



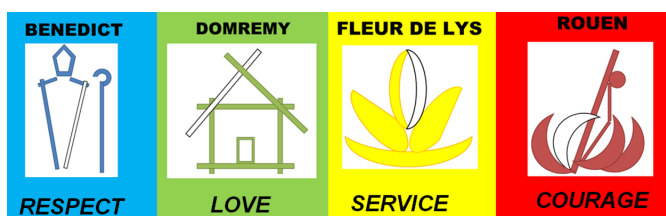
Newsletter No.10

Fri 4th March

Dear parents and carers.

We have had a very busy return since half term and this week was no different.

Our Early Years children were busy making and tasting pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. The smell of their great cooking skills transferred across the school making us all feel hungry for the whole day. This was followed by our Ash Wednesday Mass led by Class J to mark the beginning of Lent. It was lovely to see these children read so confidently at Mass in front of so many people. The children were incredibly well behaved and a credit to their family and school. The excitement in school on Thursday was palpable, with not a child to be seen but instead an influx of book characters. The costumes were amazing and I could see that lots of effort was taken to try and meet our sustainable theme. World Book Day also marked the whole school being able to have assembly together again. Something we have all greatly missed. Paddington had a lump in his throat in assembly and had to eat his marmalade sandwich and have a cup of tea in peace on return to the school office afterwards.



Clare Campbell

Nursery applications – closing date 31st March- to Start in September:

The school's nursery admits children the term after their third birthday. We are currently accepting applications for children to start in September 2022. Places are available for both 15 hour and 30 hour provision. The closing date for applications is 31st March 2022. The nursery is led by a fully qualified teacher and is ably assisted by an Early Years Education worker and Nursery Nurse. Information, application forms and a virtual tour can be accessed via the school's website:

www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk



READATHON



2022 Readathon:

A huge thank you is extended to our local restaurant -Beam

BEAM

Readathon—the details:

In the coming weeks, we will be placing more focus than ever on the wonder of reading and the wonderful benefits reading can deliver to a child's imagination, understanding and well-being. There is nothing more important in a child's educational journey than learning to read; it is the master-skill of education and allows children to be transported to other worlds, to meet larger than life characters and to learn how the world we live in works. As a school, we want to celebrate reading in whatever way we can.

To encourage children's reading participation, we are launching our Spring Term Readathon, which starts on **Thursday 3rd March to Tuesday 19th April.**

We are encouraging all pupils to take part and to choose anything they fancy reading – from comics to classics and audio books to blogs -it's all about reading on their own terms. For younger pupils, it can be reading alongside an adult or retelling the pictures in a bedtime story.

Details of this, along with the sponsor card and book marks, will be posted onto Google Classroom pages. Simply put, the children will be sponsored for their amount of reading; this might be per book/poem/blog or per unit of time spent reading. The readathon will run until 19th April so there is plenty of time to seek sponsors and begin reading. We are incredibly grateful for your continuing support to the school and appreciate any money that can be raised. No amount is too small to sponsor a child for the readathon.

All the children need to do is:

- 1 Choose what they want to read – anything they like- fact, fiction, audio- books, blogs, comics or magazines
- 2 Ask family and friends to sponsor them per book, per page, per ten minutes. It's up to them!
- 3 Collect sponsors on their sponsor card
4. Encourage the sponsors to pay online (link to follow) or place cash collected in an envelope and return to the school office
- 5 Children will be taking home a sponsor card and bookmark on the launch day. Alternatively, sponsor cards can be downloaded via your child's Google Classroom / Tapestry page.
- 6 Staff will be promoting this as part of book week, as well as during their daily English sessions.
- 7 Prizes will be given to one child from each class that has become inspired to read more literature during the readathon. Winners will be announced in the newsletter on Friday 22nd April.

Taking part in the Readathon is a brilliant way for children to get reading, whilst also helping our school's much needed fundraising drive this year. All proceeds go towards updating your child's classroom book corners and books which children read for pleasure.

Thanks again to our sponsors, Beam.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY®**

3 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS









Year 5 and 6 Sports Hall Athletics team:

A couple of weeks ago, a selection of our finest athletes from both year 5 and 6 proudly represented St Joan Of Arc at the Islington Sports hall Athletics competition. Our team consisted of 19 boys and girls being Ben, Elliot, Kobina, Domixia, Anselme, Sam, Linus, George, Toby, Fayi, Nylah, Sophie, Messi, Haitu, Clara, Jackie, Chiara, Emily and Alexandra. In a truly remarkable fashion, The team took first place in almost every single competition, winning every version of the running races, and the majority of the field events! Special highlights included Toby, who threw the javelin so far that they had to readjust the length of the throwing area, Messi who lost a shoe on the first few steps of her race but continued to win and Clara who set a new borough speed bounce record with 52 in 20 seconds! It was an incredibly joyous moment for the whole team and felt extra special as it was the first time in two years that it was possible to participate. Well done, you've made everyone so proud.

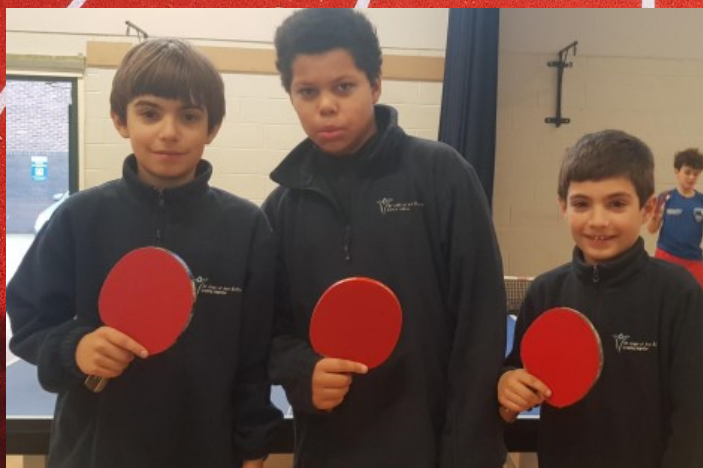


7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

See attachment for more information.

Table tennis success:

Three of our pupils competed last week in the Central London Schools' Table Tennis Competition in west London. Linus H, Gabriel P (Y6) and Joseph P competed 2 years ago and this year, they improved their performances. They won more than half of their matches and almost made it to the knock out stage. We are proud of all our pupils who pursue excellence with their talents. The boys enjoyed their day and were great ambassadors for the school and their families.





Dates for your diary:

Monday 7th March—Parents' Eve. Booking service opens—10am

Tuesday 8th March – Peter Bunzl Author visit and workshops for years 4-6

Dragonfly Tales workshops for Years R to 3

Wednesday 9th March – Tag Rugby Competition – Junior children

Thursday 10th Mar—Y2 Special Assembly

Friday 11th March – Special Assembly for Year 1 – Parents invited @ 9.00am

Thursday 17th March – St Patrick's Day Mass led by 4I – SJA Church @ 9.00am – Parents invited

Friday 18th March – Cake Stall

Tuesday 22nd March – 4I – Visit to Three Discovery Centre

Parents evening – 3.15- 5.45pm

Wednesday 23rd March - Parents evening – 3.15- 5.45pm

Thursday 24th March – 4J – Visit to Three Discovery Centre

Friday 25th March - Special Assembly for Year Nursery and Reception – Parents invited @ 9.00am

Monday 28th – Thursday 31st March – Stations of the Cross for all pupils

Tuesday 29th March - @ 8.30am – PA meeting in the staffroom

Thursday 31st March – Y5 Passion Play

Friday 1st April – End of term Mass led by 3G – SJA Church @ 9.00am – Parents invited

1.30pm – School closes for the Easter holidays

School uniform

As part of our strategy to resume normal practices and standards, we are asking all pupils to wear the correct uniform and to wear it with pride. The uniform promotes unity and allows opportunities to practise discipline and responsibility. This includes footwear. Can you please help the cause by ensuring your child has the correct footwear—plain black/navy shoes of leather appearance, with velcro, buckles or laces. **Trainers are not permitted.** If there are legitimate reasons why your child needs to wear trainers, please inform the school via the reading record or email.

Thank you for your support in the matter.



Egress and ingress procedures:

Thank you so much for following the procedures regarding pick-up and drop-off. The system has really enabled us to furthermore safeguard our children and mitigate any risks of harm and danger. The one way systems and playground clearance allows staff to ensure the safety of the children as well as monitor who is on the school site. Given that safeguarding is paramount, despite restrictions being lifted, we will continue with the current procedure till further notice. Thanks for your understanding.



Parents' Evening Booking:

The online appointment booking service will open on Monday 7th March at 10am in preparation for the parents evening being held on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd March after school. You should have already received an email on how to book your appointment this week. Parent consultations will take place in person in your child's classroom, apart from nursery parents – yours will be in the Green Room in the main school. Please come to the main entrance 5 minutes prior to your appointment.



Easter Raffle:

This year the school's House and Vice Captains will be organising the traditional Easter Raffle. This is the time of the year that the children really look forward to.

We would be very grateful for donations of Easter eggs – the ones that cost approx. £1 in major supermarkets. Please send them in with your child at school drop off time.

We would ask parents of children with specific allergies to provide an egg for their own child with their name / class on and we will ensure they are given that egg on the raffle day.

Ms Doogan will be selling the tickets during the school day (week beginning Monday 28th March) and the maximum purchase is £1 per child. The raffle will take place on the last day of term, Friday 1st April. Money raised goes towards the PA's fundraising initiative.



A Lenten Prayer

Lord, I know how much you love me
It's hard for me to feel it sometimes
but I know your love is always with me
Help me to use your love as a way
to persevere in my Lenten intentions
I am weak, but I know with your help
I can use these small sacrifices in my
life to draw closer to you. Amen

