

Newsletter No. 9

Friday 20th January 2023



St Joan of Arc School
Growing together

Dear Parents & Carers,

We had a visit in assembly this week from Helen O'Shea who leads the Saint Vincent De Paul Society at St Joan of Arc Church. She came to say a big thank you to the children for their contributions to the appeal at Christmas time. Donations were delivered to fifty families in the community and were very much appreciated by all of them. It is always nice for children to have a personal thank you too.

Helen also spoke to the children about the work the SVP does in our community and how Mini Vinnies in schools can help. Ms Williams is in the process of forming a Mini Vinnies group in school – more details of how your child can apply are on Google Classroom.

Have a lovely weekend with your family and keep warm!

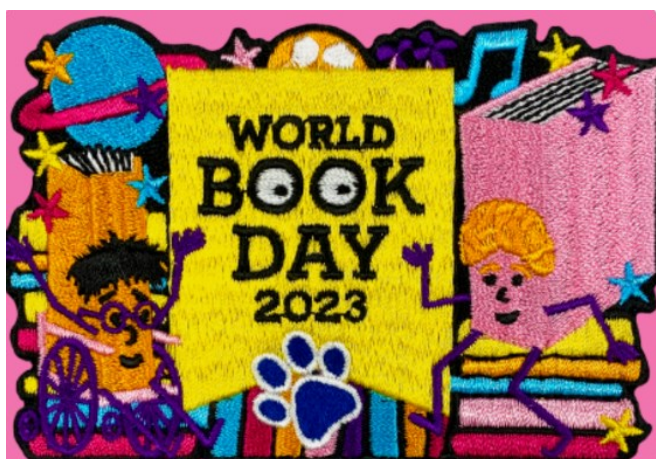


Book Week 27th February– 3rd March

We are delighted to announce that the school will be holding a book week commencing on Monday 27th February to celebrate the joy and importance of reading. The children will be participating in a number of reading activities during the week both in their class and as a year group. At 2.30 pm each day, the children will be able to choose to listen to a story read by another adult in a different classroom.

Advanced notice—**World Book Day is on Thursday 2nd March** and this year we would like children to come dressed up as a character from their favourite story book.

In line with the school's drive to be more sustainable, The Green Team will be asking pupils to think about using current clothing items as a costume instead of buying one-off dressing up costumes. There are lots of characters that children can come as by wearing their casual clothes, e.g. Harry and the Dinosaurs, Laura's Star etc. The Green Team will be leading an assembly on this prior to half term, to give children some ideas of how creative they can be.



Safer Internet Day 2023 | Tuesday 7 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

Online Safety Week - Starting Monday 6th February

Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the 7th of February, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

The Digital Leaders will lead an assembly to explore the theme and launch the class-based activities. This week will be linked to Mental Health Awareness Week, as we promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology. At home, talking to your child about their life online and encouraging them to share their experiences with you, is a key part of helping to safeguard your family. Look out for further resources during this special week.

St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School – Summer Term intake:

If your child was born between 01.01.20 - 31.03.20, and you are interested in applying for either a full or part time place to start in April, please contact the school's admissions officer on: 020 7226-3920.

Alternatively, information is outlined in the Nursery Admissions Policy which is on the school's website:

www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

The nursery is led by a fully qualified class teacher, early years practitioner and nursery nurse.

The nursery hours are: Monday to Friday from 8.15 -3.00pm.





Reading in a strange place

After the success of last year's competition, we are again opening up the chance to win a book voucher for a photograph of your child reading in a strange place! Last year we had pictures of children reading in their garden shed, on the tube and London Bridge to name but a few.

Entries to be submitted to info@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk by Friday 3rd March @3pm. More information about other events happening during this week, will be published in the next newsletter

Children having packed lunches

For those children who bring a packed lunch to school, we would like to remind parents that in order to encourage healthy eating, sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted in packed lunches. Children's packed lunches should be nutritionally balanced, providing the required sustenance for the afternoon's learning. Please remember that as some children have nut allergies, we ask that packed lunches are free from nuts.

All children are encouraged to bring a named bottle of water to school, which they can have during class time.



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

To celebrate children's mental health week we have organised lots exciting activities on this year's theme - Let's Connect. The aim of the week is to encourage children (and the staff) to look at how we make meaningful connections. There will be opportunities for children to discuss their mental well-being, the importance of a healthy diet & frequent exercise and celebrate safer internet day. There will also be lunchtime activities that will be available on a

first come, first served basis within different year groups. The children will receive more information on this in their classes.



Children's Mental Health Week

To celebrate children's mental health week we have organised lots of exciting activities on this year's theme - Let's Connect. The aim of the week is to encourage children (and the staff) to look at how we make meaningful connections. There will be opportunities for children to discuss their mental well-being, the importance of a healthy diet & frequent exercise and celebrate safer internet day. Please see specific dates below. There will also be lunchtime activities that will be available on a first come, first served basis within different year groups. The children will receive more information on this in their classes.

Tuesday: Dress to Impress

We are asking the children and staff to dress up in a clothing that represents something they do for their well-being.

Examples: Sport clothing or P.E kit for exercise, a character from a book or an apron if they bake.

We would like to express there is no expectation to buy something new for this day.



We are also asking that the children bring in a £1 contribution to Mrs Farrell's fundraising for Mind. She is running the London Marathon 2023 for the charity which relies entirely on donations. Many of the vital resources and training staff access for a mentally healthy school is provided by Mind.

For more information you can visit: [Just Giving Page](#)

Safer Internet Day assembly led by the digital leaders. The theme this year is 'Want to talk about it?'. Follow up activities will take place in the classroom.



Wednesday-

The children will be given the opportunity to connect with children in different year groups and teaching staff to create artwork for a whole school display and share reading in our new reading corners.



Do you have any expertise in any of the areas mentioned that you feel you could share with the school? Please contact Mrs Farrell or Miss Kelly via the school office.

Friday- Classes will be showing 'The Boy: The Fox, The Mole and The Horse.' A story of kindness, friendship, courage and hope for viewers of all ages in a heart warming, hand-drawn animated 30 minute film based on the children's book by Charlie Mackesy.



March 2023

Week	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9			1	2	3	4	5
10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
12	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
13	27	28	29	30	31		

Additional date for diaries

Parents Evening - Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd March
3.15-5.45pm



We are having a competition to design a new poster for this year's readathon! The winning design will be displayed all around the school, on the school's new website and on the cover of the readathon booklets.

The winner will also receive a book token to spend at Ink84 on any book they choose.

Your poster must:

- Be completed on the poster competition template. You can either take a paper copy or do it on Google Classroom using a Google docs or Adobe Spark (Year 5 and 6).
- Be portrait and fill the space provided
- Be bright and eye-catching
- Include the words "readathon" and "St Joan of Arc School"

All entries must be in by Monday 23rd January.