



Newsletter No.4

Fri 12th November

Dear Parents & Carers,

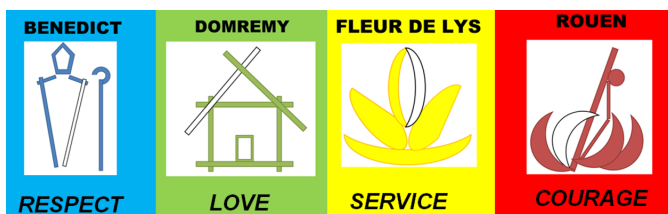
I hope you all had a nice half term and were able to recharge your batteries! We have had a calm and purposeful start to the second half of the autumn term, with assemblies focusing on awarding school house captains their badges and Year 5's special assembly. Over the next few weeks, children in the school's Eco Team and Digital Leaders will also have their special assemblies.

It is wonderful to have the children back working in cross year group teams and wanting to represent their peers on making a difference to our school.

The children are not the only ones who have been busy making a difference, so have you, our wonderful parents. More about your efforts later.

Kind regards,

Clare Campbell



Congratulations to Ms Newman

Ms Newman has become a mum and has a new son, called Beau. Both are home and doing very well.



Parent Governor Vacancies

We have now had a number of parents express an interest in becoming a governor at our school. This is great news (and a relief). You will receive a separate e-mail next week regarding the Parent Governor Election process.



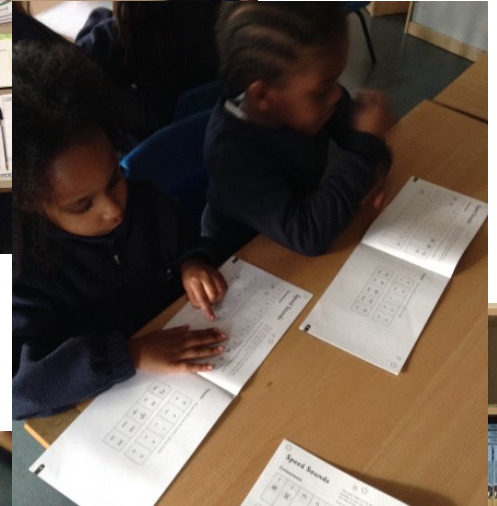
The PA AGM

It was a privilege to attend the annual general meeting of the Parents Association today and hear that they had raised just over **£65,000** even though we were not able to have any face to face events. A huge well done to all the parents for a sterling year's work. This surpasses any expectation from the school and is so much appreciated.

As we communicated last year, a large proportion of the money went on new individual reading books and class sets of books. These are for use both in school and for home readers. We also used this money to invest in Oxford Owl – a reading platform that is again used for phonics and reading both in school and at home. Infant parents will be receiving a reading newsletter from their child's teacher next week with information on the new phonic decodable texts that they are now taking home, how this links to phonics they are learning in class and ideas of how you can support with this at home. There is also a training video on:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/> which covers the phonic pronunciation which the children are being taught, should you have the time and desire to update your own phonic knowledge.

As you can see, without this fundraising, we would not have been able to make such a large investment in reading resources. A few years ago, PA money was used to buy luxuries; now it is being used for essential items which directly support children's learning. We are so grateful to you as a parental body for your very generous donations last year and to the parents who gave up their time to be part of the PA who made this all happen.



Welcome to Mr Owen, our new Music Teacher

As the PA raised more money than expected last year, we have used some of the additional funds to recruit an experienced music teacher. This is not normally something that primary schools can afford so, we are delighted that throughout the year, every child will have an opportunity to have music lessons taught by Mr Owen on a Friday. He will be teaching all of the classes on a rota basis, as well as leading school singing sessions and reigniting the school choirs.

As part of the music provision, Year 2 will be learning the recorder and Year 6, the ukulele.



Reading Presents and Recommendations

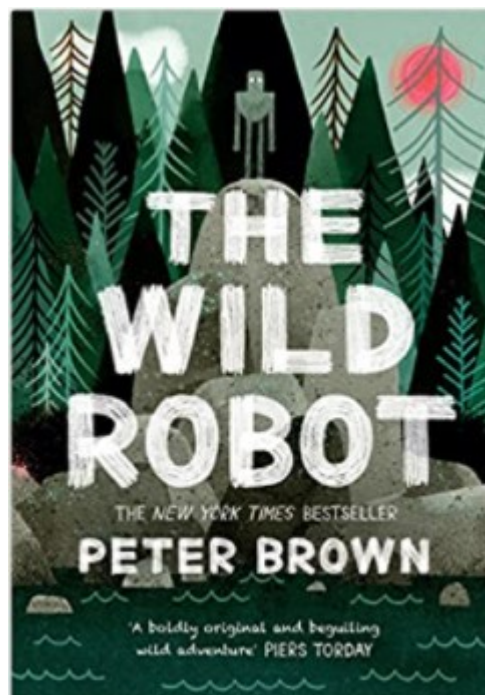
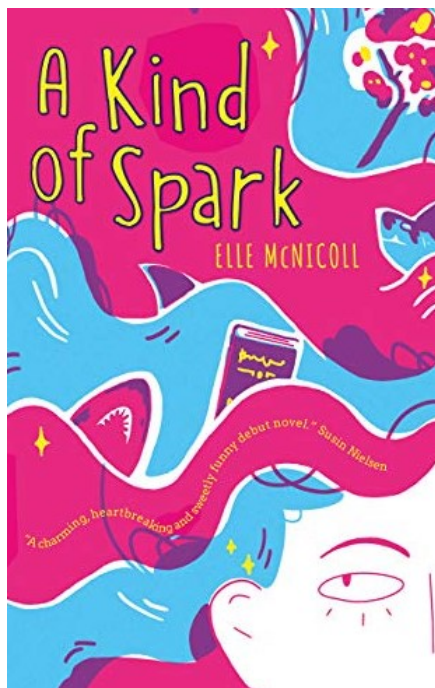
As we approach the festive season, many people will be thinking about gifts and what better gift is there to receive than a great book? If you are looking to buy a book for a child and need a recommendation, the following websites can be a really useful reference for age-appropriate books. Supermarket book selections tend to be dominated by a very narrow range of children's authors so do consider exploring the following websites if you would like the child you have in mind to expand their reading choices:

[The reader teacher](#) offers an incredible variety of recommendations. On the website you will find a top 100 reads recommendation section for each primary age year group, all of which contain a variety of poetry, fiction and non-fiction books; including a mix of classics and works by newer authors. The website also includes a book match section that offers alternative suggestions if your child loves a particular author or genre. If you are looking for seasonal reads for your child, there is also a Christmas section devoted to recommending Christmas related books.

[The Book Trust's book finder](#) is a brilliant online tool which allows you to look for books for particular ages and then refine the selection by theme or genre. It is really easy to use and a goldmine of high- quality children's literature. The website also has further resources designed to help you enjoy reading together as a family.

[A New Chapter](#) is a book seller specialising in offering books that celebrate diversity and inclusion in all of its forms. Like the other websites they offer a filter which allows you to select books recommended for specific primary year groups. If your child sometimes struggles to enjoy reading, you may consider using the filter to explore books published by [Barrington Stoke](#); a publisher focused on super readable dyslexia friendly books. There is also a filter to find high- quality graphic novels which are often a sure-fire winner to hook young readers.

Please remember that all of these lists are subjective and the ultimate aim for all primary age readers is for them to enjoy reading as they start their journey as life-long readers. These websites are not reading lists that every child needs to complete but a source for inspiration and recommendations so that children have every opportunity to find books that they engage with and enjoy.





EXTENDED SCHOOL

Information about making bookings for spring term places for Extended Schools will be sent out next week.

This will include information about when the booking system will go live, activities you will be able to book, how you can make bookings and where you can find support when making bookings.

It has been wonderful being able to welcome so many children to the Extended Schools provision this term and we look forward to working alongside your children again in the spring term.

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. 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. **Black 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.





Anti-Bullying Week 2021

Anti-Bullying Week 2021 is happening from Monday 15th – Friday 19th November and has the theme ‘One Kind Word’. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children’s charity the National Children’s Bureau. They have worked with over 300 children and young people to decide the theme for this year.

Across next week, the children will be learning about the positive things that we can do to halt hurtful behaviour in its tracks. In order to launch this special week, we are asking that all children come to school on Monday 15th November wearing odd socks- these can be as outlandish as they wish them to be.

Across the week the children will participate in a live anti-bullying lesson hosted by BBC bitesize on Monday at 11:00 am, join in a whole school assembly for years 1-6 on Tuesday morning and complete a further anti-bullying lesson in class later in the week.

If you would like to learn more about the anti -bullying programme, you can do so by clicking on this link <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2021-one-kind-word>

THE ONE KIND WORD CALL TO ACTION

**Ask if someone’s OK. Say you’re sorry.
Just say hey.**

In a world that can sometimes feel like it’s filled with negativity, one kind word can provide a moment of hope. It can be a turning point. It can change someone’s perspective. It can change their day. It can change the course of a conversation and break the cycle of bullying.

Best of all, one kind word leads to another. Kindness fuels kindness. So from the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, together, our actions can fire a chain reaction that powers positivity. It starts with one kind word. It starts today.

**ONE
KIND
WORD**

Football news

Year 6 boys

Just prior to half term, our boys from year 6 proudly represented St Joan Of Arc at the Islington Boys Football tournament. Our team consisted of Sam, Linus, Elliot, Liam, Shae, Toby, Joel, and Nayel. The boys grew throughout the qualifying day, getting better and better as the morning progressed. Qualifying for the finals day, three days later, the team trained hard every day – identifying what we needed to work on. The finals day was a huge step up in quality and they did extremely well to compete, narrowly going out in the group stage on goal difference. The boys did everyone proud, and even beat the eventual winners suggesting there'd of been even more to come! Very well done to all.

Year 5/6 Girls

This past week, the year 5 and 6 girls, like the boys, continued the SJA tradition of always getting to the finals. Our team; Otilie, Emily M, Emily H, Mia M, Queenie, Nylah, Jacqueline, Chiara and Bella stormed the group stage winning all four games. The girls scored 14 goals and remarkably didn't even allow one shot on our goal. The girls, once more, trained every day until the finals and it showed. Their ability to take on instruction and tactical insight was inspiring. With quality high all around, the team established themselves as the most attacking and adventurous there, progressing out of thier group and into the semi-finals. In a tense and hard-fought affair, the game ended in a 0-0 stalemate having to be decided on penalties. In the cruellest and narrowest of margins the girls were eliminated by the winners of the final. The girls ended up third in the entire borough, and to say they've done us proud is an understatement!

Having a pre Christmas clear out?

If you are about to tidy out your cupboards and find items that you no longer need please would you consider donating them to the Saint Vincent de Paul Shop on Holloway Road?

They accept the following (clean and in good condition) All clothing and accessories Books CDs and DVDs Household items and bric a brac

The shop is at

550 Holloway Road,

N7 6JP

They would be delighted to receive your donations.





Assemblies/ School Masses after half term

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

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



Christmas Performance dates and times

Phase 1 (Rec and Y1)

Tuesday 7th December

Large hall

9.15 for Reception caregivers and 2pm for Y1 caregivers

Phase 2 (Y2 and Y3)

Friday 10th December

Large hall

9.15 for Y2 caregivers and 1.45 for Y3 caregivers

Phase 3 (Y4, Y5 and Y6)

Tuesday 14th December

St Joan of Arc Church

6pm for all caregivers and families.



December 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Last day of term

Friday 17th December

The school closes at 1.30pm

Friday 17th Dec 2021

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

14 NOVEMBER 2021



Year 6 have written cinquains about the war. As Remembrance Sunday approaches, we remember the sacrifices that were made for our freedoms.

