

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
[www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk](http://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk)

Newsletter Number 2  
[www.st-joanofarcpa.org](http://www.st-joanofarcpa.org)

Dear Parents / Carers,

It seems hard to believe that we have already completed the first seven weeks of the Autumn Term! Our new pupils in the Nursery and Reception are very settled, and are very much part of our school community.

We have had a very busy start to the school year. The children have started their new curriculum topics and most of the curriculum meetings for parents have taken place. If you were unable to attend the meetings led by one of the Senior Teachers, you should have received an e-mail with a summary of the curriculum that your child is being taught (these are also available on the school website). The information slides from the presentations are also available on the website under the Class News/ Parents' Workshops section.

In addition, staff will be starting to run their clubs at lunchtime after the half term break, these include: chess, Mini Vinnies, book, art and science clubs to name a few. We have encouraged all children in the juniors to participate in a club and will try and accommodate their preferences where possible. If your child has not signed up for one, perhaps you could encourage them to do so.

#### Outdoor Book Swap Area

As you are aware, reading is a fundamental building block of education, and inspiring children to read as much as possible is of huge importance here at St Joan of Arc.

In order to promote our love of reading, we would like to set up a book swap area in the outdoor classroom. I'm sure you have seen these locally at tube stations and leisure centres. They are a super way for children to recommend books to their peers – and for you to reduce the number of unwanted books that your children may have grown out of.

We would be very grateful if you could therefore donate any unwanted books (that are in good condition) to the school, so that we can arrange them according to age in the outdoor area for your children to borrow or exchange. I am sure you will agree this is a wonderful opportunity for children to take an active role in promoting their love of reading to their peers.

There will be a book drop waterproof bin near the big tree in the middle of the playground for you to leave your donations in.

### **SJA Cook Book**

The School Council in collaboration with the PA are launching a fundraising Cookbook to coincide with our much celebrated International Evening. We are so lucky to have families from all corners of the globe coming together to share their traditional dishes. We would like to capture this in a cookbook which provides a keepsake, as well as raising vital money for the school. So, if you have a favourite recipe that you are willing to share with our school community (starters, main courses or desserts), we would love to have your contribution in our cookbook.

Using the following website: [www.thecookbookinitiative.com/se](http://www.thecookbookinitiative.com/se) and school access code: **h232751878**, all you need to do is type in your recipe and add a picture and save. The closing date for contributions is the 1<sup>st</sup> November to allow for proof reading and delivery before Christmas. The School Council will be launching this with the children today and they will be bringing home 'Wannabe Chef's hats' with the above information on.

There will be a table at the International Evening on Friday with more information on this as well as a helping hand on uploading recipes etc.

### **St. Joan of Arc Nursery School – Applications for January intake**

In response to the Government's free 30 hours of childcare scheme, the school's nursery is now admitting children from the term after their third birthday. This will mean an intake of children in September, January and April if places are available. The school nursery is currently full but we are still accepting applications for children born between **01.09.15 - 31.12.15**. These children will automatically be placed on our waiting list and as soon as a place becomes available, we will contact you.

Information is available from the school's admissions officer on: 020 7226-3920 or via the school's website.

### **Secondary School Applications**

A reminder that the closing date for applications for Secondary School applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. Applications need to be made via the admissions department in the local authority in which you reside.

### **News:**

#### **Year 5/6 Boys' Football**

On 25th and 28th September, 10 boys from year 5 and 6 represented St Joan of Arc at the Islington Boys' Football Tournament. In true SJA style, the behaviour and sportsmanship of all the boys was fantastic and several teachers from other schools commented on how polite our team was. The boys also managed to continue our school's proud tradition of sporting excellence. Over nine matches the team was able to win every game, scoring 40 goals and remarkably not conceding a single one. Such a strong performance is a rare thing indeed.

The ten boys returned to school on Friday afternoon triumphantly holding the Islington Football Cup which is now proudly resting in the trophy cabinet.

As a school we should be very proud of the skill, determination and sportsmanship that our team showed.

The team members are: From Class M – Roan, Leon, Charlie, Jake, Marco and Ephraim and from Class N: William, Matteo, Edward and Xavier.

A big thank you to Mr Shreeves for training the team and Ms Laszcziw for her assistance.



### Digital Leaders

The SJA Digital Leaders will be involved in lots of exciting projects, campaigns and assemblies to raise the profile and importance of online safety this year, led by Ms Gyles. From over 30 applications, we managed to whittle it down to 10 successful applicants!

2018-19 Digital Leaders are:

5K – Tuvia, Rhylee, Mary. 5L – Bochuan, Cormac, Belthem. 6M – Chinyelu, Scarlett. 6N – Sham, Chloe.

We will be having a special assembly alongside the School Council on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am** to introduce the digital leaders and present their badges. Parents of the children in this role are warmly invited to attend this assembly.

### School Houses

The school houses have seen a great lift in profile over the past year. The weekly and termly house champions scheme has been well supported and received favourably by staff and children. The sports and academic house competitions have continued to demonstrate excellent camaraderie amongst the year groups. It is clear that each child is proud of the house they belong to and understands the significance of them to St Joan of Arc. Thank you to all staff, children and carers for your support.

At the end of last year, house captains (Y6) and vice captains (Y2) were elected and presented with their badges by the outgoing captains.

They will be involved in duties such as points collection, Arc award monitoring and leadership duties during school events. Congratulations to the following elected captains:

BENEDICT	DOMREMY	FLEUR DE LYS	ROUEN
<b>CAPTAINS</b> Alex (N) Beatrice (N)	<b>CAPTAINS</b> Charlie (M) Phoebe (M)	<b>CAPTAINS</b> William (N) Eva (N)	<b>CAPTAINS</b> Grace (N) Evie (N)
<b>VICE CAPTAIN</b> Emily (E)	<b>VICE CAPTAIN</b> Arthur (F)	<b>VICE CAPTAIN</b> Filippo (E)	<b>VICE CAPTAIN</b> Margaux (F)

### Events to come:

#### Parent Workshop - Writing

A reminder that next **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 9am** the school's Literacy Expert, Martin Galway, will be holding a parent workshop offering practical hints and tips to help parents support their children to be clear and confident writers and communicators. The workshop will include an easy to digest summary of the development of writing that is mapped out across the primary years.

#### School Photographer

The children had their photographs taken on Friday. The photograph proofs will be sent home with your child before half term. If you order on line before **30<sup>th</sup> November** there will be no posting and packing charge and your photographs will be delivered to school. For any photographs ordered after 30<sup>th</sup> November there will be a £4.95 posting and packing charge and they will be sent directly to your home address

#### International Evening

The next event organised by the PA is the SJA International Evening on **Friday 12th October from 6.30 to 9.00 pm**. It should be a great evening for the whole family including a disco, raffle, bar (for the adults), soft drinks, sweet stall and glo-sticks and we hope as many of you as possible will come along. The PA would like each family bring a national dish to share (or entry is £5 per family) - starters, mains, salads, sides, puddings or baking- everything is welcome.

### **Parents' Association –AGM**

Another important date for your diaries is the PA Annual General Meeting on **Friday 16th November at 08.50am** in the large hall. As well as reviewing the PA activities over the year, this is the meeting at which the PA committee will be elected and key volunteer roles confirmed so please come along and show your support. Formal notice of the AGM and more information will be sent out shortly. All parents / carers are welcome. There will be a crèche for pre-schoolers available during this time.

We are fortunate to have a very active parental body that are very generous with their time and skills, resulting in large sums of money being raised for the school.

Last year, all school trips (including the theatre trip for KS2 and a visiting theatre company for KS1) were paid (either in full or in part), by the PA. The final payment was made on the outdoor classroom, tube train and nursery playground update which was installed in the summer holidays 2017.

Our current PA members have been supporting the school for many years and would really appreciate new parents coming forward to support in any capacity. Some of these parents now have children in secondary schools and really have done their turn! If you can help to keep this wonderful association going in any capacity, please either attend the AGM meeting or leave your details in the school office and we will pass them on to the relevant person.

### **Parent Assembly**

Parents of the children that have been newly appointed as the School Council, Digital Leaders or Mini Vinnies are invited to attend assembly on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am**.

### **Parents' Evening**

Individual consultations with class teachers will take place on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November from 3.40-6.20pm**.

Appointments can be made using the on-line booking system introduced last year. You will be able to book an appointment from **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October**, a letter with instructions will be sent to you the week before half term.

Children's books will be available for viewing, so it is advisable to arrive about ten minutes before your consultation so that you can have a look at the work your child has been doing this term.

Nursery parent consultations will take place in the Green Room – main school building.

For security reasons, entry and exit for parents' evenings is via the main door on Northolme Road.

**Welcome to SJA Tech Spot – a section of the SJA newsletter to keep you updated with our latest Computing and Online Safety news!**

**We hope that you find this small section informative and useful.**



**EU Code Week**  
**6th-21st October**  
**#codeweek**



“Everybody in this country should learn how to program a computer, because it teaches you how to think.”

— Steve Jobs

Learning to code helps us to make sense of the rapidly changing world around us, expand our understanding of how technology works and develop skills and capabilities to explore new ideas.

Code Week is a great opportunity for children to learn Computer Science skills, taking part in activities both in school and at home. The activities can be done in a self-guided way and pupils can choose from different course levels. The courses are designed to teach students to write computer code.

Pupils can join students from around the EU as they participate using the resources on [www.code.org](http://www.code.org). Additional coding resources can be found when children login to their [LGfl](http://www.lgfl.net) account ([www.lgfl.net](http://www.lgfl.net)) and check out the J2E Tools, enabling them to explore coding.

### **School Half Term Holidays**

The school closes on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 3.25pm** for one week. The Extended School service will be open as normal after school on Friday.

**We have a staff training day on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October and so the school re-opens for pupils on: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 8.50am.**

Yours Sincerely

**Miss. C. Campbell**  
Headteacher

## Enrichment activities at lunchtimes

After half term a range of lunchtime activities will be made available to children across Key Stage 2. While some of these will be restricted to children selected after an application process, others will be offered to the whole of key stage 2. Children will have the chance to sign up for these clubs next week. Where there are more applicants than spaces, places will be rotated across the academic year. Additional clubs may be offered later in the year.

A huge thank you to the members of staff giving up their spare time to provide these opportunities for the children.

Every day	Skipping Club for infants and Juniors	Morning Break- top playground.
Monday	Reading Club- Years 5/6 (CC) Year 4/5/6 Girls' Football Year 2 Art Club – ks1 Create a Comic Book - ks2	Library Astroturf- 1:1:25 Class E 12:30-1:00 Green Room 1:00-1:30
Tuesday	Year 5/6 sports enrichment *(training for teams) Chess - Years ¾	astroturf Green Room 1-1:25
Wednesday	Mini Vinnies (fortnightly)** Year ¾ book club Chess Club- Years 5/6 Year 2 Book Club	Green Room 12:50-1:25 Library
Thursday	Quiz club – Years 4/5/6 Digital Leaders***- 5/6 Science Club- Years 3/4	Green Room: 1:00-1:25
Friday	Senior Choir****- years 5/6- KS2 art club * Astroturf used for a range of sporting teams **Chosen following an application/ interview process ***Digital leaders chosen following an interview process ****Senior choir selected after audition process	Music Room: 1-1:25 Nursery: 1-1:25