



The English Martyrs
Catholic School and
Sixth Form College

Parent and Carer Bulletin

Issue #6 | 24th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this 8-week half term, we can reflect on how far we have come as a school community in such a short space of time. You may be aware that internally the school gathers and tracks a wide range of data to monitor trends. This data helps inform our understanding of various aspects of school such as behaviour, attendance and academic progress. This information is then used to identify areas for improvement across the school but also to highlight areas that have improved due to our intervention.

I am delighted to report that following a review of the current set of data for this half term, we have seen record lows in negative behaviour and record highs in positive points achieved from students. These records go back approximately 5 years and confirms that our culture has seen significant improvements this half term.

Further to this, I am incredibly proud that our whole school attendance figures have moved above the secondary school average for Hartlepool. This is the first time in a number of years in which the school has seen such improvements. More students are attending English Martyrs, behaving well, accessing support and making progress in lessons. I want to thank parents and carers for supporting the school with our attendance drive. We know from data gathered that students who attend school 95% of the time or more, greatly improve their chances of succeeding when sitting their GCSEs.

We welcomed our Year 7 parents and carers to a 'Settling in' evening on Tuesday, which was very well attended. Parents met with their child's Tutor to ensure that each student's transition to secondary has been a positive experience and tutors further utilised the opportunity to make families aware of the pastoral support that was available for them at school. Evenings such as these are incredibly important in supporting our students and it provides an opportunity for open dialogue around a student's wellbeing, puts a face to the name and strengthens the relationship between staff, parents and students. Thank you also, to our wonderful Prefects who supported the evening, providing refreshments and collecting valuable feedback from parents.

Students have worked hard this half term, and I hope that all students have a well-deserved rest over the half term holidays. We look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 3rd November.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Glenn Thompson
Head of School



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Celebrating Success in Sixth form

Here at EM6, achievement points are exchanged for coffee and cake tokens to enjoy in the Bistro - a well-deserved reward for all their hard work and dedication.

Here are just a few of our hardworking Year 12 and 13 students who've earned vouchers this half term.

Year 11 - this could be you next year!

Don't forget to apply online on the EM6 website to join our thriving Sixth Form community. <https://em6.bhccet.org.uk/>

Ms Jackson



School Movement Plan

It has been a record-breaking start in terms of standards at EMS; please talk to your child over half term about the new movement plan which will begin after half term. This will ensure that movement around the building continues to be safe and purposeful. The movement plan has been designed in partnership with the School Council.

Mr Lindsay

Enrichment of the Week

Enrichment of the week this week goes to the History Department who deliver a fantastic enrichment programme for students of all ages. If you are studying GCSE History in year 10 and need to catch up, come along on a Monday and the History department will make sure you are up to speed in no time. If you are in Key Stage 3 and have a love of History, pop along to room 1.10 on a Monday for History club, like these keen historians, playing the Horrible Histories Board Game

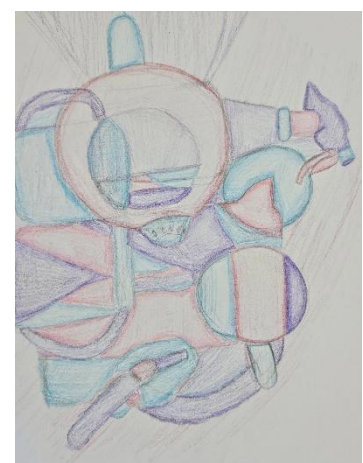
Mr Barnes



Art – Year 8

All year 8 have had a brilliant first half term in Art. They are exploring the complex artistic movement of Cubism. This multi directional approach to art and design production is enabling students to express and display their talents. Students have investigated its origins, explored famous works and have taken direct inspiration to help inform own outcomes. As you can see, year 8 are Cubist artists in the making.

Mr Meynell



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A Joyful Pilgrimage to The Source at St Mary's Cathedral

On Thursday, students and staff from our school embarked on a truly uplifting journey to St Mary's Cathedral, joining young people from across our Diocese for *The Source* – a vibrant evening of praise, worship, and spiritual encounter led by the Youth Mission Team.

The atmosphere in the Cathedral was electric as hundreds of young people came together in joyful song, united in faith and fellowship. Our students were inspired by the energy and enthusiasm of the Youth Mission Team, who led the evening with powerful music, engaging testimonies, and heartfelt prayer.

One of the most moving moments of the evening was the time spent in silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. In the stillness of the Cathedral, our students experienced a profound sense of peace and reverence, reflecting deeply on their faith and the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

It was a privilege for our school community to be part of such a special event, and we are grateful to the Youth Mission Team and the organisers at St Mary's Cathedral for creating a space where young people can encounter God in such a meaningful way.

We look forward to continuing our journey of faith together and supporting our students as they grow in their relationship with Christ.

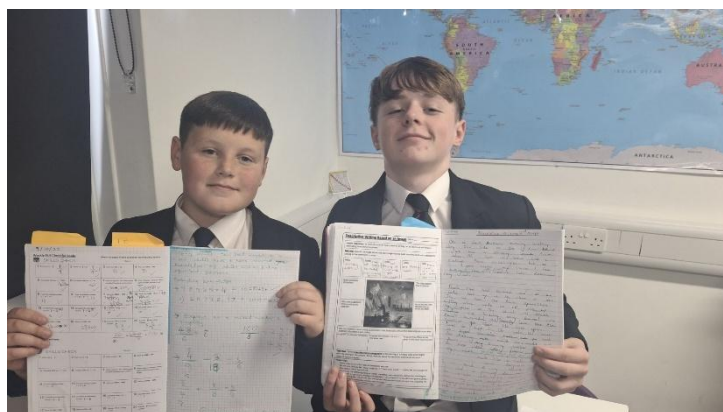
Mr McCartie

Savio

Here is a taster of some lovely work & effort this week in Savio

Savio students have been working hard & making great progress this week. A special mention to Rhys Kennedy who made massive progress in his descriptive writing by adding a range of literary devices and Max Hunter who scored another 20/20 in his weekly Maths skills check. Keep up the great work.

Ms Thurston



Y11 October Half Term Revision Sessions

Y11 October Half Term Revision Sessions			
Date	AM	PM	Room
Monday 27th October	GCSE PE 10am-12pm	GCSE PE 12pm-2pm	S7
	Maths HIGHER 9.30am-11.30am	Maths FOUNDATION 12pm-2pm	S6
Tuesday 28th October	School closed		
Wednesday 29th October	Maths FOUNDATION 9.30am-11.30am	Maths HIGHER 12pm-2pm	S6
Thursday 30th October	School closed		
Friday 31st October			

Y11 PREP Exam Timetable

	Monday 10th November	Tuesday 11th November	Wednesday 12th November	Thursday 13th November	Friday 14th November
Lesson 1	English Language 2hrs	Maths Paper 1 1hr30	Religious Education 1hr30	Maths Paper 2 1hr30	English Literature 1hr30
Lesson 2					
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4	Biology 1hr45(Triple) 1hr15(combined)	History Paper 1 1hr30	Chemistry 1hr45(Triple) 1hr15(combined)	French & Spanish Writing 1hr15(F) 1hr30(H)	GCSE PE 1hr15
Lesson 5		Geography Paper 1 1hr			
	Monday 17th November	Tuesday 18th November	Wednesday 19th November	Thursday 20th November	Friday 21st November
Lesson 1	Religious Education 1hr30	History Paper 2 1hr20	Maths Paper 3 1hr30	Physics 1hr45(Triple) 1hr15(combined)	
Lesson 2		Geography Paper 2 1hr			
Lesson 3					
Lesson 4	French & Spanish Listening 35min(F) 45min(H) + Reading 45min(F) 1hr(H)	Computer Science 1hr30	Hospitality & Catering 1hr20 + Product Design 1hr30	Business 1hr30	
Lesson 5				Music 1hr	



Year 7 Update

What a fantastic start it's been for our Year 7 students! Transitioning from primary to secondary school is a big step - new faces, new routines, and a much larger environment to navigate. Yet our students have embraced the challenge with confidence, kindness, and a strong sense of community. We also recognise how significant this transition is for parents and carers, and we're truly grateful for your ongoing support.

This half term has been packed with highlights. Year 7s have proudly represented the school in football, netball, rugby, and cross-country, showing determination and great team spirit. Our first rewards trips to Ninja Warrior and Hollywood Bowling were a brilliant way to celebrate early achievements - full of fun and laughter. Collectively, the year group has already earned over 16,000 achievement points, reflecting their dedication in lessons and commitment to our school virtues.

We're especially proud to share that 7AL2 achieved the highest attendance across the entire school this half term - a fantastic accomplishment! And congratulations to 7AL1, who collected the most achievement points in Year 7. This is a brilliant reflection of their hard work and positive attitude.

A standout moment was our Year 7 Welcome Mass, where we were joined by school Governors and local Primary Heads. It was a joyful celebration of faith, community, and new beginnings, with many guests praising the warmth, respect, and maturity of our students.

We've also relaunched our weekly Super 7s, recognising those who go above and beyond. A big thank you to everyone who attended our Settling In Evening. It was wonderful to see so many proud families and hear such positive feedback.

We're incredibly proud of all that Year 7 has accomplished so far and are excited for what's to come — including our Christmas Rewards Trip after the October break. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Mr Hutchinson



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Year 7 Update

This half term we have seen a great improvement in attendance and many students entering the 'In It to Win It' competition. This competition provides students with the chance to win a Nintendo Switch 2, Apple Air pods or a shopping voucher.

This half term also brings a close to our first season of the Attendance Leagues, with the new season starting next half term.

On Friday we celebrated our Attendance League Champions with a delicious breakfast to start the day.

Congratulations to our winners:

- 🏆 Diamond League - 7AL2
- 🏆 Platinum League - 8JB1
- 🏆 Gold League - 9JB1
- 🏆 Silver League - 10MC2
- 🏆 Bronze League - 8TM2

Mrs Corcoran



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Dates for your Diary

Dates	Event
23 rd October – 2 nd November	Half Term
10 th – 21 st November	Year 11 Prep Exams
28 th November	School Closed for Students
4 th December	Sixth Form Open Evening 3pm-6pm
9 th December	Year 9 Parents' Evening

