



The English Martyrs Catholic
School and Sixth Form College

NEWSLETTER

Issue #05 | End of Spring Term | April 2023



The Tree of Trees

His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham, Sue Snowdon, visited to celebrate the planting of a tree. Our school community was invited to take part in the Queen's Green Canopy; we planted a tree to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. Mrs Snowdon helped students plant the tree and reflected on Her Majesty's reign. A large platinum planter which commemorates the project stands in the main reception.

Happy Easter

We are delighted to share and celebrate some of the many outstanding achievements our students have had this term.

This Easter Newsletter captures some incredible individual achievements, stand-out team success and reflects our ambition for each young person to be able to flourish.

As we break for Easter on behalf of all at The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, I would like to wish you a 'Happy Easter'.

Mrs S Crawshaw - Headteacher



#AttendanceMatters

The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Absences Add up!

A student with **80% attendance** misses nearly **two months** of education every year. A total of **37 days**.

Attend Today - Achieve Tomorrow

If your child will be absent, please contact the Attendance team 01429 273790 (option 1) or message us using the app.



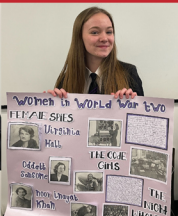
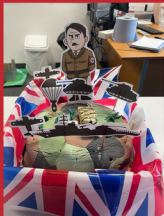
January



It was straight into the lab for our Year 12 Biologists who got to put theory into practice by dissecting a fish head, locating the gill arch and filaments. They then created scientific diagrams.



Year 7 History students handed in their Motte and Bailey Castle projects. Brilliant models, posters, drawings, cakes and even some digital designs. All fantastic and all giving 100% effort.



Year 9 Historians have had an extended homework project in conjunction with WW2 and the Holocaust. A range of presentations from propaganda posters, Auschwitz Minecraft models, a grandparents' experience of WW2 from Germany and Britain to a project on medical advancements after WW2 were handed in. Outstanding work. Well done!



Our Year 7 and Year 8 footballers visited Hartlepool United's football stadium to celebrate their commitment and dedication to their school teams. It was great to see the shirts of two former EMS students.





January



9 talented runners represented EMS at the Cross-Country County Championships at Stewarts Park. All students had an excellent attitude and ran a great race. Finlay, Bobby and Emily, who finished in the top 16, moved through to the next round.



Our Junior NBA superstars played fantastic basketball in a tournament winning 3 of their 4 games. Excellent resilience, team work and self belief shown by all.



Year 7 have been learning about organisation in biology. They dissected hearts and kidneys to discover how cells work together to form tissues and organs. A fabulous lesson in the lab.



The Key Stage 3 girls Badminton team were runners up in the Tees Valley, narrowly losing to the overall winners Polam Hall by one game. Great play by all involved. The team qualified for the Regional Finals in March.



For Holocaust Memorial Day we commemorated the lives of those who suffered. Key Stage 3 students participated in activities, collecting information about a victim, a survivor, a rescuer and a perpetrator and discussed how ordinary people were affected by World War II and the Holocaust.



January

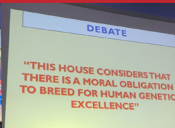


Our Year 9 sports leaders developed their coaching and umpiring skills at our Year 5 / 6 basketball festival. They were all fantastic ambassadors for EMS working with students from Sacred Heart, St Teresa's and St Cuthbert's

Ten Year 9 students attended a Forgiveness, Peace and Justice conference. An inspiring day with three speakers who told their own stories. EMS students prepared a presentation about inequality. Jessica and Charlotte confidently shared their vision for the future.



Twelve Year 10 students began the Scholar's Programme. An exciting course where they work with a tutor involved in academic research and have the chance to produce a dissertation of their own and attend a graduation ceremony. This year the students are looking at the literary work of the authors Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett. They attended the launch at Newcastle University, where they learnt about higher education and spoke to current undergraduates about their studies.



Year 11 students attended the Peter Vardy Philosophy and Ethics conference. The day was excellent with students going through some interesting topics such as Artificial Intelligence and different ethical approaches to euthanasia and abortion. Students took an active part in debates and offered responses to challenging topics.



Year 9 pupils marked Holocaust Memorial Day at the Gala theatre, Durham. They had the opportunity to listen to Professor Marek Szablewski talk about his father's experiences in the Polish resistance in Warsaw and how his Jewish grandparents were the victims of the genocide. A wreath was laid on behalf of the whole school community at Durham cathedral.



Talented footballer Tilly's skill shone through as she was selected for England Football Trials. A fantastic achievement and a name to watch out for in the future.





February



As part of the many events that took place for Holocaust Memorial Day, students at The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College were honoured to host Smajo Beso OBE.

Smajo, a survivor of the Bosnian Genocide, spoke with Year 12 and Year 9 students about his experience as an eight year old boy living in a war zone before escaping persecution and being reunited with his immediate family in the North-East of England.

Recognising the importance of standing up against prejudice and also the importance of forgiveness, he has gone on to be an ambassador for the Bosnian Genocide Educational Trust and the Holocaust Memorial Trust.

This work and dedication was recognised recently being awarded an OBE from His Royal Highness King Charles III.

Mrs Sophie Stanwick, Curriculum Leader of History said: "It is not very often that we have the opportunity to speak first hand with someone who has such a significant story to tell. His experiences give students something real that they can relate to rather than reading from a book. Smajo's message is important for young people to hear."



Finlay, Bobby and Emily represented Cleveland in the Northern Cross Country Schools Championships.



Three students in this stage of the competition is a fantastic achievement. Well done.



Our Eco club have been making some digital art. They have been working on a plastic pollution project. They've created a PowerPoint, posters and now a digital campaign to encourage a care for the environment.



Ten year 7 students competed in the Hartlepool School Games Netball competition. The girls played exceptionally well with three wins from four matches. They finished 2nd place in the overall competition.



Year 10 separate sciences students have been completing their required practical.

This key part of the course investigated the effect of light intensity on photosynthesis.



February



Former student and author Rebecca Ryan visited the Sixth Form. She helped with the opening of our new Sixth Form library system. She delivered creative writing workshops to Year 12 English Literature and Language students. Rebecca was so impressed with ideas that the students came up with and inspired our talented writers.



Maggie Douglas, a Clinical Psychologist came in to talk to our Sixth Form Psychology students. She spoke at length about how to become a Psychologist and the different specialisms. Maggie specialises in trauma and dissociative personality disorder and her knowledge of these conditions was fascinating. The students thoroughly enjoyed asking lots of insightful questions.



Year 8 Literacy Leaders represented the school with distinction whilst working with Year 2 students from St Joseph's and St. Bega's Primary schools.



Year 8 girls competed in the Hartlepool School Games Netball tournament and finished in third place. They all played extremely well and represented EMS to the highest of standards.



Our Key Stage 4 girls badminton team represented the school and town at the Tees Valley Schools Badminton Championships, coming second overall. The team have now qualified for the Regional Finals in Tyneside!



A team of Year 7 students and a combined team of Year 8/9 students took on St Johns in an eagerly anticipated Rugby double header. Both teams played some brilliant Rugby with the Year 7 team scoring an impressive 7 tries in a thrilling draw and the Year 8/9 team also scoring freely in a strong win.



Our Sixth Form students were very lucky to hear personal presentations from Jane and David. The couple shared their experiences of living with an addiction to gambling. It was a privilege to listen to such personal testimonies.

Hear are our wonderful choir singing their rendition of You Are The Reason.
Scan the QR Code with your mobile phone camera.





February



Safer Internet Day was celebrated across the world on the 7th February, with the theme of Want to talk about it? Students discussed this topic within Virtues lessons, discussing the fantastic tools and applications the Internet has brought into our lives along with the dangers it also presents. Students spoke about the dangers they see the most often when using the Internet themselves and debated how they think the Internet can be made a safer place, along with how the social media companies and governments across the world can take responsibility for protecting young people.



Year 11 BTEC Sport students worked hard developing their knowledge of the Musculoskeletal System for Unit 3 of the course.



Abisha had one of her pieces of writing recognised and published in a Young Writers Anthology. A fantastic achievement.



In February a huge earthquake hit Turkey. Our A Level Geographers were quick to analyse the data and apply their understanding to the 'Park Model of Recovery' as well as watching the emergency aid response to those affected.



Our new Reading Leaders programme started with our Year 7 students reading to our Sixth Form and Year 10 students.



Year 11 students Joe and Rylie were both selected to play for Durham County. Well done.



We had over 20 students represent EMS in the Girls Hartlepool School Games Rugby Festival on Wednesday. The girls competed in a variety of activities to help them improve their Rugby skills and finished off with a game against other schools.



The Under 13's Girl's Football team competed in the County Cup against Our Lady & St Bede. They finished the game with an emphatic 8-0 win. Tilly scoring 4 of them! The girls represented EMS in an extremely professional manner and progressed into the next round.



February



Twelve Year 10 language students went to the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle to be part of Business Language Champions. Students worked in teams with students from other schools to create branding and marketing campaigns to sell sweets and chocolate to an international market. All of our students were excellent and we hope it will have encouraged them to continue their study of languages at a higher level.



Ben won a gift voucher for Pizza Hut in the History 'Bookflix' prize draw. Students can collect their loyalty card & stamps from their history teacher. A full card enters you into the next prize draw.



We have worked with Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families on a national trial called Education for Well-being. Our selected trial was called YAM, a mental health promotion programme.

GCSE ART & DESIGN

GCSE ART & DESIGN



#THINK GCSE ART AND DESIGN



GCSE Art & Design students worked alongside professional ceramicist Mike Brogan. Students produced outstanding pieces responding to the work and influence of Gustav Klimt.



Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students shone in their Prep Exams. Students had three hours to prepare, cook and plate up two dishes with accompaniments. The plates produced were of excellent quality.



March



James Southgate from the Bank of England visited to speak to our Sixth Form Business Studies and Economics students. James is involved in managing the payment sector of the bank, and the billions of transactions that take place each day. He gave a very informative talk on how the bank works within the economy and uses economic policy to support the government and the UK population as a whole.



Fantastic show from our staff on World Book Day! Lots of fun activities happened around the school. A joyful celebration of reading.



A large group of staff and students headed off to Wembley to celebrate Flame Congress, the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales!



We opened our new outside food pod, an extra option for students to grab lunch and break time snacks. Special thanks to our fantastic site and catering staff for getting it up and running.



Our Year 7 footballers played incredibly well against Dyke House taking home a victory of 5-2.



A group of students took part in the Lady Taverers Cricket Competition. For many, it was their first experience of playing cricket. They played some fantastic cricket finishing second overall.



Students had a wonderful time on the Year 9 and 10 retreat. Lots of activities and fun had by all at the Youth Village, Consett.

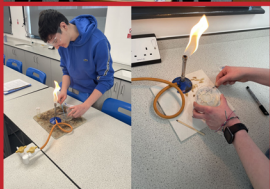




March



We held a World Book Day 'Book Café'. Our student librarians were waiters and served selected students books from a 'blurb' menu which they could keep. In total over 600 books were given away to our avid readers.



Year 12 Biologists worked on their Aseptic Technique to grow *Bacillus Megaterium* in sterile conditions in order to ascertain the most effective antibiotic.



We held a very successful World Book Day 'Bookflix event' hosted by the Sixth Form Librarians. Students gave out free books, discussed books they had read and would recommend, completed book reviews and added to a 'wish tree' of books they would like to order.



Year 10 students have been developing their own platform games as part of the Creative iMedia course. Students have spent a number of weeks planning their products and are now working in GDevelop to build their game environments incorporating a number of techniques including tiled sprites, platform behaviours, triggers and events.



Our year 7, 8 & 9 girls competed in the Rugby Town School Games Finals at Hartlepool Rugby Club. Our year 8 and 9 girls won two out of their three fixtures and qualify for the Tees Valley Girls Rugby Finals with year 7 narrowly missing out. Excellent effort and team spirit.



March



Sixth form Psychology and Law students visited the Tyne Theatre and Opera House in Newcastle to hear Professor Craig Jackson discuss the myths of serial killer profiling. Professor Jackson gave a fascinating insight into the limitations of this method applying it to well known cases such as Fred West and Harold Shipman. Professor Jackson is the face behind "The Pusher" documentary.



Charlotte received her Pope St John Paul II award. To earn this fantastic award, Charlotte has undertaken many hours of work in her local parish and has given back tremendously to her local community over the last year. It was a wonderful event with the Youth Mission Team and Bishop Emeritus Seamus present to celebrate. The awards were presented by Adenike who also entertained us with some wonderful singing. A truly joyous celebration, well done to Charlotte.



A group of Year 7 students took part in a tree planting ceremony to commemorate the passing of Queen Elizabeth II at Summerhill Park. One of our students was chosen to present her speech on Queen Elizabeth II to the participating schools of our town. Our Mayor, Brian Cowie, attended the event and commented on how fantastic our students are.



National Finalists

For the second season running, our Year 11 football team have made the Elite Schools National Final. The boys were unlucky last year at the Hawthorns when in Year 10. This years final which will take place at the Bet365 Stadium, home of Stoke City FC.

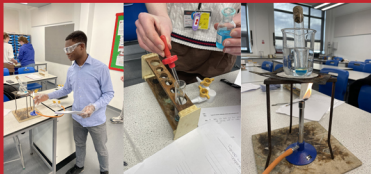


Students participated in a Women into Construction event at HCFE. Students listened to women from industry explain their career routes into construction and the many varied roles available.

Using Lego, they were challenged to design and construct a school building by applying their creativity and problem-solving skills



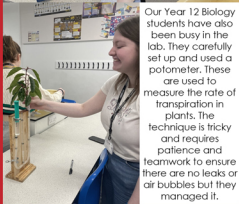
March



Year 12 Chemists have been completing many experiments in the lab this term, here they are carrying out chemical tests to identify functional groups as part of their A level Chemistry course.



Our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have been whipping up sweet treats in lessons this term with some making chocolate and others opting for cheesecake. There was then the opportunity to decorate and present the dish on the plate for service. Yummy!



Our Year 12 Biology students have also been busy in the lab. They carefully set up and used a potometer. These are used to measure the rate of transpiration in plants. The technique is tricky and requires patience and teamwork to ensure there are no leaks or air bubbles but they managed it.



Great effort from our Under 13 Girls Cricket Squad winning 2/3 games at the Durham Regional Finals of the Lady Taversham Competition. The girls finished 3rd overall.



Our Geography department led a GCSE revision weekend in The Yorkshire Dales. The hard-working students and staff had a lot of laughs, learning real live 'geography in action' along the River Swale.



March



Year 10 students took part in 'Mock Interviews'. Students conducted themselves extremely well during their interviews and received excellent individual feedback. The mock interviews are designed to help students to push themselves out of their comfort zones and build their confidence and experience, ready to tackle college or employment interviews next year.



Super star runner Bobby competed at the English Schools Cross Country in Nottingham. For his age category Bobby is now within the top 300 runners in England. This is an outstanding achievement.



Tees Valley Girl's Rugby CHAMPIONS!!!

Our Under 14's Girl's Rugby team competed in the TVG Rugby Finals. The girls had four games and finished the day undefeated. They played with real comradery and belief every match.



We held another hugely successful EMS6 Open Evening. The application process is open for courses starting in September. Year 11 can apply here: <https://ems6.bhcef.org.uk/apply>



Biology Sixth Form students competed in the British Biology Olympiad Competition 2023. A number of awards were given, including several Commended, Highly Commended awards and a Bronze medal!



The Year 7 Rugby team represented the school in a 7's tournament at Durham School. The boys played with real grit and determination. Great effort!



March



We were delighted to host the Catenians Province 5 Public Speaking Competition 2023.

Students aged from 11 to 18 travelled to Hartlepool from across the region to deliver passionate, intelligent and compelling speeches to a large audience.

English Martyrs Catholic School had entries in all categories. Lewis Howe, Ava Watson and Finlay Booth were outstanding in their performance against very strong competition.

Finlay was awarded second place for his Key Stage 3 speech on 'the importance and power of reading' with EMS6 student Lewis crowned as the winner of the Post 16 competition.

Lewis has been invited to represent Province 5 at the Catenian National Public Speaking Contest in Manchester in September.



Our 2023 Easter Card was designed by student Olivia Jeffries. A stunning piece of work from a talented artist. Well done.

"Music is to the soul what words are to the mind."

Some of our music students have recorded pieces they have been working on. Scan the QR codes next to the pictures for a link to watch the videos on Youtube.



YOUTUBE.COM
Lucy - Burn from Hamilton



YOUTUBE.COM
Panis Angelicus - Sydney & Mrs Snowball



YOUTUBE.COM
Bridget - Theme from Downton Abbey
Piano Recital



Easter Masses in the Holy Family Parish

	Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper	Good Friday - Solemn Passion	Easter Saturday - Easter Vigil	Easter Sunday
St. Mary's	8pm	6pm	6pm	
St. Joseph's	8pm	3pm	8pm	10am
St. John Vianney's	6pm	3pm	8pm	11am
St. Patrick's	6pm	6pm	6pm	9pm



March



Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Matthew 4:4

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Matthew 26:27-30

The English Marston Catholic School and Sixth Form College

A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

John 9:24-26

The English Marston Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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We have been posting regular Gospel readings on our social media channels which correspond with each week of Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



STATION FIVE

SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS TO CARRY HIS CROSS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



STATION ONE

JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Year 7 students have been touring the school in their RE lessons visiting each of the 14 Stations of the Cross that are placed around the school building. At each one, a gospel reading is read and students observed a moment of quiet reflection.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



STATION TWELVE

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



STATION FOURTEEN

JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB



Our Strength Through Unity group have been reflecting on the importance of inclusion and diversity and throughout this. They term have designed and created a banner which will be displayed in a central space in our building. It is nearly complete and I am sure you will agree the hard work of the students has paid off. It is absolutely fantastic and a great celebration of Strength Through Unity.

Holidays 2023-24

Term 1

September 2023						
W	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
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						1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
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	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28
	30	31				

November 2023						
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	27	28	29	30		

December 2023							
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	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Term 2

January 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

February 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	26	27	28	29			

March 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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	25	26	27	28	29	30	31




April 2024						
ws.	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30				

Term 3

May 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1	2
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	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

Key	
	School Holidays
	PD Days
	Public Bank Holidays

The other two statutory PD days will be deployed throughout the year as twilight sessions for staff.

Next Term Key Dates

- 17th April- New term starts (week A)
- 20th April - Year 10 Meet the Teacher evening
- 4th May - Year 8 Meet the Teacher evening
- w/c 8th May - GCSE & ALevel Exams Begin
- w/c 29th May - Half Term
- w/c 19th June - Y10 & Y12 Prep Exams
- 24th June - 50th Celebration
- 6th July- Year 13 Leavers Dinner
- 12th July - Year 11 Prom
- 20th July - Last Day of Term.

Reporting Absence

Maximising your child's attendance is paramount to their education. If your child will be absent, please contact the Attendance team on 01429 273790 (option 1) **as early as possible** or message us using the app.

Attend Today - Achieve Tomorrow

Save the Date!



50th Anniversary Celebration

The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College special 50th Anniversary celebration which will take place on 24th June 2023.

There will be Mass at 12 noon, to begin the celebration of 50 years of EMS plus more. All are welcome.

Keep an eye out on our social media channels in the near future for details of how to book your place.

**Miss
School,
Miss
Out!**

**EMS students
who ATTEND more
achieve more!**



Pupils with greater than 96% attendance:

85%

achieved 9-4 in
English and
Maths

56%

achieved 9-5 in
English and
Maths

53.82

was the total
Attainment 8
Score

Pupils with less than 96% attendance:

64%

achieved 9-4 in
English and
Maths

38%

achieved 9-5 in
English and
Maths

44.80

was the total
Attainment 8
Score

Pupils with less than 90% attendance:

50%

achieved 9-4 in
English and
Maths

22%

achieved 9-5 in
English and
Maths

36.96

was the total
Attainment 8
Score

Communication & Useful Information

Address:

The English Martyrs Catholic School
and Sixth Form College, Catcote Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 4HA

Telephone: 01429 273790**Email:** admin@ems.bhcet.org.uk**Website:** <http://ems.bhcet.org.uk>**School Office Opening Hours:**

Monday to Friday - 8am - 4:30pm

Accessing our systems from home:

School Cloud (Parents Evenings):

<https://englishmartyrs.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Student Email & Teams:

<https://ems.bhcet.org.uk/microsoft-teams-school-email/>

Parent Pay:

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

School App

At EMS we have a school app
which is a fast and efficient
two-way communication tool.

It also gives you daily
Attendance, Behaviour &
Achievement data, direct links
to Holidays, Parents' Evenings,
Parent Pay, Events, Timetable,
Reports & more

Everything you need at your
fingertips.



Connecting parents, students and schools



Download our
school app
NOW

Step 1:

Go to your app store

Step 2:

Search for My Ed

Step 3:

Download the app

If you have any questions or queries please contact Mr. Hope
(shope@ems.bhcet.org.uk) & he will be able to get you up and running in no time.

We're social...

Follow us on your favourite social media channels

Facebook.com/
EnglishMartyrsSchool

@ems_hartlepool

Find and Subscribe on

@ems_hartlepool





Parking Pledge

at The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Made in partnership with BHCET, HBC Highways Traffic & Transport,
our parents forum, staff and students.

Objectives

- To **prioritise the safety** of students
- To **improve the parking** situation.
- To **reduce the volume** of traffic in St Annes' Car Park (Main car park)

Do you need to drive?

Walking and cycling to the school can often be quicker and easier. We have a bike shed behind the secure line of school for students to use. There are cycle paths along the majority of Catcote Road. School is easily accessible on foot.



Where possible, drop your child in a safe place a short walk away from school to help control congestion around the school site.

If you need to use St Anne's Car Park:

- Maintain a **5mph speed limit**.
- **Reverse park** into parking bays. If you are waiting to collect your child and there are no bays available, **do not double park and do not block in parked cars**.



If you park on public roads:

- Please do so **legally and safely**.
- Show consideration to our neighbours.