



MARTYRS NEWS

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve.



Nursery children enjoying storytime in the library!



This week, our Year 6 children undertook their end of Key Stage 2 SATs and I was so amazed at how calm, prepared and sensible they all were, even though I know there will have lots of nerves and worry in the build up!

Last Sunday, Fr Mark Madden announced that he will be leaving the parish of Our Lady and the English Martyrs from September and moving to St Paul and St Timothy's in West Derby. In his place we will be welcoming Fr Anthony Afaako from the parish of Our Lady and Philomena's in Liverpool. We thank Fr Mark for the last ten years of service here at English Martyrs and pray for his ministry as he continues throughout the archdiocese of Liverpool.



Next Friday will be our next mufti day with a **Sports Theme**. The PTA would kindly request **donations of chocolate for the Summer Fayre**, which is coming up on **Friday 26th June!** Finally, the next PTA event to be held is another comedy night on **Friday 22nd May** and all money raised is going to support our Forest School area and towards new Chromebooks for the children in classes. Thanks for your support with these events, as always!

Be safe, be happy, have fun!

Events:

| Date: | Time: | Event: |
|---------|--------|---|
| 18/5/26 | 9.00am | Yr 1&2 Assembly Yr1 Parents invited. |
| 19/5/26 | 9.00am | Nursery & Reception Assembly Reception Parents invited. |
| 20/5/26 | 9.00am | Class photos |
| 21/5/26 | 9.00am | Yr 3 & 4 Assembly Yr4 Parents invited. |
| 22/5/26 | 7.00pm | PTA Comedy Night - Tickets only |
| 22/5/26 | 3.15pm | School Finishes for Half Term. |
| 02/6/26 | 8.45am | Children return to school. |

Half Term closure Monday 25th - Friday 29th May
School Closed Monday 1st June - INSET Day

Attendance Matters!

Our school target is **95%+** and we are currently at **95.4%** so far this year, which is really positive!

Fabulous

FRIDAY FIVE

Holiday Requests

We ask that Parents/Carers complete a Holiday Request Form each time a holiday is taken during school term. You can obtain this form from the school office or on our website: [here](#). From this link you will find details of The Government's Fine Policy - [holidays in term time](#).

Class Attendance:

1st 1B - 99.6%

2nd 3A - 99.2%

3rd 2B - 98.3%

MARTYRS NEWS

Nursery



By Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Garvey

All our nursery children enjoyed a fantastic day out last Wednesday to Martin Mere Wetland Centre. We saw many species of birds and young ducklings and goslings. The children enjoyed taking part in a pond dipping workshop. The children behaved in an exemplary manner throughout. The weather was perfect and there were many happy and tired children by the end of the day.



Reception

By Mrs Morris & Mrs McMeakin

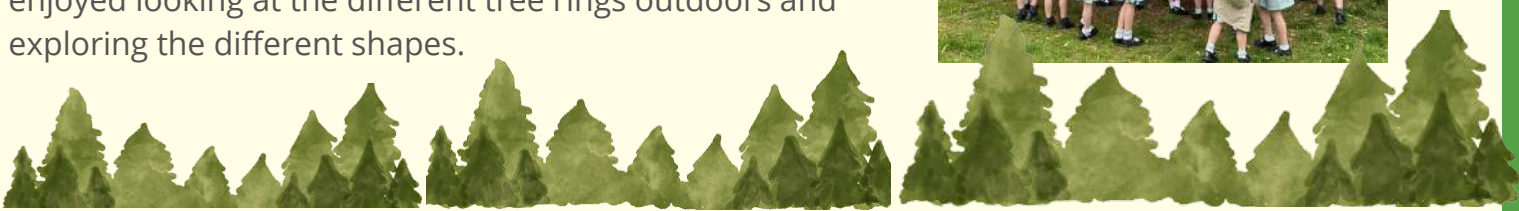
To some this might look like a messy busy classroom. To us it is a creative, collaborative creation that the children have worked hard on all afternoon and are rightly proud of. It represents relationships, compromise, dialogue, decision making, flexible thinking, resilience, perseverance and achievement.



Year 1

By Mrs Halsall & Mrs Blackledge

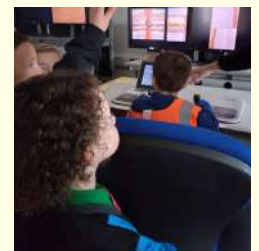
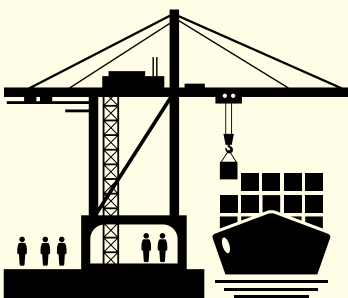
We have been learning how to identify and describe the basic structure of trees. We talked about deciduous and evergreen trees and how they are different. The children enjoyed looking at the different tree rings outdoors and exploring the different shapes.



Year 2

By Mrs Sothern & Miss Drinkall

Last week Year two were lucky to visit Peel Ports. They had a tour of the port and visited the control room. The children were shown how the containers are carefully lifted and placed on to wagons to be transported across the country. Thank you to Mrs Jasper for driving the minibus and the staff at Peel Ports for our guided tour.



MARTYRS NEWS



Year 3

By Mrs Dooley & Mr Roach

Yr3 explored nutrition in DT this week. They created a noodle salad that was both healthy and tasty. The children carefully chopped a range of vegetables and enjoyed creating their salad.



Year 4

By Mrs O'Connell & Mrs Lowe

In their Geography lessons, Year 4 have been busy learning about the wonderful world of rainforests. This week, we focused on the water cycle and learnt how there would be drought, famine and disease if rainforests were to disappear. Their water cycle is vital for the survival of our planet! We annotated our own water cycle diagrams to explain how the trees take up the water through their roots. This water then evaporates and condenses to create heavy rainfall. As a class, we then created our own "window water cycle", to watch this in action!



Year 5

By Mr Buckton & Miss Gray

This week we discussed solutions to pollution and how we can help. In pairs, we used a **Diamond Nine** to rank which solution we felt would be most effective and least effective. The children then justified their choices.



Year 6

By Mrs Goulbourne, Mr Kiggins and Mrs Naisbett

We are all incredibly proud of the children in Year 6 for completing their SATs assessments this week. They have approached every test with determination, resilience and positivity, giving 100% effort throughout. Most importantly, they have done it all with big smiles on their faces and have supported and encouraged one another every step of the way. Here are some photographs from our Year 6 Relaxation Club, where the children worked together in pairs to practise partner yoga poses, mindfulness and relaxation activities. It has been wonderful to see them supporting each other, staying calm and celebrating their achievements together.



MARTYRS NEWS

STAR OF THE WEEK

Friday 8th May 2026

Friday 15th May 2026

Nur All Day Annie
Nur AM Ayomide
RA Thea Rose
RB Hallie
1A Jacob
1B Isabella
2A Albi
2B Ethan
3A Dollie
3B Annie
4A Darcie
4B Jack
5A Isabella
5B Harrison
6A Phoebe
6B Lilly

Nur All Day Luca
Nur AM Ebenezer
RA Savanna
RB Xander
1A Sofia
1B Poppi
2A Oliver
2B Elsie
3A Lewin
3B Noah
4A Tallulah
4B Brody
5A Daniella
5B William
6A Iris
6B Amber

Golden Pen

KEY STAGE 1
Teodor - RB

KEY STAGE 2
Isabella - 5A

Be a writer

KEY STAGE 1
Jessica - 1A

KEY STAGE 2
Lilly - 6B

MARTYRS NEWS

Sunscreen

Please can parents ensure they apply sunscreen at home before children come to school. **Staff are unable to apply cream during the school day.** Please also ensure your child brings a sun hat and water bottle to school.

Parking around school.

It has been brought to our attention, once again, that a number of parents are blocking local resident driveways at the start and end of the day. We kindly ask that you are respectful to our neighbours and do not block their driveways. Local residents have been advised to contact the community police if they experience any abusive or threatening behaviour from parents.



School Trips

There are a lot of School Trips taking place during this term. Please ensure log into Arbor to give consent and make any necessary payments as soon as possible.

Outstanding Payments

Please can we remind you that Dinner Money, Breakfast Club and Nursery Fees need to be cleared **before the end of this academic year.** If for any reason you are struggling to do this please come and speak to the school office as soon as possible.

Brownies

9th Bootle and Litherland English Martyrs Brownies currently have space for any girls aged between 7 and 10 who wish to join. They meet on a **Thursday evening in the Parish Hall 6.15pm to 7.45pm.** If you wish for your daughter to join, please register their name on the following website:

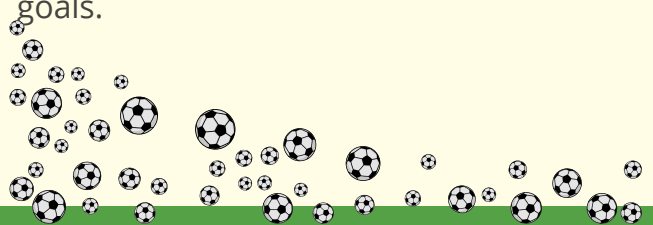
www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

If you have any queries or questions please email: engmartbrownies@outlook.com



Football Team

Girls football team won a league game against Rimrose this week. The girls played well and there were some great passes and goals.





GOOD NEWS!



Well Done Everyone!



★ GOOD NEWS! ★

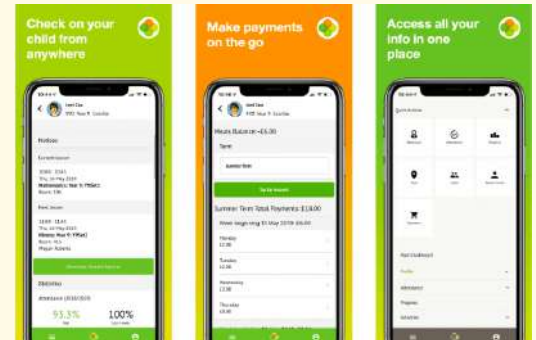


Well Done Everyone!

MARTYRS NEWS

Communication and the Arbor App:

A number of parents are reporting that they have missed important messages from school, even after they have been sent out. Please see the info below to ensure you never miss an important message from school. **Arbor is our MAIN communication tool** and allows us to keep in touch with each other. so it is important that it is working properly for everyone. Any issues, contact the office.



Enabling Notifications in the Arbor App:

Enabling Push Notifications (Step-by-Step)

Initial Setup: When first installing the Arbor App, click "**Allow**" when prompted to receive notifications.

Android Devices: Go to your phone's **Settings > Apps > Arbor > Notifications** and toggle push notifications **ON**.

iOS Devices (iPhone): Go to **Settings > Notifications > Arbor** and ensure "**Allow Notifications**" is **enabled**. It is recommended to set your banner style to "**Permanent**".

Troubleshooting Notifications

If you are not receiving messages:

Check In-App Settings:

Ensure you are checking the messages section within the app, which highlights new, unread messages in bold.

Restart & Reconnect:

Close the app, switch off notifications in your phone settings, restart your phone, and then turn the notifications back on.

Reinstall:

If notifications still do not appear, uninstall and reinstall the app.

Why Notifications Matter in Arbor

Message Alerts:

Enables immediate alerts for in-app messages sent by the school, which are used to reduce reliance on text messages.

Updates:

Alerts you to updates regarding attendance, clubs, trips, parent evenings or information requests.

Primary Guardian Access:

Note that only primary guardians can receive these notifications.

Helping families to understand the changes for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes have come into force for the Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

WHO MAY BE FINED?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

NATIONAL THRESHOLD

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of **10 sessions (5 school days)** of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the **U code** (late after registers).

For example: a 5-day holiday would meet the national threshold. The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

FIRST OFFENCE:

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within **21** days.
£160 if paid between **22-28** days.

SECOND OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised absence amount will be:

£160 per parent (*who allowed the holiday*) per child, payable within **28** days.

THIRD OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice is not issued. Cases may be presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution may result in a criminal records and fines of up to **£2,500**.

Cases found guilty in Magistrate's Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'



Stay

AND

PLAY



Netherton Library
Fridays 10.30-12
TERM TIME ONLY

STARTING FRIDAY 5th JUNE

Creative play workshops

for children aged

12 months - 3 years

Please book your FREE place
online via the QR code provided.



Your
Library
Sefton

September 2024



Term Dates 2025-26

Through Christ we Believe, Inspire, Achieve.

Autumn Term 2025 - (73 Days)

Term Starts:

Wednesday 3rd September

Half-term Holiday:

Monday 27th Oct - Friday 31st Oct

Term Ends:

Friday 19th December, 2pm.

Spring Term 2026 - (55 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 5th January

Half-term Holiday

Monday 16th Feb - Friday 20th Feb

Term Ends:

Friday 27th March, 2pm.

Summer Term 2026 - (62 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 13th April

Half-term Holiday

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Term Ends:

Thursday 16th July, 2pm.

Total Days:

190 Pupil days

195 Teacher days

Bank Holiday:

Monday 4th May

Inset Days:

Autumn 2025:

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Summer 2026:

Monday 1st June

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

www.englishmartyrs.co.uk

Wrap Around Care Offer

Breakfast Club:

Contact number: 0151 928 5601

We run Breakfast Club for children aged 3-11 on site by our own staff from **8am-8.45am** daily Monday to Friday.

Our Infant (**Nursery to Y2**) provision is based in the main hall (*enter via the Main School Entrance*).

Our Junior (**Y3 to Y6**) provision is based in the dining hall (*enter via the separate gate on School Lane*).

To check availability and book a place, please use the [Contact Form](#) or call the number above.



Fun4Kidz - After School Club:

Contact number: 0151 932 9218

Fun4Kidz operates on site from **3.15pm to 6.00pm** daily Monday to Friday.

Fun4Kidz works with our youngest pupils from **Nursery to Year 2**.

The sessions are **£11.15** first child (*and £10.15 for siblings*) daily and include snacks (*hot snacks when applicable*).

The sessions must be paid for in advance and are non-refundable if the child doesn't attend.

Children can be collected from any time before **6.00pm**.

Email: fun4kidzclubs@hotmail.com

L30 Community Centre, Stonyfield, Netherton, Merseyside, L30 0QS.

Need to know about funding?

If you want to find out more about what funding is available to you in terms of tax free credits and childcare vouchers, please follow the link at the bottom of the page, which will take you to our Wrap Around Care page on the school website with more information and links to follow.

For the latest info, see the page below:

<https://www.englishmartyrs.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care>



Neurodevelopmental Conditions Learning Programme

I am pleased to share with you an opportunity to join the Neurodevelopmental Conditions Learning Programme delivered by Advanced Solutions at Litherland Family Hub or via Zoom. This supportive and informative programme offers helpful insights into areas such as autism, ADHD, Specific Learning Difficulties and Sensory Processing Difficulties, along with practical strategies to support your child at home eg. sleep, toileting and eating difficulties. Please click on the appropriate link to register:

[ND Conditions Learning Programme \(Litherland Family Hub\)](#)

[ND Conditions Learning Programme \(online\)](#)

Useful Info

Sefton Women's & Childrens Aid

Contact number: 0151 394 1400

SWACA provide holistic services to women, young people and children affected by Domestic Abuse offering both effective crisis intervention and early intervention and preventative services.

Venus Centre Charity

Contact number: 0151 474 4744

VENUS provide service to empower, promote and support women, and their children in developing their potential, recognising their choices and achieving their goals and challenging injustice.

The Trussell Trust

Contact number: 0151 933 1300

The trust supports a nationwide network of food banks and together they provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK.

In Your Shoes

Contact number: 0151 345 9611

Located at 100 Moss Lane the charity supports our local community.

Litherland Wellbeing Centre

Contact number: 0151 288 6661

Family Well-being Centres provide joined up support for children and young people aged 0-19 years to make family life that little bit easier.

Sefton Council

One Stop Shop: 0345 140 0845

Affordable Warmth Service: 0151 934 2222

Free School Meals: 0151 934 3263

Emergency Limited Assistance: 0151 934 3377

Sefton at Work: 0151 934 2610

For further details visit Sefton Council's website:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/advice-benefits/cost-of-living/>

If you are struggling and would like support please do not hesitate to contact one of the above or the school office who will assist in any way they can.