



The English Martyrs
Catholic School and
Sixth Form College

Parent and Carer Bulletin

Issue #31 | 3rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's difficult to believe that we are already within touching distance of the summer. It feels like mere days ago that I came for my first look around and interview at English Martyrs. I have expressed very publicly that I loved my previous job and really had no intention of moving on, however, the desire to be back in Catholic Education after working in the SEND sector piqued my interest, and within minutes of walking around the school I was convinced this was where I should be.

That passion for Catholic Education has been a prominent feature of this year, not just for me, but for the staff and community as a whole. This was celebrated fantastically last week as the school underwent its first Catholic Schools Inspection since 2018. Whilst we are awaiting confirmation of the final gradings (which will be shared with you immediately, along with the published report) and therefore cannot give you an outcome, what I can say is that I was immensely proud of every member of staff, every student, every parent and our clergy for the part they played in the inspection.

As you will know, we reframed our mission statement as a community earlier in the year to:

“We develop the whole person, accepting the call to be the **hands, feet** and **eyes** of Christ on earth. We **act** with integrity, **walk** with Christ and **seek** ways to grow and serve others selflessly.”

It was with great integrity that we were able to show the team of inspectors the fantastic work that goes on each day within the school. Rather than feeling like a moment of scrutiny, the inspection was an opportunity to celebrate all the fantastic work that is done within the RE department and in a wider capacity through how we worship and live out both our mission and the mission of the Church. I would like to personally thank all of you who added your voices to that celebration, either as part of the parent panel or the completion of the parental survey. It is through open and honest dialogue, and strength in unity, that we continue to improve our offer and therefore the opportunities for our young people.

Continuing the theme of celebration, last Friday saw the Year 13 leavers' evening and last night marked the Year 11 prom. Both of which were a huge success. Teaching can be a challenging profession throughout the year, but at English Martyrs, I truly feel that we have an incredibly talented and dedicated staff. It was a real pleasure to see the students genuinely grateful to staff on these fantastic occasions.

May I take this opportunity once again to thank you all for your ongoing support. We are already well into preparation for the upcoming academic year and are determined to continue to deliver the improvements that your young people deserve.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chris Corcoran
Deputy Headteacher



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Women in Engineering Event

To celebrate International Women in Engineering Day on 23rd June 2026, Hartlepool College of Further Education hosted a fantastic event delivered by female engineers and apprentices, created especially for female students. This year's theme, Engineering Intelligence, set the tone for an engaging and inspiring day across the college.

Students took part in a wide range of hands-on engineering activities and had the chance to speak directly with female engineers from local and regional companies. It gave them a real insight into the industry and a chance to ask questions, hear personal stories and see what a future in engineering can look like.

Across the college, the girls got to choose sessions in either aeronautical engineering activities (using two Jet Provost aircraft in the hangar), process engineering (on working fluid process rigs in the skills academy) or try their hand at fabrication and welding in the Centre of Excellence. They could also experience metal machining on both manual and CNC equipment, getting a feel for the precision and skill involved.

The atmosphere throughout the morning was full of enthusiasm. The students embraced every opportunity, showed curiosity and were not afraid to get stuck in. It was clear they had a brilliant time, with a genuine sense of achievement.

For many, the experience sparked new interest in engineering careers and opened their eyes to possibilities they may not have considered before. It was an inspiring day that really showcased what can happen when young women are given the chance to explore and enjoy learning in a supportive environment.

Mrs Russell



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School Games Award

We are delighted to share that our school has been awarded the Gold School Games Mark for the third consecutive year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust, which recognises schools for their commitment to developing competitive sport both within school and across the wider community. We are extremely proud to have been recognised once again for our ongoing success.

This achievement reflects our strong commitment to:

- Inclusion and participation for all students
- Increasing physical activity levels
- Providing a broad and engaging range of sporting opportunities



We would also like to commend our students for their dedication to all aspects of school sport. In particular, we recognise the outstanding contribution of our young volunteers, leaders, and officials, whose efforts have played a vital role in making our competitions possible.

Miss Leighton

Primary Arts Project 2026: Ongoing Success

We are delighted to celebrate the success of our recent Primary Arts Project, which brought together Year 6 pupils from all Catholic primary schools across Hartlepool.

As part of this exciting collaboration, pupils explored the vibrant and playful style of contemporary artist Jon Burgerman. Inspired by his bold use of colour, expressive line work and imaginative character design, students created their own unique digital self-portraits.

Using digital drawing tools, pupils developed creative confidence while experimenting with layering, pattern, and character illustration. Each self-portrait blended personal identity with Burgerman-inspired elements, resulting in a diverse and visually striking collection of work.

The project also supported a smooth transition to secondary school by giving pupils an insight into the creative opportunities within Art and Design.

One Year 6 pupil shared, *"I loved turning myself into a Burgerman-style character – it made art feel really fun and different."* A visiting teacher added, *"The quality of work and enthusiasm from pupils was outstanding. It's been a fantastic experience that has really inspired creativity."*

We are incredibly proud of all the pupils involved and look forward to welcoming these talented young artists in the future.

Mr Doyle



Year 10 Period 6 Timetable

We're only 2 weeks away from the end of the term, but staff and students are still working incredibly hard to ensure they have the possible start in September. This is no more evident than in Year 10 where students are already asking about Period 6 for when they return from work experience.

In response, please take note of the timetable which will run until the end of the term.

Mr Doyle

Y10 Period 6 Timetable Summer Term

Y10 P6 Intervention 2:45pm- 3:45pm	
	Maths Art Photography
Monday	Business Studies Enterprise and Marketing Health & Social Care Hospitality and Catering Child Development
Tuesday	<i>No Period 6 intervention due to staff training</i>
Wednesday	English History
Thursday	Science Geography iMedia Computer Science Performing Arts
Friday	RE Engineering Design French PE Sports Studies



House Golf Competition

10 students competed for the prestigious Peter McMahaon House Golf Trophy on Wednesday 1st July at Wynyard Golf Club.

On a beautiful day, with the course in stunning condition, students managed to card some impressive scores; the highlight being a gross 73 (1 over par) from James Bruce, who ran out the competition winner with an impressive 40 Stableford Points.

Second went to Jude Boagey with a superb 38 points narrowly edging out Seb Bianco and Alex Campbell into 3rd with their score of 37 points.

The big grudge match of the day was between Mr Gray and Jude, with Mr Gray keeping bragging rights with an impressive round of 84, resulting in 39 Stableford points and a handicap cut going forward.

As always students were a credit and huge thanks goes to Wynyard Golf Club for hosting us again this year.

House results were:

1. John Boste
2. Anne Line
3. Thomas More
4. Margaret Clitherow and John Ingram

Mr A Corcoran



Year 10 Taster Day at EM6

This week, we were delighted to welcome Year 10 students to EM6 for their Sixth Form Taster Day. Throughout the day, students had the opportunity to experience a range of subjects, giving them a valuable insight into the exciting academic opportunities available at EM6. They also explored our excellent sixth form facilities, including the Common Room, Bistro and pool table area, helping them to get a real feel for life as an EM6 student.

The feedback from students was extremely positive, with many commenting on how much they enjoyed the experience and confirming that EM6 feels like the right place for them as they begin to consider their post-16 options.

There will be a further opportunity next academic year for students to attend a second taster session, allowing them to gain even greater insight into sixth form life, meet staff and students, and explore their subject choices in more detail.

Formal applications for entry to EM6 will open from September, and details of our forthcoming Open Event will be shared with students and families in due course.

We would like to thank all the Year 10 students who attended and look forward to welcoming them back to EM6 soon.

Mrs Jackson



EM6
The English Martyrs
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



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Maths Champions!

On Thursday 2nd July we have the pleasure of taking a group of students to the BHCET Maths Competition. Students had to take part in a number of different challenges across the day, including a Maths Merry Go Round, Maths Relay, and a Maths Team Crossword.

English Martyrs had three teams, each with four students. We couldn't be prouder of all twelve students who took part, but are delighted to announce that one of our teams finished in 3rd place and another one of the teams won the whole competition, meaning that English Martyrs are the BCET champions of 2026!

Mr Barnes



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Welcoming Our Future Students

On Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th July, we are delighted to welcome Year 5 pupils from our Catholic feeder primary schools. They will enjoy a fun-filled and action-packed two-day festival, providing an excellent opportunity to experience life at our school. The programme includes a range of exciting activities across sport, music, art and drama, helping pupils to make new friends, develop their talents and begin their transition journey with us.

Year 10 Careers Week Success

Our Year 10 students have enjoyed a tremendous Careers Week, gaining valuable experience and insight into future education and career pathways. The week included individual careers interviews, taster days at English Martyrs Sixth Form and Hartlepool College of Further Education, as well as three days of work experience. We are extremely proud of the positive feedback received from employers and education providers, and of the maturity and professionalism shown by our students throughout the week.

Sports Day Preparations Underway

Excitement is building for Sports Day on Thursday 9th July. Preparations are well underway, with House teams being selected and students busy practising for their chosen events. We look forward to a fantastic day of friendly competition, teamwork and House spirit, and wish all participants the very best of luck.

End of Year Information

Just a reminder that our students will finish school on **17 July 2026** at **12:30pm** and be welcomed back to school on 2 September 2026 at the usual time of 08:40.

Mr Gray

Date	Up and coming events
13 th July	YR 8HPV Vaccinations (Catch Up Session)
1 st -3 rd July	YR 10 Work experience
6 th & 7 th July	Yr 5 visit
13 th July-16 th July	Transition days
14 th July	Yr 6 Parents Evening
16 th July	Rewards Day
17 th July	School finishes for all students at 12:30pm

