



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



Uniform donations

Polite request; when donating uniform, please only send in school uniform, other items of clothing, unless specifically requested, are not required. Please ensure uniform is current, clean and free from holes. We no longer use the old white pe tops.

English Martyrs Newsletter 13th February 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven. 'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny. 'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell. 'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal*. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord*. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

Matthew 5:17-37

World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on **Thursday 5th March 2026**. This year's theme is "Reading for Pleasure", reminding us all of the joy, imagination and adventure that books can bring into our lives.

To mark the occasion, we are inviting all children to take part in our special theme: "Wear a Word." Instead of dressing as a book character, children are encouraged to come dressed as a descriptive noun, adjective or verb. The aim is to bring words to life through creative costumes! Examples of these could be:

Vibrant – wearing bright, bold colours

Mythical – fairy, dragon or enchanted-themed outfit

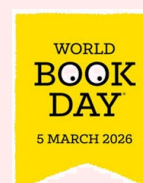
Athletic—Sports wear

Sparkling, Gloomy, Adventure, Whirlwind – the possibilities are endless!

We would love it if your child could bring in the book that inspired their choice of word to be able to share this with their friends.

Please, please don't feel that you need to buy anything special for your child to wear. We know the supermarkets become full of World Book Day costumes now, but it's far better to get creative and, if you want to buy something to mark the day, buy your child a book instead!

Throughout the day, we will enjoy a range of reading activities focused on celebrating books and developing a lifelong love of reading. Children will also have the opportunity to guess each other's words, adding a fun and interactive element to our celebrations.



Drop off arrangements

Earlier this term, we said we would review our morning drop-off arrangements. As part of this, we felt it was important to hear directly from the children about what works best for them. Yesterday, the children completed a short survey (with support, for our youngest pupils), choosing whether they preferred lining up, walking in through the hall, or if they had no preference.

The results were clear:

- **32** children preferred lining up
- **40** didn't mind
- **92** preferred coming in through the hall

This pattern was consistent across all year groups.



Having discussed these findings during INSET today, staff also agree that entering through the hall is working better for the children. We are seeing them settle more quickly, and many enjoy being able to walk in with a sibling or friend from another year group. Although you may not always see it, there is a welcoming team of staff in the hall each morning, which gives the children a warm start to the day and helps build relationships across the school. Many children also told us they like coming in more quickly—and avoiding standing in the cold and rain. My personal favourite response to the question *“Is there anything else you’d like to share?”* was: *“No, but thanks for asking.”* Lovely manners, whoever that was!

Teachers check their year group email by 8 a.m., so if you need to speak to your child’s teacher urgently, please email them and they can pop to the office for a quick conversation at 8.35 a.m. You can also call the office after 8 a.m., or pass a message to a member of staff on the gate. Teachers are on the playground at the end of the day too, which is a good moment for a quick word. For anything longer, just email or phone and we’ll arrange an appointment.

I’m aware that the path can feel crowded. Please help us by keeping to the left-hand side both when queueing and when leaving. Parents with buggies may need extra space, but we can make this work with a bit of care and patience. It also helps if children are holding everything they need before reaching the gate—bottlenecks tend to happen when belongings are handed over in the gateway. If you do need to reorganise bags, the paved area nearby is a good place to step aside.

We know that no system will ever suit absolutely everyone, especially with the constraints of our site. However, our responsibility is to keep children at the centre of our decisions and to prioritise the start to the day that helps them feel happiest, most independent, and ready to learn.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Children’s Mental Health Week & Children’s Sleep Awareness Month

This week has been Children’s Mental Health week, and in school we have marked this with another training session for our Mental Health Ambassadors and KS1 & KS2 assemblies focusing in on belonging. We also took part in Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, the theme of which was ‘Smart tech, safe choices—Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.’ Supporting your children to stay safe online is such an important part of parenting now, so if you would like to look at some resources to help you follow up the theme of this year’s Safer Internet Day, have a look at: <https://www.polymat.co.uk/news/?pid=22&nid=1&storyid=303>

Did you know, though, that—closely linked to children’s mental health—it is also Children’s Sleep Awareness month? If you are finding that your child doesn’t sleep and you need support, there is a helpline available. Please see the poster on page 5 for the contact details. Also attached to the newsletter are some fact sheets and I will be adding more information to the school website over the half-term (under the ‘Parents’ tab and then ‘Support for Parents’). If your child is struggling to sleep and you would like to try a sleep journal with them, then please email in to the office and we would be more than happy to print one out for you.

Spring Term Dates for your Diary

Monday 16th to 20 th	February Half Term
Monday 23 rd Feb	Children return to school after half term School clubs continue
Thursday 26 th Feb	Year 4 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Thursday 5 th Mar	World Book Day—See details on p. 1
Thursday 12 th Mar	Year 3 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Monday 16 th Mar	KS2 visit from Author David Fuller—Details below
Monday 16 th Mar	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am parents welcome
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
Thursday 26 th Mar	Year 2 Class Liturgy, parents welcome from 2.45pm
Friday 27 th Mar	Last day of Spring Term

Summer Term Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th Apr	Children return to school after Easter break
Thursday 23rd Apr	KS1 Hedgehog visit
Friday 23rd Apr	Year 3 Egyptian workshop
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

Author Visit

KS2 will be visited by the author David Fuller on 16th March. He is offering parents a chance to pre-order signed copies of his books. To do so you will need to use the order form which has been sent via the app on 11th February. Please return completed order forms to the office by 11th March. If you would like a printed copy of the form, please come to the office.

Outstanding Payments

Over the half term, please can you check you outstanding payments on the My Child At School App. We would appreciate all outstanding payments to be brought up to date please. If you have any queries about your payments, please contact the school office for help.

Thank you.

School Uniform

Please take some time over the half term to ensure uniforms are up to date and children are wearing the correct uniform to school.

Boys—Grey trousers, white polo top, red jumper, grey or white socks

Girls—Grey skirt or trousers, white polo top, red jumper or cardigan, grey, or white socks, red, or grey tights only

Black shoes only, please no boots or black trainers.

PE kit: Navy hooded top, navy round neck t-shirt, navy tracksuit bottoms or red shorts. Any variations of these are not permitted, this includes skorts, leggings of any colour or tights under shorts.

If you are unsure, please refer to our uniform page on the website

Jewellery: Please ensure earrings are taken out before school on PE days. Earrings should plain studs only for health and safety reasons.

Hair: Hair that is more than shoulder length should be tied back

Uniform is an important part of our school. It fosters a sense of community, belonging, and equality among students, enabling children to take pride in both their appearance and while representing their school.

For any pre-loved uniform requests please email: friends@englishmartyrs.school

Author Visit



On Thursday 12th 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 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.



www.facebook.com/DavidFullerAuthor



@08DavidFuller



www.alfie-jones.co.uk

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POP PARTY!

PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOP!

LIMITED SPACES – BOOKING ESSENTIAL

• SING & DANCE TO THE HOTTEST POP ANTHEMS!

• INCLUDING THE "LUSH LIFE" DANCE EVERYONE'S CRAZY

ABOUT!

• DISCO PARTY ENERGY: LIGHTS, GAMES, MUSIC & NON-STOP

POP PARTY FUN!

• FINAL PERFORMANCE @ 12:00 - A PROUD MOMENT AS THE

CHILDREN PERFORM ON STAGE!

Thursday 19th February '26

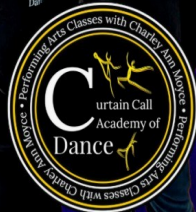
Goring United Reformed Church, BN12 4EA

08:30-12:30

Ages 4+ | £20

curtaincallacademy@outlook.com

@curtaincallworthing



CURTAIN CALL ACADEMY

HALF TERM DATES



• Ferring C of E Primary School - Musical Theatre Club -

02/03/26 - 16/03/26 (3 weeks) - £16.50

• Downsbrook & Whytehead Primary Schools - Dance Club -

24/02/26 - 17/03/26 (4 weeks) - £22

• West Park C of E Primary School - Musical Theatre Club -

25/02/26 - 18/03/26 (4 weeks) - £22

• Youth Stage School - Musical Theatre Classes -

25/02/26 - 18/03/26 (4 weeks) - £42

• English Martyrs Catholic Primary School - Musical Theatre Club -

26/02/26 - 19/03/26 (4 weeks) - £22

As always, at the end of the full-term all loved ones are invited to 'watching week'; an end of term performance for all our children's clubs and classes. On this week our classes will run as normal, however, loved ones should arrive 30 minutes before the usual end of class.

[Ferring: 16/03 | Downsbrook & Whytehead: 17/03 |

West Park: 18/03 | Stage School: 11/03 | English Martyrs: 19/03]

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CHARLEY ANN MOYCE

• SING • DANCE • ACT • PERFORM •

iSwim

Swimming School

- ✓ From ages 4+
- ✓ Small Class Sizes
- ✓ Professionally Qualified Swim Teachers



At iSwim we are passionate about swimming and water safety.

We aim to teach your child to swim with good technique and with ease.

We progressively build on early water skills such as aquatic breathing, buoyancy, flotation and rotation. We develop a healthy respect for water so your children will understand the dangers and know how to stay safe around water.

Contact Helen
iswimschool@aol.co.uk
or call 07790 503612

Monday, Tuesday
& Wednesday
evenings
Oak Grove College,
Worthing

Saturday
mornings
White Meadows
School,
Littlehampton

More info at:
www.aruntridents.co.uk



Curtain Call Academy

KPOP DEMON HUNTERS

PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOP!



Ages 4-16 years - £20

Mon 16th Feb | 08:30-12:30

Goring United Reformed Church
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Do you have
a child
who
doesn't
sleep?

Speak to trained
sleep advisors

03303
530 541

thesleepcharity.org.uk

