

Newsletter No.2

22nd September 2023



Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been lovely to see and speak to lots of you during the last three weeks and particularly nice to get to know the new families to our school. I am pleased to report that the children have been very settled and have adapted quickly to their school routines.

I am hoping that you found last week's parents curriculum meetings with your child's teacher helpful. It is always good to get an insight into what they are doing in the day as I am sure when asked by you at the end of the day what they have been doing, the response is usually 'nothing'!!

All slides shown at these meetings will be posted on either Tapestry or Google Classroom for you to refer to if required.

The weekly homework routine has also started for all year groups and as family life outside of school is very busy, this is now set on a Friday for completion by the following Friday. Hopefully, having the weekend to complete homework, will make your evenings after school

less stressful. Reading books have also been sent out, with children expected to read for at least ten minutes per night for younger children and twenty minutes for our older pupils.

It was lovely to see the parents of children who are the school's Sports Captains or Librarians attend assembly on Monday. Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to attend.

Clare Campbell



October—the month of the Rosary

During October, we remember the prayer of the rosary, the faith of St Dominic who was presented with the rosary and to the virgin Mary who is mother to all.



Pupil Photographs:

The photographer will be returning to duty on Wednesday 11th October to take individual photos and those with siblings (who attend our school). Please ensure your child is in full uniform. If it is your child's PE day, please send their kit in a bag and they will get changed in school on this occasion.



Meeting your child's teacher in person

Parents evening will take place in your child's classroom on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th October from 3.15 to 5.45pm (appointment slots are 10 minutes per child). Entry to the school is via the main entrance on Northolme Road. The focus of these meetings is to meet your child's teacher in person, to find out how they have settled into their new class and be made aware of what area of the curriculum they need to focus on.

Appointments can be made from Monday 2nd October at 10am. Look out for a separate email from the office with details of how to book.



Welcome to SJA - EYFS - Coffee mornings

Friday 29th September 8.30-9.30am

Parents of Nursery and Reception pupils are warmly invited to an informal 'come and meet' other parents in the Large Hall. Pre-schoolers obviously very welcome too!

For other year groups (including EYFS)

The termly Coffee morning will be on Friday 20th October from 8.30-9.30am in the Large Hall.



School uniform

Thank you very much for your part in ensuring that your child is wearing the correct uniform, including shoes. A reminder that school shoes need to be worn with uniform and trainers are for PE days only and correct school shoes should be free of sports labels/branding and should be able to be polished. <https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/1Uniform-Policy.pdf>



RECYCLED UNIFORM STALL



A big thank you to parents who have volunteered to run this initiative this year. This is a big voluntary role that requires more helpers. If you can spare a small amount of time to support with this well used facility, please email the school office, putting 'help with uniform stall' in the subject.

The next stall is on Friday 6th October at 8.30am outside the school office entrance.

There is a lot of uniform and coats in stock across all ages so if your child is not wearing the correct uniform there is now no excuse!

LABELS



Our lost property cupboard is already full with items that have not been named from the beginning of this term. Mr Fuiava has reminded the children during assembly about taking responsibility for their belongings and the importance of labelling items. I know as a parent there is nothing more infuriating at pick up time to be minus a jumper or even worse a coat but name labels were a fantastic invention and help to reduce rising blood pressure levels of all adults involved (including mine)!



Climate Change for Kids Project

St Joan of Arc school are very excited to be working on a yearlong sustainability project with The Garden Classroom. Climate Change for Kids is an initiative set up to help the children explore ways in which they can think globally, act locally and get involved in making a change to their local environment. There are a number of schools in the local area who are participating and there will be opportunities to collaborate with the schools and share ideas. The children will attend a termly trip to deepen their understanding and will end the project in the summer term with a Climate Change Week at school. The teachers and the children are very excited about this project. Remember to check out your child's class page, on the school website, to see pictures of our upcoming trips at Clissold Park.

Dates for your diary:

We are in the process of updating the school diary on our website. In the meantime, below are the most important dates for your diary.

September

25:09 8.30am PA meeting in the staffroom – New parents very welcome.

29:09 8.30-9.30am Coffee morning for Nursery and Reception parents.

October

02:10 10am Booking opens for parents evening appointments – You will receive details separately.

All week Years 1-6 participating in Garden Classroom project – Clissold Park.

06:10 8.30am Recycled uniform stall and 3pm Cake stall – led by Year 6 parents

10:10 Judaism workshop for years 1-6

11:10 School photograph day

13:10 8.30am PA meeting in the staffroom

6.30pm PA International Evening

18:10 Astronomy Roadshow years 1-6

3.15-5.45pm Parents evening

19:10 3.15-5.45pm Parents evening

20:10 8.30-9.30am Parent coffee morning in Large Hall

23-27:10 HALF TERM

November

01:11 9am school Mass All Saints Day led by class 6N

09:11 Flu Vaccination—Reception—Year 6

13-17:11 Anti-bullying week

17:11 8.45am PA Annual General Meeting All parents welcome

December

01:12 PA Christmas Fare

08:12 8.30am PA Meeting in the staffroom

8.30am Recycled uniform stall and Cake stall—led by Year 5 parents

14:12 9.30am and 2pm Nursery/Reception/Years 1 and 2 Christmas Concert in Large Hall

15:12 pm Infant and Junior Christmas Panto

20:12 2pm Year 3-6 Christmas Carol Service SJA Church

21:12 9am End of term Mass led by class 5L

1.30pm School closes – Afterschool Club closed