



# ENGLISH MARTYRS

## CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



# Newsletter

27th September 2024

## COMING UP

|                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| <b>Mon 30th Sep</b>  | Y6 Forest School<br>Y3 Swimming   | Drama 3.30-4.30pm<br>Y1-2 Multiskills 3.30-4.30pm  |
| <b>Tues 1st Oct</b>  | Singing Lessons AM  | Flute lessons PM<br>EYFS/Y1 Parents' Phonics Evening 5.30pm                                  |
| <b>Wed 2nd Oct</b>   | <b>Open Morning 9.30-11.30am</b><br>Piano Lessons PM<br>Drum Lessons PM | Y1-2 Creative Club 3.30-4.30pm<br>Y1-3 Gymnastics 3.30-4.15pm<br>Y4-6 Gymnastics 4.15-5.00pm |
| <b>Thurs 3rd Oct</b> | Guitar lessons AM<br>Drum Lessons PM                                    | Y3-6 Basketball 3.30-4.30pm  |
| <b>Fri 4th Oct</b>   | Piano Lessons AM  | Celebration Assembly 2.45pm  |
| <b>Sat 5th Oct</b>   | <b>Open Morning 9.30-11.30am</b>  |  |

## NOTICES

Dear families,

I hope that you have had a good week. This week I just wanted to mention the parking at drop off and pick up where a few issues have been reported.

Please can we work together as a community and take shared responsibility to keep everyone safe during drop off and pick up times, which are times of considerable congestion for us and for our neighbours. Please use the pull in for drop offs and remember to turn right when exiting. Also consider parking further away and walking in, regardless of if there is space outside of the school. Contact the office for a parking permit for the Burley Road Car Park. If parking on or around Willow Crescent, please be respectful to one another.

Thank you for your attention to this and I really hope we can turn this around by working together.

Thank you  
Mrs Brown





# CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY



Congratulations to all the children who have received awards this week



## BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

EYFS – Jack, Y2 – Otto  
Y3 – Bea  
Y5 – Madeline

## VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

*Resilience*

### Friends of English Martyrs AGM

FEM's support is needed now more than ever at school so please do come along to the AGM to show your support. Thank you.

### EYFS/Y1 Parents' Phonics evening

Parents of EYFS and Y1 children are invited to a Phonics Workshop at school on 1st October at 5.30pm.

## FEM NEWS



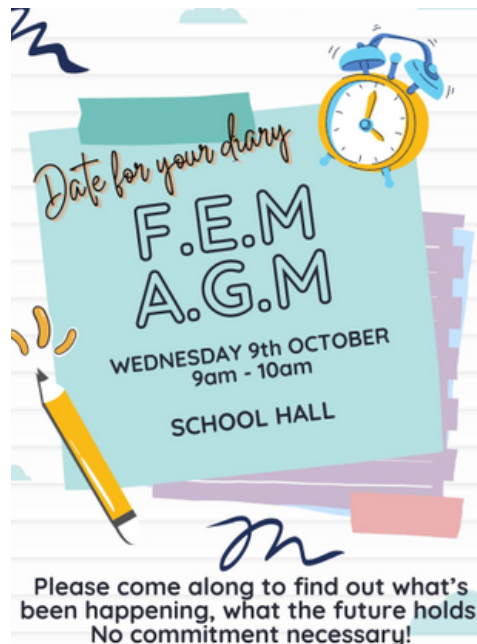
**Cake raffle** – This amazing cake was won by Jesse!

You can buy tickets for our weekly cake raffle at the gate on Friday morning or on Parentpay (Parentpay tickets must be bought by 9am on Friday morning).



### St Joseph's Church

Keep up to date with the Parish news [here](#).



For F.E.M to run effectively, we need to fill the roles of **Chair, Treasurer & Secretary**. If you think you can spare some time to do any of these roles, please email F.E.M at [femoakham@gmail.com](mailto:femoakham@gmail.com) Or if you would like any information about what each role involves please come and speak to Mrs Needham in the office.

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Our governing body consists of the Chair of Governors, Foundation Governors and Parent Governors.

**Chair** – Mrs Claire McGrory

**Foundation** – Mrs Laura Jones

**Foundation** – Mrs Simona Fresia

**Foundation** – Mr Thomas Reilly

**Foundation** – Mrs Vanessa Seddon

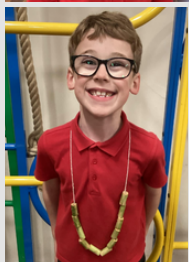
**Parent** – Mr Chris Thomas

**Parent** – Mr Michael Passey



## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The children have been enjoying some more Forest School activities in After School Club this week. They learnt how to use various tools and techniques to cut and poke holes in elder wood to make lovely necklaces.



## OPAL

The children have had another great week taking part in the Outdoor Play and Learning activities at lunch time!



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Application forms are now available for St Joseph's First Holy Communion programme for 24/25. If your child is in year 3 or aged 7 and above and has

not yet made their First Holy Communion, please get an application form from the back of the church. The closing date for applications is **Sunday 27th October.**

## PRAYER

Loving God,  
Open our ears to hear the cries  
of our sisters and brothers  
and of the earth, our common home.

Open our arms wide  
to reach out with compassion  
so that all distance vanishes.

Open our hearts to share your love  
and our hope of a world  
where no one is beyond reach.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord,  
Amen.



CAFOD  
Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

## COMPUTING

The children in Year 1 have been using the laptops in computing to practice their mouse skills!



## Y6 WARNING ZONE TRIP

Mr Hodgson's class had a great trip to the Warning Zone today. They learnt about personal safety and how to remain safe in both the real and virtual world.

The Warning Zone are always looking for volunteers – [click here](#) to have a look how you can get involved.



## RE THIS TERM

Click [here](#) to take a look at what we will be concentrating on in RE in the Autumn term and to have a look at all the important liturgical dates up to Christmas.



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

## 1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

## 2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

## 3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

## 4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

## 5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

## 6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

## 7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

## 8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

## 9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

## 10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

### Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>



@wake\_up\_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.09.2024