

Wednesday 10th January 2018
www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Newsletter Number 5
www.st-joanofarcpa.org

Dear Parents/carers,

We hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas. On behalf of all the staff, thank you for your kind Christmas wishes and gifts which were very generous and much appreciated.

Christmas Concerts

We are sure that you will agree that the Christmas performances were spectacular.

The children always look forward to having a parent/carer there to see them in their starring role so thank you for taking the time to support these events. Thanks are also extended to all of the staff who prepared the children for their performances in particular Miss Newson, Miss Newman and Mr Shreeves.

Year 6 Citizenship Cup Winner

This award is presented at the end of each term to a year six pupil who during the course of their time at St Joan of Arc has been an example of model citizenship in our school. I am delighted to announce that Christian (Class M) was last term's worthy winner.

Many congratulations are extended to Christian and his family on receiving this prestigious award.

Thank you from St. Vincent de Paul Society

The children received a lovely letter from the St. Vincent de Paul Society for their generous Christmas gifts. The following is an extract:

'I am writing to thank you for organising and facilitating the Christmas collection for the SVP. These gifts have brought surprise, joy, gratitude and in many cases relief to local needy families.

The pupils and parents of St Joan of Arc have been very generous indeed.

Wishing you all the best for the New Year.'

From all at St Joan of Arc SVP.

Parent Governor Vacancies

St Joan of Arc School has always aimed for a partnership with parents, which undoubtedly brings great benefits to the children. One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor. The Governing Body's main tasks are to ensure that pupils receive high quality education, to plan for future development and improvement, and to support the school. Our Governing Body has sixteen governor positions of which two are for parent governors. Both positions are now vacant.

The Governing Body meet as a whole twice a term for an evening meeting, running from 6.30-8.30pm. In addition, each governor is on two sub committees which also meet at least once a term, starting at 8.30am for one hour. These meetings currently take place on a Friday.

Our current sub committees are:

1. Curriculum and Pupil Achievement
2. Personnel, Finance and Buildings
3. Admissions.

Meetings are scheduled a year in advance to allow as many governors to attend as is possible. All governors are expected to attend relevant training to ensure they are fully briefed on their roles and responsibilities within the committee. Training is held locally at Laycock Street or at Vaughan House – beside Westminster Cathedral.

Whilst specialist knowledge or relevant experience is useful, it is not essential. Common sense and willingness to give time are equally important. More information on the parent governor vacancies and the election process will be sent to you in paper format via your oldest child on Friday 12th January. I would be more than happy to meet with any parents who are interested in supporting the school in this way. Please call the school office for an appointment.

Staff News

We welcome back this term Mrs. Cumpstey and Mrs. O’Neale (Teaching Assistants), who have been away from school due to ill health. Mrs. Cumpstey will be supporting children in Year 4 for the rest of this academic year and Mrs. O’Neale returns to her role in Class C.

Dates

As usual, there is quite a lot happening this term. Assembly dates and Parent Evenings are listed in the school diary, which is attached. The Diary dates are also available on the school website:

www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Several parents have asked for the term dates for next year to ease holiday bookings (September 2018-July 2019). These are listed at the end of the newsletter for your convenience.

The following is information that you may require immediately:

1. Admission into Reception

The closing date for St Joan of Arc School applications into Year R for September 2018 is: 15.01.18.

Parents of children attending the school nursery need to make a separate application for a place in Reception for September 2018. You must also complete an application form from the borough in which you reside.

2. School Mass – Beginning of Term

The school mass for the beginning of the term will take place on **Friday 12th January at 9.15am.** This will be led by Class K. Parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.

3. Year Four Assembly

This will take place on **Thursday 18th January at 9.00am** in the large hall. Parents/carers are very welcome to attend.

4. Message from the Parents' Association

More Raffle Prizes Please! At our upcoming Quiz Night and other events we run a raffle that is always a great success because of the fantastic prizes! All the prizes are donated by generous parents, so please check out those unwanted Christmas gifts - toys, pampering sets, bottles or gadgets - and leave them labelled "PA Raffle" outside the school office.

Our next PA event is the ever-popular **Quiz Night on Friday 2nd February, doors open 7-10pm**. **If you want to help with this and other fund-raising activities during 2018, please join us at our next PA Meeting on Friday 12th January at 9.00am in the staffroom - all parents welcome. There will be a crèche for preschoolers.**



**SJA TECH
SPOT**

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2018

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and the campaign sees over 1,600 organisations unite to raise awareness of online safety issues and run events and activities right across the UK.

This year, Safer Internet Day will take place on Tuesday 6th February 2018. The theme for this year is "Create, Connect and Share Respect". St Joan of Arc will be taking part in a variety of engaging activities to raise awareness of online safety issues and celebrate this important date.



SAVE the DATE

Safer Internet Day

2018 | Tuesday
6 February

www.saferinternetday.org



Yours sincerely

Clare Campbell

Miss C Campbell
Headteacher

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018 – 2019

Autumn Term 2018

Tuesday 4th September - Friday 21st December - **Close at 2pm**

Half Term – Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October

Inset Days: Monday 3rd September and Monday 29th October

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January - Friday 5th April - **Close at 2pm**

Half Term – Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February

Inset Day: Friday 15th February

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April - Friday 19th July - **Close at 2pm**

May Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

Half Term – Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Inset Days: Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July