



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

# WELLBEING

## THE ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

## JULY 2023

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

**As another year is drawing to a close, we can reflect on some of the many achievements that students have accomplished.**

We could not be more proud of their hard work, determination and resilience. Students have worked together, and in doing so, made long-lasting memories of the good times they have had in school and they can feel proud of any barriers they have overcome.

It is also the time of year when we welcome our Year 6 students into school. They will arrive feeling a little nervous but full of excitement. We have an excellent Transition programme that will help them settle into EMS life.

I would like to wish all students and staff who are leaving us this year all the very best on their new adventures. We have always been a school that keeps in touch with our alumni and any former students can join by accessing the alumni section of our website.

**Mrs S Crawshaw**  
Headteacher

### CLASS OF YEAR 11 & YEAR 13

The last five years has seen our young people act with justice and compassion, honesty and responsibility, respect and self belief, confidence and resilience. Our Year 11's and Year 13's have played a huge part in our school community.



We wish all of our Year 11's and Year 13's the best of luck as they pursue higher and further education or embrace employment. Our excellent careers support can help if anyone needs additional advice.

#### Key Dates

GCSE Results Day - 24th August 2023  
Enrolment at EMS6 - 24th & 25th August 2023  
A-Level Results Day - 17th August 2023

# ENRICHMENT

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department have a wide and varied enrichment offer for all students within our school community. We are fortunate to work with Tees Valley Music Service - TVMS Here is a picture of some of our pupils participating in our newly established Rock Ensemble.



## MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

We always listen to student voice and what our students would like from their experience at school. Jack wanted to start a Model Railway Club and Mr Morrison jumped aboard to help set this up. They got their hats and a starter set so everything was full steam ahead. The club was added to the enrichment timetable and has become extremely popular.





# ENRICHMENT

The school runs a wide range of enrichment activities including extra study provision, sporting activities, musical, dramatic and cultural pursuits, foreign trips and retreat experiences. This aspect of school life is very important and is very much appreciated by the students. With more than 70 enrichment opportunities, there is lots to get involved with so go ahead and try something new.

## PE DEPARTMENT

The PE department have been awarded enrichment of the fortnight multiple times for the fantastic work running lunchtime and afterschool sports activities and teams. They are always willing to help people try a new sport!



## HISTORY DEPARTMENT

The History department have also recently earned enrichment of the fortnight for the fantastic work they do giving students lots of fantastic lunch time activities. Horrible Histories Club, History Film Club and Quiz Club are just a few of the things they offer and are available for students for the rest of the term. Well done to Mrs. Stanwick, Miss Phenix, Mr Travis and Mr Hunter for all they do.



# EVENTS

## HARTLEPOOL HEROES

Hartlepool Heroes is an annual event which celebrates the people of our town who go the extra mile. It focuses on the local community and ensures that those who are exceptional in what they do are recognised. This year, we submitted numerous nominations for our staff, students and community including Giana in Year 10 and Selina in Year 13 who are both young carers, our fabulous EMS Tree Planting Group and many more.

Mr McIntock and Miss Taylor attended the event after Giana, Selina and the EMS Tree Planting Group were shortlisted into the final 4 for their category. On the evening, EMS Tree Planting Group brought home the award for Green Community Champion - Hooray!



## SEND GARDEN PARTY

The EMS SEND Garden Party was back again this year and was even bigger and better than ever before. We welcomed families of current students and Year 6 students into school for a variety of entertainment, games, foods and drinks. Whilst we were hoping for sunshine, we ended up with rain, but that didn't stop the party.

Thank you to the staff and students that organised such a fun-filled event - it was a great afternoon had by all.





# EVENTS

## THANK A TEACHER DAY

Every year, we love to celebrate Thank a Teacher Day and the fantastic work that all of our staff do.

Thank a Teacher Day is a national celebration. The charity's mission is to raise the profile of the teaching profession, highlight the positive impact teachers make. We celebrated by asking parents and students to send a message of thanks to a member of staff. We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication all of our staff put into our English Martyrs community. Thank you all!

## “ THANK A TEACHER

**Staff Member:** Mrs Spears

**Nominated by:** Parent

**Reason:** This lady is amazing and has been such a support to me during my son's first few years at EMS. Without her, he wouldn't be as settled as he is now. She was always on the end of the phone if I had anything I needed to discuss, especially through some tough times when I was having chemotherapy. Mrs Spears, thank you so much for being so kind, thoughtful, empathetic, compassionate and caring. These qualities of yours shine through in everything you do in your professional life.

**Thank you to all of our staff at  
The English Martyrs Catholic School & Sixth Form College**

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Students in Year 7-12 have worked together to take part in a technology project for Anti-Bullying Week. Year 12 students, Tilly and Holly, explain "For Anti Bullying week we have taken handprints made by Key Stage 3 and 4 with anti-bullying messages and quotes to create an outfit. We worked as a team to create a look that was eye catching to create awareness for anti-bullying.

Creating a bold outfit allows the garment to be noticed to demonstrate that bullying isn't something to hide. We used our Textiles skills to create this look and hope people stand up against bullying." Brilliant effort! Well done everyone!



# EVENTS

## SIXTH FORM AWARDS

On 15th December, we held an awards evening to celebrate the achievement of the Year 13 students who left EMS6 in the summer. We were privileged to have former student Sian Harrison join us for the evening. Sian Harrison is a journalist and author who lives in London, but will always call Hartlepool home. The presence of many former colleagues and special guests presenting awards made the evening a special occasion to be remembered for time to come. Well done to everyone who received an award.



## SPORTS AWARDS

We were delighted to welcome back former student EMS6 student and Premier League referee, Tony Harrington, to be our Guest of Honour at this year's Sports Awards. Awards were given for a variety of reasons; sporting talent, teamwork, dedication, progress, excellence, leadership and significant sporting achievements. Students also received recognition for competitive individual and team achievements at school, regional or national level. It was an absolute pleasure to be part of the Sports Awards this year. The accomplishments from our students this year have been incredible. Well done.





# EVENTS

## CAKE SALE & ARTIST OF THE WEEK

In May, Gianna held a cake sale to raise awareness for her mental health group raising £250. Gianna will be holding sessions during lunch for students, offering advice, a quiet space and a space to talk. Fantastic work Gianna! We also celebrate Artist of the Week each week which looks at the amazing work of students who are budding artists! Gianna was one of our Artists of the Week this year too with her brilliant clay work!



## FLAME CONGRESS

The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College were delighted to take a group of students to the Flame Congress 2023, which took place on Saturday 4th March at Wembley Arena. The theme 'Rise Up!' reflects this hope – a time to stand up again, together, to find fresh strength, to help others to rise up, and to use the energy and gifts of young people in new ways. Flame Congress is the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales. You can see from the photo on the left that a fantastic time was had by all.





# EVENTS

We offer a HUGE range of trips and visits throughout the year from London to Paris and even Austria! Being outdoors and visiting new places can also help develop a positive wellbeing.



## LONDON VISIT

Shortly after the passing of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth, some of our sixth form historians went to London and placed a wreath in her honour. They paid tribute to The Queen at the Tower of London in The Queen's Garden.

We are proud of our young people representing the College during such an important historical time. They also had a tour around Shakespeare's Globe, opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1997. Students were fantastic and a credit to EMS6.

## AUSTRIA SKI TRIP

Staff and students went to Austria in April for the annual ski trip, which for many, was a once in a lifetime experience.

They took part in 5 days of skiing, enjoyed lots of entertainment and learnt lots of new skills whilst they were there. Another fantastic opportunity for our wonderful students!





# EVENTS

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth form College celebrated it's 50th anniversary on Saturday 24th June.

A Mass concelebrated by Canon Paul Douthwaite, Father Shaun Purdy, Father Jim Angus, Father Anthony Hogarth, Father Phil Marsh and Deacon Jeff Parkes was the centre of the day as staff, students, parents, alumni and guests gave thanks for the school.

Former Heads David Relton, Joe Hughes, Mike Lee joined with serving Headteacher Sara Crawshaw to celebrate the school's rich legacy and shared vision of academic, pastoral and spiritual formation of each child. Parishioners generously supported preparations for the day. Students worked with parishioners to arrange the stunning flower displays and collaborated to form a majestic choir and band. Student leaders facilitated tours and performed musical solos and ensembles throughout the day.

Former student and now Head of Computer Science, Bernadette Malcolmson, served for the 25th Anniversary of the school back in 1998 alongside Fr Shaun Purdy when both were in Year 9. "Today was a beautiful celebration and it was fantastic to see so many faces that have made such a significant impact on our community over the years" she told us. "Now, here in 2023, I reflect on having worked with 4 head teachers, 3 tutor groups, hundreds of fantastic students and shared in 2 significant anniversaries, proud to have played my part in giving just a little something back to the school that gave me so much as a child."

The school has been generously gifted a large crucifix that now hangs in the entrance to the School. Canon Paul Douthwaite and parishioners of St Cuthbert's, Hartlepool kindly donated the crucifix to the school to mark the school's 50th Anniversary. The beautiful cross has rich provenance and significance for the parish and is a treasured gift to the school.

Mrs Crawshaw, Headteacher, said: "Today has been a wonderful celebration of our community. English Martyrs School means so much to so many people. The generosity of spirit, sharing of talents and joyful atmosphere made this an important day in our history. Thank you to all who were involved and to all of those who sent their prayers and good wishes."



# OPPORTUNITIES

## SIXTH FORM STUDY SPACE

In 2022, we transformed our Sixth Form Study Area into a wonderful space for our students to work in between lessons and before and after college. It still remains an extremely popular place where students can get particularly busy with revision and self study. Here is a photo of our Year 13 students who were working hard for their prep exams after Christmas, which is lovely to see. Keep up the hard work.



## ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

Our student ambassadors are the heart and soul of everything that goes on at English Martyrs. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors received the Diana Award for young people who work to improve the lives of others, offering peer-to-peer support to any child who may feel they have issues at school or with friends outside of school. We joined the Anti-Bullying Association to reinforce how important it is to 'Be Kind'. This partnership has seen staff and students undertake specialist training, including a session with former footballer Martin Gray, on how to tackle racism. We are also part of the Anna Freud Programme to support Positive Mental Health.

We are now developing our student ambassador programme through recruiting Wellbeing Ambassadors and Peer Support Ambassadors. Speak to Mr McIntock if you'd like to get involved.





# REWARDS

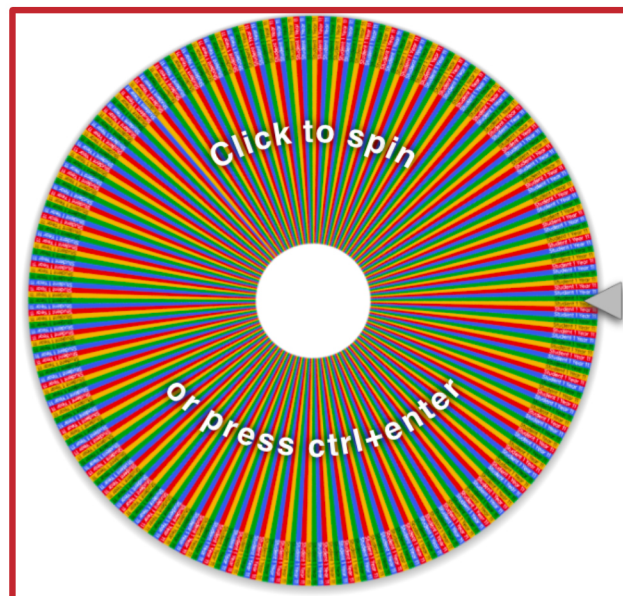
## FORTNIGHTLY FIVE

This year, we launched our Fortnightly Five. Each fortnight we celebrate the top 5 students in each year group with the most achievement points. Each student receives a certificate and the opportunity to get a picture with our new frame. We love rewarding our students for their efforts and determination and love how happy they are when they receive their awards. Well done everyone.



## ATTENDANCE WHEEL

We've also recently launched our brand new Attendance Wheel feature on Friday lunchtimes. All students who have 100% attendance from Monday am until Friday am are entered into the wheel and one person is chosen to receive a prize. Attending school regularly has many wellbeing benefits including developing friendships and social skills, cultural awareness and exam performance as well as a positive mental wellbeing by being around positivity.



# MCAS

## SCHOOL APP

This year, we launched our new school app - MyChildAtSchool (MCAS). MyChildAtSchool is a portal enabling parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time. It allows exclusive access to the child's Attendance, Assessment and Behaviour whenever the parent/carer wishes. As well as student performance data, the portal also provides general useful information about school such as the Academic Calendar and Announcements.

Communication between home and school is vital, not just for teachers and parents but also for the student. Both parents and teachers can work together to provide a support system that helps children thrive and succeed in school.

When parents and teachers regularly share information about a child and what's happening in the classroom, it supports the learning process from all sides, setting up students for success.

The student would benefit from improved academic achievement, regular attendance, a positive attitude towards learning, a feeling of confidence and enhanced relationships.

## STAY UPDATED

A feature in the new app allows parents/carers to update the data collection form for the student and any contacts we hold. Please remember to keep us informed of any information that may have changed such as telephone numbers, priority contacts or addresses.

If you are not yet registered on the app, please download the MyChildAtSchool app and contact [SHope@ems.bhcet.org.uk](mailto:SHope@ems.bhcet.org.uk) to get set up.

