

Tuesday 5th December 2017

Newsletter Number 4
www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents / Carers.

A big thank you to all parents!

The school has been very fortunate to receive a cheque for an enormous **£26,500** - presented to us on behalf of all parents. I cannot tell you how grateful we are to all of you who have attended or organised fundraising events over the past year, such as the cake stalls, BBQ and summer fete. We feel very privileged to have such supportive families in our community and cannot thank you enough.

The £26,500 went towards the following projects which were held in the last academic year:

- 2 fully funded class trips (x 15 classes)
- Class workshops to support special areas of the curriculum
- Theatre trip and Christmas entertainment for KS 1 & 2
- 4 days travel for year 6 activity week
- Year 6 sweatshirts and leavers' gifts
- Leavers' disco and Christmas disco for the whole school - £1,000
- Equipment for the Hobbit House – carpet, bean bags, tunnel for outside, sensory mirrors and maze boards - £4,000
- *Nursery playground update – new seating areas and play pod - £6,000
- *Installation of a new outdoor classroom - £27,000
- *Installation of a new tube train - £8,000

Two year fundraising initiative

The next meeting will be held on 12th January @ 9.00am. There will be a crèche for pre-schoolers. If you have any spare time or a particular skill set, the PA would love to hear from you.

Anti-Bullying Week

Miss Pryce and the School Council led an assembly two weeks ago to launch our Anti-Bullying week.

The children undertook a number of projects within their year groups to ensure they fully understand the importance of telling an adult if they are being bullied or if they observe any bullying. Children who made a special effort to show good citizenship skills towards others were presented with special stickers, which they were very proud to receive.

The following children won the Anti- Bullying comic competition, set and judged by the School Council:
Abigail (A), Ciara (B), Year 1 – Annabel (C), Ollie (D), Year 2- Gabriel (E), Amaia (F), Year 3 – Yasmina (G), Lucy (H), Year 4 – Charlotte (I), Lucy (J), Year 5 – Cecilia (K), Jenny (L) and Year 6 Amelia (M) Olivia -Rae (N).

The following children were awarded a special certificate in assembly for their extra special efforts for 'being a good friend':

Nursery – Nathaniel, Class A – Ambar, Class B – Hubert, Class C – Kyri, Class D – Larissa, Class E – Queenie, Class F – Sebastian, Class G – Wojciech, Class H – Niamh, Class I – Yonaton, Class J – Alexander, Class K – Chinyelu, Class L – Alexander K, Class M – Mia M and Class N – Finian.

Admission into Reception / Nursery

The closing date for St Joan of Arc School applications into Year R for September 2018 is: 15th January 2018.

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.

Staff News

Mr Lee, who has been an amazing teaching assistant at our school for the last five years, recently left his role to take up a new challenge elsewhere. Mr Lee was particularly gifted at supporting children who found coming to school challenging and so he will be missed.

Ms Riall – previous class teacher of 2E- returned to us from her maternity leave after half term but will sadly be moving out of London, and subsequently our school, in January. Ms Riall has been instrumental in driving improvements in the teaching of maths and is a fantastic class teacher.

I would like to thank both members of staff for their hard work and commitment to our school and pupils and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Next week sees the start of our Christmas performances. For ease, they are listed below:

Christmas Performances

Tuesday 12th December – 9.30am and 2.00pm

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will be performing the Christmas Story at 9.30am and 2.00pm in the large hall.

Thursday 14th December – 9.30am and 2.00pm

Years 2 and 3 will be performing in Lights, Camel, Action at 9.30am and 2.00pm in the large hall.

For both of these events, younger siblings are invited to the morning performance.

The afternoon is a 'quiet' performance, so parents with pre-schoolers are requested **NOT** to attend this performance.

Refreshments will be served in the small hall prior to the beginning of both performances.

Tuesday 19th December – 6.00pm

Years 4, 5 and 6 will be hosting a traditional Carol Concert in St Joan of Arc Church.

The children need to arrive at school at **5.30pm and wait on the playground** for their class teacher. This performance is taking place in the church and children will need to be collected by an adult at the end of the performance at approximately 6.45pm.

We desperately require help at the end of this concert to clear the church and take all of the equipment back to school so that the church is ready for Mass for the week. Any small amount of time given to support us with this will be very much appreciated.

If you are filming any of the above performances using your devices, please be mindful of blocking other parents' vision.

Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Lunch

The school kitchen will be cooking a special Christmas meal for the children to enjoy. Children who have sandwiches may bring a 'special' packed lunch on that day to enable them to be part of the festive spirit.

Wednesday 20th December

Junior visit to the Shaw Theatre to see Jack and the Beanstalk

Junior children will be leaving school at 9.00am and travelling to the Shaw Theatre by tube, so a prompt arrival at school on this day is much appreciated. They are required to bring a packed lunch in a named plastic bag so this can be disposed of at the end of lunch. Normal uniform and collection arrangements apply. The PA has generously funded the cost of the theatre tickets.

Thursday 21st December

St Joan of Arc's School Disco

The School Council have organised a disco to enable all the children to show off their dance moves. Children may come to school in non-uniform on this day. Sensible shoes and coats are a requirement.

Friday 22nd December

School Mass

Our end of term Mass will be led by Class 6M and will take place in SJA church at 9.15am. One of our Year Six children will be presented with the Citizenship Cup at this mass. Who will the lucky recipient be?

School closes at 2pm.

Spring Term

The school will reopen for children on MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2018 at 8.50am.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the above events in the near future, and wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Miss. C. Campbell
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12 th December	9.30am and 2.00pm - Nursery, Reception and Year 1 Nativity
Thursday 14 th December	9.30am and 2.00pm - Year 2 and 3 performance
Tuesday 19 th December	Children's Christmas Lunch Afternoon visit from Father Christmas 6.00pm Junior Christmas Carol Service
Wednesday 20 th December	9.00am Junior Panto Trip – Jack and the Beanstalk at the Shaw Theatre-Packed lunch required
Thursday 21 st December	Non-Uniform Day – School Disco
Friday 22 nd December	9.15am Mass – led by Class 6M 2.00pm School Closes