

# Newsletter No. 13

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023



Dear parents and caregivers.

As we close for the Easter holidays on Friday, I am breaking the newsletter publication tradition and sending this in advance as there are a few items that may be of interest to you.

During the last few weeks it has been lovely to see the children participate in their year group assemblies. This week was Year 5's turn when they performed the Passion Play as a reminder of the importance of the Easter story. I am always amazed at how brilliant the children are at learning their lines in advance and how they have gained in confidence to act, recite and sing in front of an audience. Well done to all of the children; you were amazing. Thank you to Ms Vassallo, Mr Gorge, Ms Astronomo, Ms Rawlings and Mr Owen for their efforts in preparing today's very moving performance.

On the theme of Easter preparation, all of the classes visited St Joan of Arc Church this week and took part in the Stations of the Cross. The children were very reverent and respectful in the Church and so are now fully versed and prepared for Holy week which starts on Sunday.

In other news, after many years of service to hundreds of children, Ms Moriarty is retiring at Easter time. Parents of older children in school will know that she has held many roles in her time with us, from being a class teacher to more recently supporting children in Year One with their reading. We shall miss Ms Moriarty's wise words, experience and enthusiasm but wish her well with her future endeavours.

Thank you for encouraging your child to participate in the school's Readathon competition. It is lovely to see pupils from every class taking part. The Readathon is open until 21st April so children still have the Easter holidays to continue practising their book worm skills.

Whilst the main aim of this initiative is to raise the profile and importance of reading, the funds raised will provide the school with additional money to put towards the cost of the new library and e-learning room (which is currently being installed).

<https://sja.rallyup.com/readathon2023/Campaign/Details>

As of today, £1595 has been pledged. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

On Friday, the school's House Captains will be organising the traditional Easter Raffle. Children can still purchase a raffle ticket tomorrow in advance of Friday's draw. Again, so many of you have donated eggs to ensure each child receives one. We appreciate this act of kindness. Money raised in the raffle goes towards the PA's fundraising initiative.

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

Our last day of term is on Friday and we will be finishing by celebrating our school Mass together, ably led by the pupils in Class 3G at 9am. All parents are welcome.

**We will be closing at 1.30pm for the Easter holidays and reopening on Monday 17th April at 8.15-8.30am.**

Finally, in the spirit of giving, some of our staff members will be participating in the 'Walk the Walk' campaign uniting against breast cancer. Any donations will be gratefully received.

<https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/news/walk-the-walk/>

I wish you all a restful Easter break with hopefully some much needed sunshine. Thank you for all of your support this term.



Check out the following newsfeeds on the school website

Autism Acceptance Week

<https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/news/year-1/autism-acceptance-week-from-27th-march-to-2nd-april-2023/>

Open morning

<https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/news/open-morning/>