



Newsletter No.5

Fri 26th November

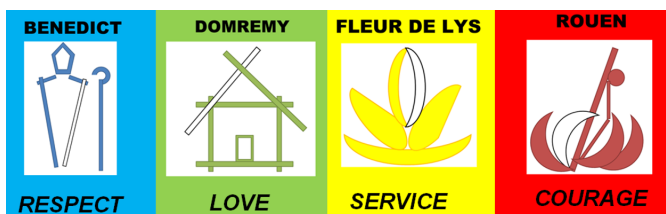
Dear Parents & Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are now preparing for Advent, with the first candle on the Advent wreath being lit at Mass this Sunday. The first candle symbolises Hope with the 'Prophet's Candle' reminding us that Jesus is coming. The children will be focusing on Advent and its meaning during their RE and class prayer time over the coming weeks.

We are all looking forward to celebrating this special time with the children and their families over the coming weeks.

Kind regards

Clare Campbell



Parent Governor Elections:

Thank you very much to the six parents who put themselves forward to fill the Parent Governor vacancies on the Governing Body. Lindsay Christie (parent of pupils in year 2 and R) and Vanesa Pardo (parent of pupil in Year 2) were duly elected yesterday and will start in their new roles in January.

**BALLOT
BOX**





Football success:

On Wednesday, a group of children from years three and five represented St Joan of Arc in a local football competition. All children worked extremely hard to get on the team and did not disappoint on the day! The group stages consisted of playing 8 short games; of which year five won a majority but narrowly missed out on the final, finishing joint third. Congratulations to Anselme, Jack S, Luke, Ted, Thomas H, Kyrie, Ottilie, Emily M, Bella and Emily H.

Year 3 won all their group stages, bar one, meaning they flew through to the final. And with great pride, I can announce that they beat their opponents and were announced the champions! They added a new trophy to our cabinet and were awarded an individual medal each. Congratulations to Olive, Hosanna, Nyla- Rae, Oliver, David, Orlando, Ify, Tom, Ethan and Patrick.

Both teams displayed excellent sportsmanship, resilience and teamwork, as well as showing great support to each other. Very well done to all!





New arrival:

Another SJA staff baby has arrived safely. Mrs Rawlings had a baby girl, named Florence last week and both are home and doing well. Congratulations from all at SJA.

Retirement:

After 33 years of loyal service, Mrs Ramsey, one of our lunchtime supervisors is retiring.

On behalf of all of the children both past and present, I would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication at SJA. I wish Mrs Ramsey a long and happy retirement filled with love, prosperity and joy.



Reception Class applications September 2022:

If you have a child who was born between 01.09.17 and 31.08.18, you can now apply for a place for your child to start in Reception. The closing date is 15th January. Let your friends and relatives know that our final open morning is taking place on Tuesday 7th December at 9am. To book a place phone or email the school office.



Cake sale:

Thank you for your contributions to this fundraising event. The next sale will be held on **Friday 10th December**. Just a reminder to please ensure the cakes are nut-free and if your child has specific dietary requirements, to please supply a separate cake labelled for them. Thank you for your consideration.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

SVP at St Joan of Arc:

As we approach the Christmas season the St Joan of Arc SVP ask for your help and support.

Many of you will recall previous Christmas appeals to which you responded with donations of toys, seasonal foods, Christmas decorations and gift items.

The true spirit of Christmas sprang to life in our community and your generous donations were then put together to create hampers for the many families and individuals that we visit throughout the year.

The ongoing COVID crisis makes continuing such collections very difficult so this year we are doing things differently and asking you to contribute to our Just Giving appeal.

With your help we can buy and share the extra items which help to make Christmas special-decorations, gifts, seasonal foods and treats.

Whatever you are able to give will be greatly appreciated and will help us to provide continuing support to our community.

Thank you. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/becky-mackinney3>

A plea:

This week we have had a number of children in school who clearly were unwell when they left home in the morning. School on Monday morning was more akin to a doctor's surgery than a place of learning! I know it is a hard-juggling act being a parent but it is equally difficult for us trying to manage children in school when they are ill. We are doing our very best to keep classes open and so for the final three weeks of school please refrain from sending unwell children to school. A reminder that if your child has been vomiting, they need to stay away from school for 48 hours.



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		

Friday 17th Dec 2021

Last day of term

Friday 17th December

The school closes at 1.30pm

COVID-19 UPDATE

Covid cases rising in primary schools:

The data, up to 14 November, shows the category of children aged 5-9 has overtaken older, secondary school aged children for the first time.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) report shows 723 cases recorded per 100,000 among children aged five to nine. Based on this information, we as a school have decided to implement extra mitigations from **Mon 29/11**

- Windows and doors in classrooms, school buildings and halls will continue to be open to ensure good ventilation
- Hand sanitising on entry to the classroom each morning, after play, before and after lunch will be re-introduced
- Please do not send in unwell and symptomatic children into school
- Caregivers visiting the school site indoors are asked to wear face coverings
- Please make use of Lateral Flow testing frequently



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.





Assemblies/ School Masses after half term

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.



Please note that audience attendance at these performances could be cancelled depending on up-to-date covid rates and statistics.

Thanks for your understanding.

A PRAYER FOR THE First Sunday of Advent

God of light and life,
give us hope as we wait
for your coming again.
When we are tempted
to be grateful to have found you
while others are lost,
send us out into the darkness
in search of those
who need you most.
Amen.

