

March 2024



English Martyrs'
Catholic Primary School
Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life
Part of the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust



Spring Term 2b Newsletter



A Message from Miss Elliott

As yet another term comes to an end and we look forward to our Easter holiday it's lovely to reflect on another busy and successful term. Our successful OFSTED, earlier in the term, recognised all the fun filled activities, memorable learning experiences and our successful hard-working pupils, staff, and governors. Thank you to all who took the time to complete parents view – your comments were greatly appreciated.

We will welcome Mr. Thew back to school after the Easter holidays, and thank Miss Khan for all the support, encouragement and care she has given to our Y3T pupils during her time here at English Martyrs'. We wish her well for the future.

It has been lovely to end our term focusing on the events of Holy Week. We have joined together as a school community each morning to journey with Jesus through this most special week, culminating with a beautiful reflection on the Station of the Cross, led by Year 6.

I hope you all have a fun filled and happy holiday.

May those celebrating Eid Mubarak!

May you all have a blessed and holy Easter.

Miss Elliott



Ofsted Inspection

Following our visit from OFSTED on 24 and 25 January 2024, I am happy to say that English Martyrs' continues to be a 'Good' school. Here is a flavour of what the inspector said about our school:

- Pupils thrive at English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School.
- Pupils are happy at work and play in this calm, orderly and caring school. They behave well in lessons and are eager to acquire new skills and knowledge.
- Pupils benefit from the provision for outdoor play and learning during the less-structured times of the school day. They thrive in the school's safe, secure, well-maintained and well-supervised outdoor learning environment.
- All staff are ambitious for the pupils in their care.
- Pupils with SEND are fully included in all aspects of school life. Their academic needs are considered and met well.
- Effective leaders value the staff highly and take appropriate action to manage their workload.
- The school ensures that effective local, national and global citizenship is learned through activities such as recycling, supporting foodbanks and conserving water
- Pupils, from the youngest to the oldest, articulate the difference between right and wrong precisely. They have an extensive knowledge of some of the world religions through attending this multi-cultural school in which everyone's backgrounds and talents are recognised and celebrated.

A copy of the full report can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support
Miss Elliott & SLT



Holy Week



During Holy Week there has been a daily Celebration of The Word for the children to reflect on Jesus' final journey towards the cross. The week finished with our Y6 children leading Stations of the Cross.



Lenten Prayer Stations

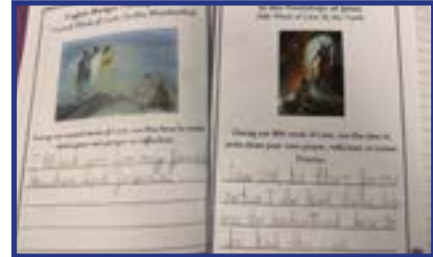


Our Y6 'Faith in Action children' have created prayer stations and have helped our classes to take part in prayer and reflection this Lent.



Lenten Reflections

The children have been asked to 'reflect' this Lent and have been thinking about how they can make a difference to others. During Lent they have been given the opportunity to complete a series of daily and weekly reflection.



Weekly Listening to the Word

Each week during lent Year 6 have led celebrating the word. Children have been asked to pause, ponder and pray and have been given a weekly mini mission to carry out.



Stations of the Cross

Children in Year 4 visited the Cathedral to celebrate the Stations of the Cross. The School Choir and Year 6 children helped the other children in school reflect on 'walking in Jesus' final journey towards God.'



Welcome to Germany Event

Pupils from our German club were invited to Durham University to join in their special 'German Day'.

Our pupils joined in workshops which included an introduction to the geography and peoples of the German Speaking World, a language lesson and a session exploring German culture.

Our pupils were given some souvenirs to take home as part of their day provided by The Goethe-Institut, Germany's cultural institute.

We even managed to enjoy our packed lunches by the river.



"It was good to spend time out of school where we could learn the language and take part in activities and not feel rushed. We also found out that there are similarities with languages and that you can work out the meaning of German words from some of our own English words"

Harrison Y5



"The Staff and teachers were really nice, and the activities helped us learn quickly. As well as the language we also found out more about Germany."

Chuigo Y5

Red Nose Day

Comic Relief supports incredible projects and organisations that are making a difference for people across the UK and around the world.

To support this vital charity work and good causes, pupils at English Martyrs' were to come into school dressed in red clothing. There were some great red coloured outfits on show, including lots of red noses!

Pupils were invited to bring in a small donation towards the fantastic causes that Comic Relief supports. We were able to donate £279.05 which is fantastic! Thank you for your support.

As part of the day our pupils learned about different kinds of Migration and why people often have to move homes or countries without warning and often through no fault of their own. We considered how we can support others who find themselves in this position.



Y5 Touring Opera - The Great Stink

On Monday 25th March, Year 5 were lucky enough to visit Sacred Heart High School to watch a performance of "The Great Stink" by the English Touring Opera.

Through songs, drama and puppetry, the company told the incredible true story of Summer 1858, when the city of London was brought to a standstill by the terrible smell from the River Thames.

The Head of Music from Sacred Heart visited school beforehand to teach us some songs, which made the experience so much more enjoyable and interactive. Year 5 even created some puppets to bring along to the performance!



World Book Day



What a fantastic day we had in school, celebrating World book day and our love of reading.

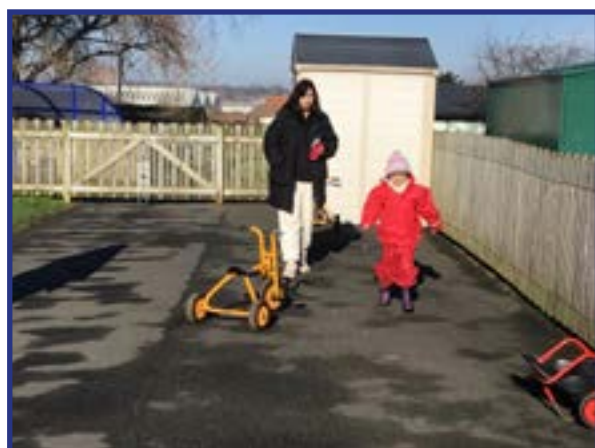
Our pupils looked amazing in their book inspired outfits, we had a host of characters from super heroes, cartoon characters, authors and characters from classic fairy tales. Some pupils wore colours to represent the feelings we explored in one of our whole school texts, 'The colour Monster'.

Themed Lunches



Thank you to Carole and all of her staff for all their hard work and creativity when make our themed lunches so special!

Reception Stay and Play



It was lovely to welcome so many parents and carers in to school to experience our Reception classrooms and to have a conversation with the class teacher.

Easter Egg Competition

Thank you to all those children who entered our Easter Egg Decoration Competition. There were some fantastic entries. All the money collected will be donated to St Cuthbert's Care - a wonderful charity based within the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This will go towards supporting The Alan Shearer Centre, a highly specialist facility for people living with complex disabilities and acute sensory impairments. Over the past academic year, English Martyrs' has been able to work closely with the centre who have allowed us to access their facility to support some of our pupils.



Science Week

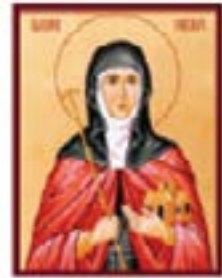


The children had a fantastic time during Science week!

House Points

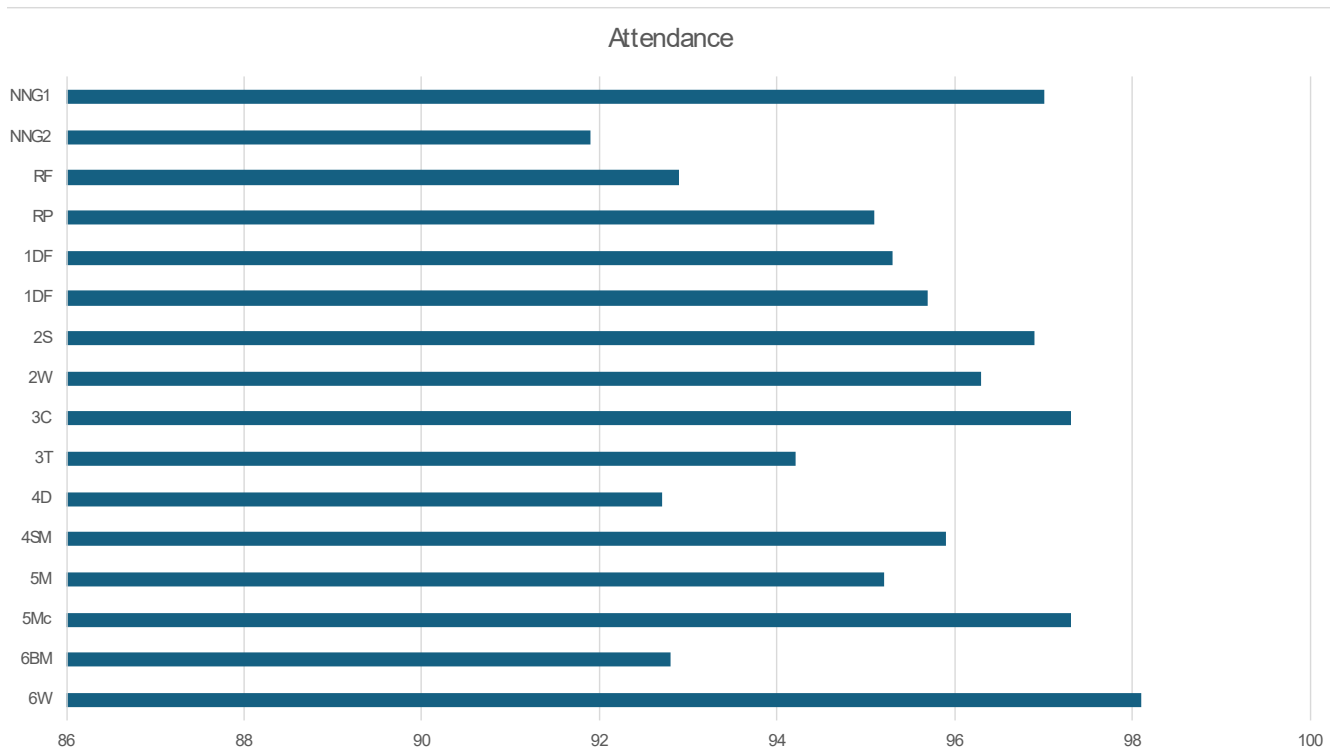
Term 2b - Winning House

St Hilda - 906



Attendance by Class

Well done to the children in 6W who have topped our half termly attendance tracker!



Upcoming Dates.....

Monday 15th April - Pupils return

Friday 19th April - Reception and Y6 Class Photographs

Monday 22nd April - Wednesday 24th April - YMT Residential

Friday 3rd May - English Martyrs' Day

Friday 3rd May - Mass in school

Monday 13th May - Thursday 6th May - KS2 SAT's

Friday 24th May - School Closed for Half Term Holiday (3.20pm)

Monday 3rd June - Pupils Return

