



The English Martyrs
Catholic School and
Sixth Form College

Parent and Carer Bulletin

Issue #3 | 3rd October 2025

Dear Parent and Carers,

We have now completed week five of our eight-week half term, and what a fantastic week it has been! Students at English Martyrs have now well and truly settled back into school life, as they continue to establish strong routines and habits for success.

The Senior Leadership Team have started to conduct a number of learning walks this week in some of our subject areas. During these learning walks, behaviour observed in classrooms was excellent and there was a real positive energy for learning from our students, which has been harnessed by our expert teachers in each subject. These learning walks are the first step in ensuring that the academic offer at EMS is outstanding for all of our students.

On Wednesday, we had our Year 6 Open Evening, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Over 600 people were welcomed into the building by Mr McCartie, playing the school grand piano. Parents were also entertained with some fantastic singing and musical performances from our students. Our visitors took part in a number of challenges including sports challenges, 'What's in the Box?', a murder mystery, cooking, woodwork and many more. If students completed the challenges in each area they left with EMS branded prizes...and sweets! During the evening, we also provided samples from our school menu in our dining hall, which went down very well with the Year 6 students.

I want to thank the staff members who attended the evening to showcase our subject areas and our incredible facilities, and I also want to thank the many Prefects who volunteered as tour guides supporting each subject. The feedback regarding our Prefects was incredibly positive, with parents and carers commenting on their fantastic manners, positivity and pride in being students at EMS. We will be rewarding all Prefects involved with Positive Postcards home and a further surprise later in the term.

The evening also allowed me to speak directly with parents and outline my vision for English Martyrs. I re-affirmed that we are on a journey to be an outstanding faculty, both academically and pastorally, with students at the heart of everything that we do. I explained how Catholic Life is the foundation of the school and the virtues which we instil into our students, ensuring that they can succeed in the modern world. We of course want our students to achieve the best grades possible, but we are equally committed to building student character. We understand that who they become as individuals is just as important and that is what makes EMS such a special place.

I personally want to thank Mr Gray and Mr Hutchinson whose meticulous organisation made the open evening such a success, and whose pastoral care ensures that our transition process works so well for students and families.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Glenn Thompson
Head of School



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

EMS Together

EMS Together – is a new wellbeing initiative at English Martyrs that will recruit a team of student ambassadors. We will be running a daily 'wellbeing room' in 1.33 with activities such as colouring and board games.

The EMS Together team will also be leading events such as 'Wear Yellow for Mental Health' and other initiatives across the academic year. Our ambassadors will receive anti-bullying training to help support their peers.

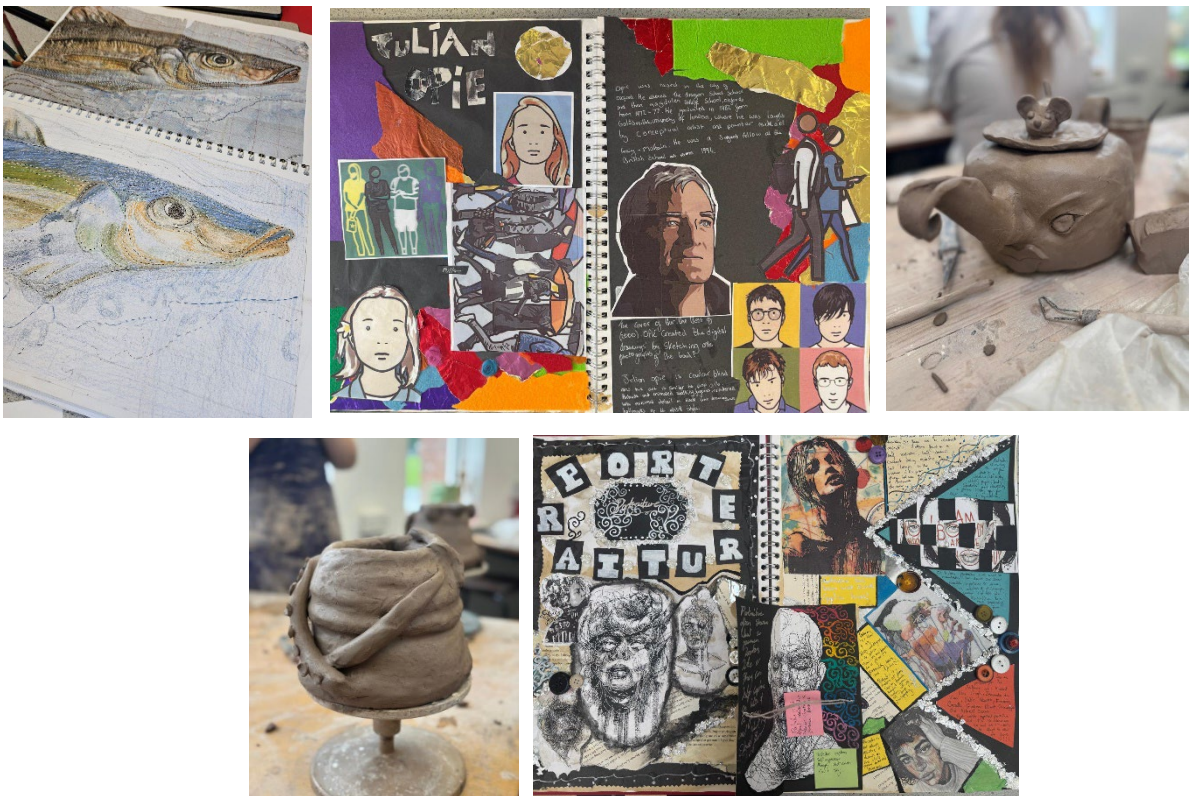
If students are interested in this group, please contact Ms Hodgson for further details.

Ms Hodgson

Year 10 - Art

Congratulations to all year 10 students who have begun their art GCSE courses extremely well. As a school, we are spoilt for choice for artistic talent. Students are excelling in variety of media, responding to personal lines of investigation. Well done year 10.

Mr Meynell



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**
Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Year 9 French – Futbol Lingo

On Tuesday Year 9 experienced a fantastic event delivered by a multilingual UEFA coach from Futbol Lingo linking languages with football. Students listened to an inspirational talk about the impact of learning languages and engaged in a game in French to promote Francophone countries as hosts for the next World Cup! Students also had the opportunity to play football, and they played a match completely in French!

Ms York



Year 7 Food Technology

Students From 7J12 have been demonstrating their ability to work independently and safely in their food practical lesson. They have used the bridge hold and claw grip when chopping vegetables and have prepared and baked pizza toast in the oven. Students have worked in pairs to wash up and dry dishes and are looking forward to their next practical lesson.

Mrs Hutchinson



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Transition Bee

For European Day of Languages, EMS hosted its annual Translation Bee to celebrate speaking foreign languages. Students from our feeder primary schools enjoyed a continental breakfast, then competed against each other in three heats to translate as many words as possible against a time limit. They were coached and cheered on by our amazing Y7 students.

Congratulations to our winning school, St Teresa's Primary School, who take home the title of EMS Translation Bee Champions 2025.

Ms Long



Year 12 and 13 Aspiring Medics

Our sixth form college welcomed alumnus Dr Corney to speak to our aspiring sixth form medics and dentists. Dr Corney inspired our students with details of his career so far, helping them to consider activities they can become involved in outside of their studies in order to submit a successful application to university. Thank you for taking the time to support our students. It is lovely to welcome back former students and for them to share their wisdom, experience and success with us!

Mrs Henderson



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Year 7 and 8 Bible Assembly – A Celebration of Faith

Last Friday, our school community came together as our Year 7 and 8 pupils each received their own copy of the Bible. This event was made possible through the generosity of *Good News for Everyone* (formerly the Gideon Society UK), whose mission is to share the Word of God with young people across the country.

We were delighted to welcome Colin from *Good News for Everyone*, who led a moving and inspiring assembly on the power of Scripture. His message highlighted how the Bible can offer guidance, comfort, and strength especially for young people navigating the challenges of growing up in today's world.

At the end of the assembly, each pupil was gifted a personal copy of the New Testament and Psalms, encouraging them to explore the text and reflect on its messages. The pupils responded with great enthusiasm and appreciation.

This event reflects our ongoing commitment to nurturing our Catholic faith within our school. We are incredibly grateful to Colin and *Good News for Everyone* for their support and generosity. It was a joyful and uplifting experience, and we look forward to building on this moment with further opportunities for prayer, reflection, and engagement with scripture throughout the school year.

Mr McCartie



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Head and Deputy Head Students

We are delighted to announce the results of our Head Student elections that took place at the end of September. All students from Year 7 to 13 and staff were invited to vote, and our four candidates were very impressive and spoke passionately about their ambitions and their love for our school community.

Adam and Emily were voted Head Students and Alex and Bridget are our Deputy Head Students for this year. We look forward to the projects they are going to undertake and are proud of them being such fantastic ambassadors for our school and sixth form college.

Mrs Henderson



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Student Reminders

At EMS we have high expectations around student uniform as we believe that it sets the tone for successful learning. It also allows all students to be equal and members of the same team and community. As always, we appreciate parental support in reminding students of our expectations.

Uniform

Students must wear full school uniform. This includes a white shirt, school tie, blazer, appropriate trousers or skirt and formal shoes. Trainers are not permitted.

Please refer to this link as a reminder around our standards in relation to uniform.

[Uniform.](#)

Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear a small pair of stud earrings in the lower lobe and a wristwatch. Nose piercings, False nails and false eyelashes are not permitted.

Equipment

Students are required to bring: a school bag, pens and pencils, their timetable, planner and a reading book. Parents and carers are asked to check and sign the planner each week.

Absence

We know that students who attend more achieve more, and we have an Attendance Team who support students and families to ensure excellent attendance to school. This team will diligently follow up absences and work with you to ensure your child attends school. Unless a student is ill, they must attend school every day. Routine appointments should be arranged outside of school time if possible. Medical letters / appointment cards should be provided if a student must attend an appointment during school hours.

If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, please let us know as soon as possible. Please ring school on 01429 273790 and choose Option 1. (please note that the text service no longer operates for pupil absence).

Mr Lindsay



**BISHOP
HOGARTH**

Catholic Education Trust

**Christ Has No Body Now
On Earth But Yours**

Year 11 P6 Intervention Timetable

Y11 P6 Intervention 2:45pm- 3:45pm Half Term 1		
Monday	Science	History
Tuesday		
Wednesday	Maths Business Studies	Art Photography
Thursday	English Child Development Hospitality and Catering Health and Social Care	Geography Product Design Textiles
Friday	RE Imedia Performing Arts PE	French Spanish Computer Science Sports Studies

Dates for your Diary

Dates	Event
21 st October	Year 7 Settling in Evening with tutors 3pm-6pm
23 rd October - 3 rd November	Half Term
10 th – 14 th 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

