



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

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Term 1 Newsletter 1 9th September 2022



GOSPEL READING

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Luke 15 : 1-10

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'



WELCOME BACK

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is not the newsletter I began to write yesterday morning. Some of the things I had planned to talk about no longer feel appropriate for today in the light of yesterday evening's sad announcement and some of the dates we planned to share may need to be rescheduled, depending on the arrangements for the funeral. We will update you when we have more information.

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to school after the summer break. The children have settled very quickly into their new classes. We are delighted that we will be able to have in-person Meet the Teacher meetings this year. There will be an online alternative as well, as we recognise that this may be more convenient for some families. The year groups are spread across different days, to make it a little easier for those of you with children in different year groups. Dr Simon Uttley, head of Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic secondary school, will also be visiting after school on Friday to talk to Year 6 parents about secondary school transition and applications. The meeting will be in the hall at 3.30pm.

On Wednesday morning we were delighted to welcome Fr Gaston Forbah, our new parish priest, who celebrated Mass with us to mark the start of term. Thank you to Mrs Connolly and her fabulous team of readers for preparing the Mass.

Thank you all the parents who have donated outgrown good quality uniform items. These will continue to be available before and after school outside the Breakfast/After School Club room.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend,
Mrs Doberska - Headteacher

Our school community is deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen and we mourn the loss of a monarch who has served her country so faithfully and courageously for all her life.

Queen Elizabeth II was the longest-serving monarch in the history of our country, a constant presence in a changing world, and she will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the King, the Queen Consort and the other members of the Royal Family.



Queen Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022



Building a Learning Community of Faith, Hope and Love



Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre



True Teaching
Serving the Community in Reading since 1958

Year 7 Entry 2023 OPEN DAY

Thursday

22nd September 2022

Morning 9am - 12pm
Evening 5pm - 7.30pm

(10.15am, 5.45pm & 6.30pm Headmaster's Address)

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'Outstanding School— Section 48 Inspection'



DIARY DATES

Tues 6 Sep Start of Term 1

Tues 13 Sep Year 1 + 2 Meet the Teacher meetings
Weds 14 Sep Year 3 + 4 Meet the Teacher meetings
Thurs 15 Sep Year 5 + 6 Meet the Teacher meetings
Fri 16 Sep Head of BHF visit (Yr 6 parents) 3.30pm

Other Dates will be confirmed once we have more information about the date of the Royal Funeral

Fri 21 Oct End of Term 1

HALF TERM Monday 24 Oct - Friday 28 Oct

Mon 31 Oct Start of Term 2

Tues 20 Dec End of Term 2

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Wednesday 21 Dec - Tuesday 3 Jan

Weds 4 Jan INSET DAY 3 (School closed to pupils)

Thurs 5 Jan Start of Term 3



ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH

64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB

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Mass Times

SATURDAY : 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)

SUNDAY : 9.00am
: 11.30am
: 5.00pm

MON-FRI : 9.30am
(10am Bank Holidays)

SATURDAY : 10.00am



Building a Learning Community of Faith, Hope and Love

We are sharing this resource, which was shared with us,
in case it is helpful to you at home

Speaking to children about the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II has died aged 96 after 70 years of Service. The Queen spoke on many occasions about her relationship with God and her faith. We can be sad and mourn that she has died but also celebrate her life and know that she will be free from pain and suffering in heaven.

Here are some suggestions for how we can share this historic moment with children.



Unpacking Emotions

We can feel many different emotions when somebody dies. There is no right or wrong way to feel. Invite children to share how they are feeling, do not be afraid to share your own feelings as well. Sometimes it is easier to describe how an emotion makes our body feel than find the right word for it. A child may not show the same emotional response as an adult, and it is alright if your child does not respond in the way you expect, there may also be a delayed response as children pick up on and mirror the emotions shared by adults around them.

You might want to explain that the country and world will spend time mourning together, this is because many people will feel sad and want to show respect for who the Queen was. We can be empathetic; thinking about how the family and close friends of the Queen must be feeling at this sad time.

How we can pray...

Pray for the royal family as they experience many different emotions during this difficult time.

Pray for parents within the royal family who are having their own conversations with children.

Remembering Service

We can remember the many wonderful ways in which the Queen served our nation and countries around the world. The Queen was also the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, Chief of the Armed Forces and Head of State.

How we can pray...

We can pray and thank God for the many ways that Elizabeth served our country and the world.

We can pray for the new King as he takes on these roles.

You might like to write a thank you letter together to the Queen for all her service.

Celebrating Salvation

We can thank God for the relationship that the Queen had with Him. We can also remember God's promise that those who know Him will be with Him in heaven, a place with no pain, sadness or suffering.

You might like to listen to some worship songs which speak about heaven and God's promises as you reflect on this future hope.

How we can pray...

We can thank God that Queen Elizabeth is no longer in any pain, echoing the words of Justin Welby who prayed "May Her Late Majesty rest in peace and rise in glory."

We can pray for the new King that he would be comforted by his own relationship with God.

Why does God let people die?

God's plan for this world was one with no pain, suffering or death where humans lived in perfect relationship with God. The world we live in isn't like that, it is fallen, sin has come into our lives and separated us from that perfect relationship with God. The world we live in has pain and suffering, sadness and death.

So God made a new plan, it was a plan that involved His own son dying so that one day we could all live with Him in heaven, in new bodies that never got sick, live lives full of joy and happiness every day.

Even though it is hard to be separated from people, we know that one day we can all be together again. Death is not the end but the next part of a journey with God. For those who know and love God there is the chance to live in Heaven with God forever.

Term Dates for 2022-23 – English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

UPDATED September 2022

TERM 1

INSET Day 1 Friday 2nd September 2022

INSET Day 2 Monday 5th September 2022

Children return to school Tuesday 6th September 2022

End of Term 1 Friday 21st October 2022

(Half Term Holiday Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022)

TERM 2

Start of Term 2 Monday 31st October 2022

End of Term 2 Tuesday 20th December 2022

(Christmas Holiday Wednesday 21st December 2022 to Tuesday 3rd January 2023)

TERM 3

INSET Day 3 Wednesday 4th January 2023

Children return to school Thursday 5th January 2023

End of Term 3 Friday 10th February 2023

(Half Term Holiday Monday 13th February 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023)

TERM 4

Start of Term 4 Monday 20th February 2023

End of Term 4 Friday 31st March 2023

(Easter Holiday Monday 3rd April 2023 to Friday 14th April 2023)

TERM 5

Start of Term 5 Monday 17th April 2023

End of Term 5 Friday 26th May 2023

(Half Term Holiday Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023)

Bank Holidays – Monday 1st May 2023 and Monday 29th May 2023

TERM 6

Start of Term 6 Monday 5th June 2023

INSET Day 4 Friday 7th July 2023 **NEW DATE**

End of School Year Thursday 20th July 2023

INSET Day 5 Friday 21st July 2023