



Newsletter No. 11

Friday 6th February 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

It's hard to believe that it is halfway through the term and therefore halfway through the academic year.

The children have continued to work hard this term both in class as well as participating in lots of extra curriculum opportunities too.

The Fit for Feb launch has been a roaring success with lots of different sporting activities and visitors descending on SJA. On Monday, three of our pupils, Felice, Vincenzo, Leonardo gave a wonderful demonstration of their Jui jitsu skills during assembly, alongside their coaches. We have also had two ex-pupils come back to talk to the children about being in sport at an elite level. Please see our Fit for Feb round up later in the newsletter. I know lots of children participated in Sunday's Park Run on Highbury fields too so a big thank you to the parents who took their children to this event. Also, a special mention to the PA who have been working so hard behind the scenes to make this month a memorable one for

the children.

A reminder that we have an INSET Day on Friday 13th February so the school will be closed to pupils. Staff are attending training on how to engage children in the writing process, which is becoming a much harder part of the curriculum for children to achieve in.

Please note the change of date for parents evening in March. Both dates are listed in the date section.

Have a lovely half term, with hopefully some rest and recuperation. The school reopens on

Monday 23rd February at 8.15am.

Clare Campbell



Extended School Childcare & Clubs



Extended Schools Booking –

Summer Term 2026

Bookings for childcare and clubs go live on

Sunday 1st March at 8pm.

Please remember if your account is in arrears or you have missed payments from your payment plan, you will be unable to make childcare bookings for the summer term.

Please ensure you book in the correct year group.

Fit For Feb!

As part of our Fit for Feb focus, our students had an incredible Monday morning assembly learning the art of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu! The children learned essential warm-up techniques, discussed the core values of self-defence, and even safely practiced a few moves themselves.

The highlight of the assembly was watching the team demonstrate their skills in live sparring sessions—the energy in the room was electric!

A massive thank you to Luciano Cristovam and his team for sharing their time with us. We also want to extend our gratitude to the parents who helped organise this inspiring event.



As part of our energetic 'Fit for Feb' celebrations, Key Stage 2 was delighted to welcome a team of expert jujutsu instructors to St Joan of Arc Primary School for an action-packed workshop.

Fit For Feb!

The session kicked off with a warm-up, followed by an insightful look into the history and origins of this ancient martial art. The children learned that jujutsu is not just about physical strength but requires extreme self-control, discipline, and focus.

After watching some impressive professional demonstrations, the pupils took to the mats themselves. They had a fantastic time practicing their own moves, focusing on balance and technique. It was a wonderful way to promote physical fitness and mental wellbeing.

Fit for Feb – Netball Challenge

Our staff have kicked off the *Fit for Feb Netball Challenge* with some... ambitious shots 🏀

Fit For Feb!

Children are invited to take part by completing:

5 consecutive netball shots (KS1)

10 consecutive netball shots (KS2)

Successful attempts will earn 150 house points.

You've all seen the staff video in class— have a go and submit your video via Google Classroom.

LUNCH CLUBS

For the last half a year or so we have been lucky enough to have a series of lunchtime clubs at SJA being run by parent volunteers. These have been hugely popular with the children with far more interest than places we are able to offer. The clubs help to enrich our school's curriculum and offer a chance for children to play and learn in an inclusive and supportive environment. So firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who give their time to run one of these brilliant clubs. We are grateful for the time, talents and enthusiasm that they give each week.

Over the last week, I have had a few conversations with children suggesting new clubs that they think would be popular. The children have suggested a knitting/crochet club and a book club – both of which I think would be fantastic ideas. With such an appetite for the clubs, we are looking to expand the lunchtime clubs that we are offering so that more children can take part. We are looking for more enthusiastic and talented parents who would be willing to give up some time to help run a club.



If you think you would be able to help us with either a book club, a knitting/crochet club or another club that you would like to start, we would love to hear from you. The school will be able to help with resourcing and will pay for the necessary DBS background checks that volunteers need once.

If you are keen to help, here are some points to consider.

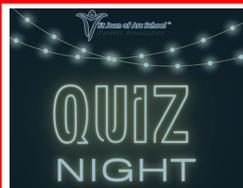
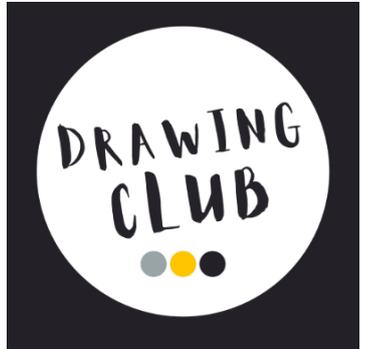
- The clubs will need at least two parent volunteers to run the sessions but we have found in the past that a pool of three works well so that there is spare capacity in the event of absence or work commitments. If you know of other parents who you would like to work with, contacting us as a group can speed things along.

- We would need a commitment of at least one term but ideally more from the volunteers before we could process any DBS check.
- We currently have the following clubs: Drawing Club, Arts and Crafts, Bead Club and Girls' Football
- Our Key Stage One sessions run from 12:00 – 12:30 and our KS2 session run from 12:40 – 1:10.



Once their background check has been completed, lots of our existing parent volunteers also stay and do 1:1 reading sessions with children in the afternoons. This may be something that you are interested in.

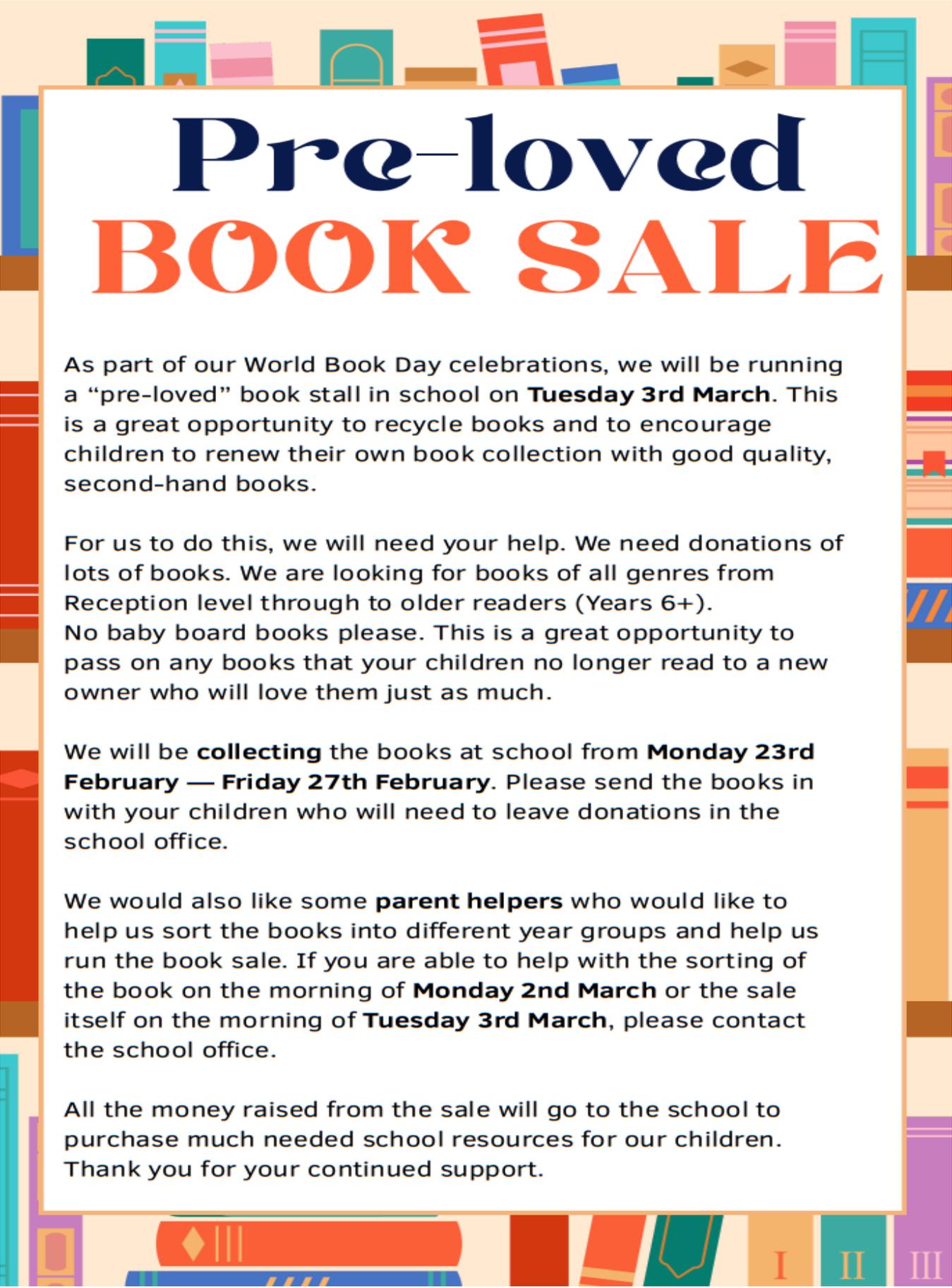
If you would like to get involved, please get in contact with me (Mr Shreeves) via the school's info email: info@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk and we can have a discussion about starting up a club.



Quiz Night Champions!

A huge congratulations to the teachers' table, *The Arc-cademics*, who took first place at the recent quiz night. A brilliant evening of teamwork, laughter, and community spirit. Thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a success.





Pre-loved BOOK SALE

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we will be running a “pre-loved” book stall in school on **Tuesday 3rd March**. This is a great opportunity to recycle books and to encourage children to renew their own book collection with good quality, second-hand books.

For us to do this, we will need your help. We need donations of lots of books. We are looking for books of all genres from Reception level through to older readers (Years 6+).

No baby board books please. This is a great opportunity to pass on any books that your children no longer read to a new owner who will love them just as much.

We will be **collecting** the books at school from **Monday 23rd February — Friday 27th February**. Please send the books in with your children who will need to leave donations in the school office.

We would also like some **parent helpers** who would like to help us sort the books into different year groups and help us run the book sale. If you are able to help with the sorting of the book on the morning of **Monday 2nd March** or the sale itself on the morning of **Tuesday 3rd March**, please contact the school office.

All the money raised from the sale will go to the school to purchase much needed school resources for our children. Thank you for your continued support.



Safer Internet Day 2026 | Tuesday 10 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk



This year's theme, "Smart tech, safe choices," focuses on the safe and responsible use of AI. Our Digital Leaders will open the week on Monday 9th February with a dedicated assembly to introduce the theme and launch exciting classroom activities.

On Tuesday, 10th February, Junior students will participate in a national BBC Live Lesson, focusing on the responsible design of technology and how to maintain a respectful digital presence.

To round off our focus on digital citizenship, Three Discovery will visit on 6th March to lead hands-on Digital Literacy workshops, where pupils will get creative - producing animated adverts and short films to promote safe online habits.

St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School - Summer Term intake

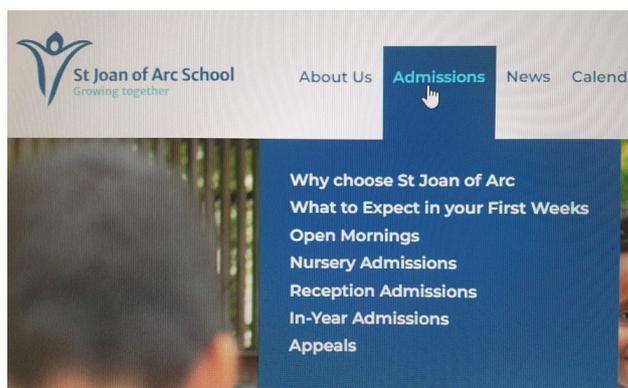
If your child was born between 01.01.23—31.03.23, and you are interested in applying for either a full or part-time place to start in April, please contact the school's admissions officer on 020 7226 3920.

Alternatively, information is outlined in the Nursery Admissions Policy which is on the school's website: [www.st-](http://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk)

[joanofarc.islington.sch.uk](http://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk)

The nursery hours are Monday to Friday 8.15am—3.00pm

With the opportunity to book extended schools from 3.00pm –5.45pm



PARENTS EVENING REMINDER

Bookings open at 10am on Monday 3rd March—

You will receive a text with a link.

Parents Evening - Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March

3.15-5.45pm



PA Update

Quiz Night Highlights

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Quiz Night! Congratulations to the teachers for reclaiming the top spot. A special thank-you to Andrew Poulton, our new quizmaster, to Ian Muetzelfeldt for the brilliant quiz questions, and to Magali Lake for being our one parent volunteer on the night.



Fit For Feb!

Fit for Feb has kicked off with great energy! We were delighted to see how much parents and staff enjoyed the visit from Steel (Zack). This year, we're running a 6 hour skipathon in the week commencing 23rd February instead of our usual readathon. Please encourage friends, family, neighbours—even the family pet!—to sponsor your children. Sponsorship can be completed online or via the paper form sent home.

A big well done to our six poster winners! You can view the winning poster at One Root Café throughout February.

£20.26 Campaign & Gift Aid

Thank you to those who have already returned their Gift Aid forms. There is no deadline, so please keep them coming. Your support for the £20.26 campaign makes a significant difference—it helps us raise essential funds for the school and reduces the pressure to run additional events and ask parents to volunteer. We're also encouraging children to get creative and think of fun ways they can raise



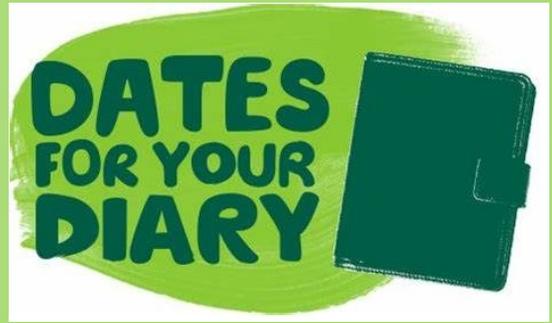
Annual School Online Auction – 24–30 April

Our next major fundraiser will be the annual school online auction, running from 24–30 April. If you have a skill to offer, an experience to share, or a great local contact who might donate an auction lot, please get in touch at auctionsja@gmail.com.

Please do not approach local businesses directly unless you already have a personal connection—we have a team managing those conversations. If you'd like to join the team, we'd love to hear

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 9TH

TUESDAY 10TH SAFER INTERNET DAY
 THURSDAY 12TH - PERFORM WORKSHOP NURS-YR2
 FRIDAY 13TH - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN



WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 16TH

MONDAY 16TH TO FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY—HALF TERM

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 23RD

MARCH

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 2ND MARCH

THURSDAY 5TH - WORLD BOOK DAY
 FRIDAY 6TH - KS1 ROAD SAFETY THEATRE PERFORMANCE

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 9TH MARCH

THURSDAY 12TH - YR 4 TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 16TH MARCH

TUESDAY 17TH 3.15 - 5.45PM PARENTS EVENING
 WEDNESDAY 18TH 3.15 - 5.45PM PARENTS EVENING
 THURSDAY 19TH - 8.30AM UNIFORM STALL
 FRIDAY 20TH - 3PM CAKE STALL

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 23RD MARCH

23RD TO 27TH - RECONCILIATION
 TUESDAY 24TH - 8.30 PARENT SUPPORT NETWORK
 WEDNESDAY 25TH - YEARS 4-6 ORIENTEERING
 THURSDAY 26TH - YEAR 5 EASTER PASSION PERFORMANCE

INSET DAY

FRIDAY 13th FEBRUARY
 School closed. For Staff training



PARENTS EVENING

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March
 3.15-5.45pm



FRI-DAY
 27TH

School Closes For
 Easter Holiday
 1.30pm



School Opens For
 Summer Term
 8.30am

