near future the heating controls for the main boiler will be upgraded. This work is funded by the Diocese, however 10% must be paid for by the Governors. Can you help the Governors fund these and future projects by donating £5 a month? For more information please email the school office.

## Year 1 Woodland sessions

Year 1 woodland sessions will be taking place every Thursday from 5th to 26th March. The children will need to come to school dressed in outdoor clothes suitable for getting muddy and appropriate for the weather. Please also send in spare clothes for children to change into after the session if they get wet or muddy. Wellies should be sent in separately, children should have a spare pair of shoes to wear during the day.



## Spring Disco

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, it's DISCO TIME! And friends can join in the fun too – who will your child invite?

**Years EY-2 (KS1) are partying 4.45-6.15pm**

**Years 3-6 (KS2) are partying 6.45-8.15pm**

Tickets are £5 per child and include free squash. There will be a tuck shop on site and we recommend sending children with no more than £4 in **various coins** for this.

Please make bookings using this link

<https://go.rallyup.com/springdisco>

The link has also been sent out previously via the app. Please be aware bookings can only be made via this link, bookings cannot be made on the door, at the office or with cash.

We are also seeking parent helpers, please email [friends@englishmartyrs.school](mailto:friends@englishmartyrs.school) if this is an event you are able to help with.



### March 2026 Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long  
**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Improving Family Communication	2 Mar 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	2 Mar 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	3 Mar 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	3 Mar 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	9 Mar 10am
Understanding Anger	9 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	10 Mar 10am
Facing Defiance	10 Mar 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	16 Mar 10am
Anxiety Explained	16 Mar 7pm
Introduction to OCD	17 Mar 10am
What is ACT	17 Mar 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	23 Mar 10am
Decreasing Depression	23 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	24 Mar 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	24 Mar 7pm
<b>FREE Anxiety Based School Avoidance</b>	26 Mar 7-8pm

### Discovery Day at Arundel Museum!

Saturday 7 March 2026

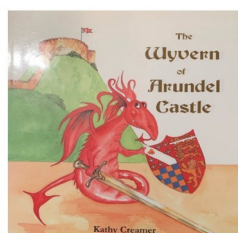
**10.15 - 11.15 Dogs: hear stories and draw dogs**

**11.30 - 12.30 Birds: Colouring & hearing stories.**

**1.00 - 2.00 Victorians in Arundel by Nicholas Travers, there will be a chance to buy his book (ideal for KS3/4 or adults) Tickets £5**

**2.30 - 3.30 The Wyvern Dragon of Arundel Castle**

**Tickets £2.50 each for the morning sessions and late afternoon session, £5 for three sessions**



To book, pop in or: [office@arundelmuseum.org](mailto:office@arundelmuseum.org)

# EASTER TREATS

Thursday 26th March 2026

## MAINS

Cheese & Tomato Pizza

BBQ Chicken & Rice

Jacket Potato & Baked Beans

## SIDES

Peas or

Seasonal Salad

## DESSERT

**Easter Cookie**

Order via [ParentPay](https://www.parentpay.com) no later than

Thursday 12th March 2026



Please Note: Special diet meals will remain in place.

# Author visit



On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026, children's author David Fuller will be visiting English Martyr's Primary School to talk to the KS2 children about his books and explain what inspires him as a writer.

Please visit the [www.alfie-jones.co.uk](http://www.alfie-jones.co.uk) website for more information.

David will also be selling and signing copies of his book(s) at the reduced price of £4.50 (usually £5) to any children who would like a copy.

