



Newsletter No.3

Fri 22nd October

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have made it to half term and we are all looking forward to a week's break from the school routine. We have packed a lot into our first eight weeks of the new year and as always, the children have been amazing. It was wonderful to see lots of you in person at the International Evening which was so well organised by the PA. Thank you for the contributions of food and for giving so freely of your time to help set up and clear away at the end of the night.

Parents evening last week were a huge success too. I know for parents of infant children, this was the first time that you have actually been able to see what the school was like from inside. The teachers all commented on how valuable it was to meet you in person too. I am hoping that you all left the evening feeling more informed of how your child is getting on at school.

I know lots of you were involved in supporting St Joan of Arc Church in celebrating their anniversary on Sunday. I enjoyed being part of the congregation and meeting some of you, as well as ex pupils (although I am starting to feel my age as some now have children of their own)! Fr Gerard came in on Monday to speak to the children about the anniversary to ensure that they were all involved in this momentous occasion.

Year 6 led our first parent assembly yesterday, which was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

I have advertised at the end of this newsletter the assemblies and school Masses that will be happening before Christmas, to which you are warmly invited.

I hope you manage to get some respite over the half term and look forward to seeing you when the school reopens on Monday 1st November.

Kind regards,

Clare Campbell

Goodbye to Mrs Rawlings:

We said a temporary goodbye to Mrs Rawlings in assembly today as she starts her maternity leave at the end of half term. We will miss her wonderful teaching as well as her passion for music but hope she manages a few weeks of rest before her new arrival.





Parent Governor Vacancies:

Unfortunately, we didn't receive any nominations for the two current Parent Governor vacancies on our Governing Body. I fully understand your reservations regarding applying at this time of uncertainty, whereby everyone feels time deprived but, it is essential that we fill these positions.

In summary, the Governing Body is responsible for both the conduct of the School and for promoting high standards.

In terms of meetings and time commitment – we have one full Governing Body meeting per term for all members to attend and this generally lasts about two hours. Governors are also allocated a committee, which again meets once a term for approximately an hour and a half – although there may be some research and reading to do in preparation for this. These meetings are currently being held remotely but we are working towards more face to face meetings later in the year.

All new governors receive training and are appointed a mentor to support them in their role.

The only requirements are that you have an interest in the School and in the welfare of the pupils as well as the time and willingness to become involved.

As I stated in the last newsletter, ideally, we would like to create a Governing Body which better reflects the diverse nature of our school community; achieving a more representative gender and cultural mix within our Governing Body. However, all applications will be very gratefully received.

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at the School, please email the school office on info@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk and I will arrange for a Governor to contact you. By making contact, you are not making a commitment, I promise!



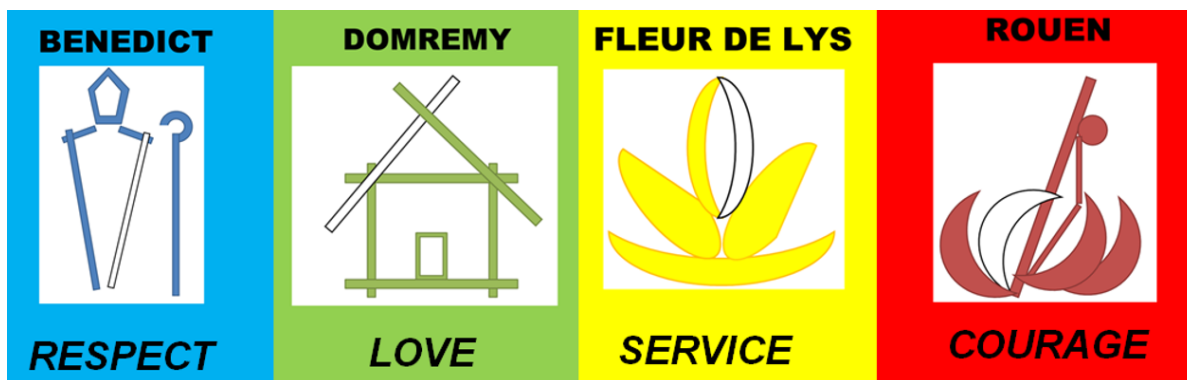
Nursery Parents Evening:

This will take place in the main school (Green Room) on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th November.

Parents will receive a booking invite via email on Monday 1st November.

Netiquette:

Please ensure to remind your children about appropriate conduct on the social media platforms they partake in. E safety is paramount and a vigilant eye can ensure our children are safe online.



Benedict:

Captain - Frankie

Deputy - Anja

Domremy:

Captain - Chiara

Deputy - Gab P

Fluer-de-Lys:

Captain - Mia S

Deputy - Joel

Rouen:

Captain - Elliot

Deputy - Jackie

The captains will be rewarded their badges at the assembly on Monday 8th November



Lunchtime Staff Vacancy – Monday to Friday: 11.50am-1.20pm – term time only

We have a vacancy for an assistant to support the children in the dining hall and with their play on the playground during lunchtime. The vacancy is for one and a half hours per day, term time only.

Hourly rate of pay is £13.88. If you are interested in applying please email the office on

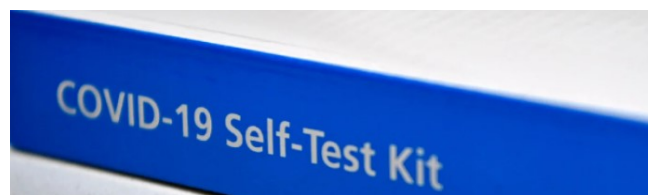
info@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk to request an application pack.

LFT testing—half term:

As an extra measure to protect our local school communities we are advising all primary school pupils to do two LFD tests, 3-5 days apart, with the second one the night before returning to school after the break. This measure has been shown to be highly effective at reducing the spread of the virus in secondary schools and by taking this important one-off action now at half-term we can help to keep the number of cases low in our primary schools.

All tests are free and can be accessed in the following ways:

- Pick up free rapid test kits from a local pharmacy. Find your nearest one at <https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/coronavirus-covid-19/how-to-book-a-test>
- Order free rapid test kits to be delivered to your home within 24 hours at [gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests](https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/coronavirus-covid-19/how-to-book-a-test) (Please note on local public health advice these kits can be ordered for testing in under 11s)
- Get a free rapid test in person by visiting a local test site. Find your nearest one at <https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/coronavirus-covid-19/how-to-stay-safe-and-healthy/stop-the-spread-of-the-virus-and-save-lives/how-to-book-a-test>





Assemblies/ School Masses after half term:

Tuesday 2nd November – All Souls Day – Led by 6M @9.00am

Thursday 11th November - Year 5 Special Assembly @9.00am

Thursday 25th November - Year 4 Special Assembly @9.00am

Friday 17th December – Christmas Mass – Led by Class 5L @9.00am

Parents are warmly invited to attend.



Parents' Association –AGM:

Another important date for your diaries is the PA Annual General Meeting on Friday 12th November at 9am in the small 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.

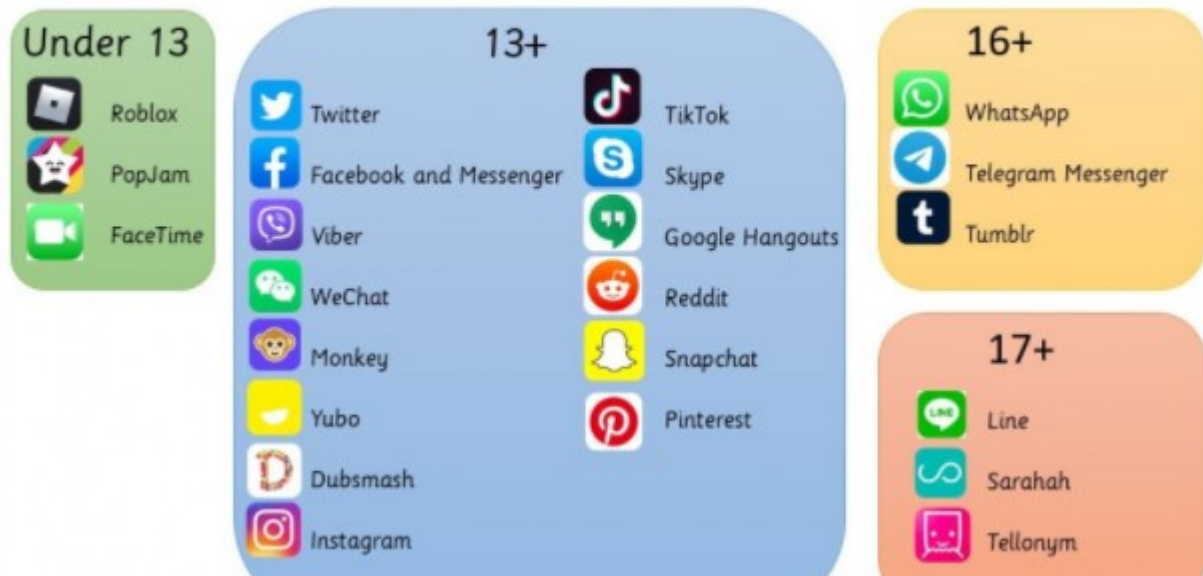
We are fortunate to have a very active parental body that are very generous with their time and skills, resulting in large sums of money being raised for the school.

Last year we invested in £30,000 of reading books and on-line reading support materials, which every pupil in the school benefitted from. This money was raised through the PA fundraising initiatives, for which we are very grateful.

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.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?



Netiquette:

Please ensure to remind your children about appropriate conduct on the social media platforms they partake in. E safety is paramount and a vigilant eye can ensure our children are safe online.

Helpful information to consolidate e-safety can be found here:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/stay-safe/





I'M SUPPORTING
WEAR
RED SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD
DAY 20



I'M SUPPORTING

WEAR RED DAY20

SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD

Show Racism the Red Card:

Today all children had the opportunity to show their support of the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign by wearing red to school and donating £1. The children participated in sporting activities where they learnt team-work, the importance of respect, resilience and sportsmanship. Alongside these activities, each year group focused on an important black historical figure. The children researched and produced work based on what they learnt and this work will be displayed around the school to celebrate the important contributions these people made.

