



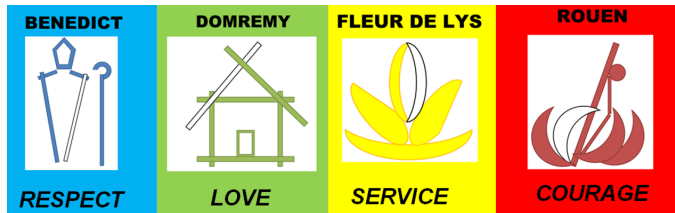
Newsletter No. 8

Fri 27th January

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support this term during what has been a trying time for all. For those families who are isolating, I wish you all a speedy recovery.

Pupil numbers in classes continue to fluctuate daily but hopefully by half term we will be back to most children (and staff) being in school again and will provide us with the normality which we are all craving.



Clare Campbell

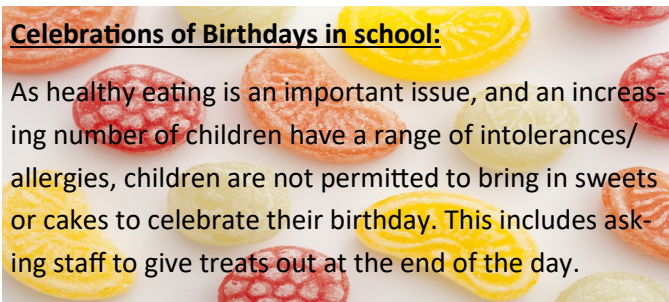
Punctuality:


Most children are coming in by 8.30am. There are a few regular offenders, so please keep those alarm clocks going off 5 minutes earlier!



Celebrations of Birthdays in school:

As healthy eating is an important issue, and an increasing number of children have a range of intolerances/allergies, children are not permitted to bring in sweets or cakes to celebrate their birthday. This includes asking staff to give treats out at the end of the day.





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 becoming more independent – please help!

I spoke to the children in assembly on Monday about becoming more independent and taking responsibility for organising themselves before they leave home in the morning. As they are at school now, they are old enough to remember to bring everything with them that they need for the school day on arrival. You may be surprised to know that the office staff have a number of interruptions per day from parents dropping off 'forgotten possessions.' These items then need to be delivered to class, which disrupts the children's learning and adds to the office staff's busy workload. This term we are getting back to our old regime - if your child has forgotten something in the morning, they will need to do without it and will hopefully learn to remember next time.



EXTENDED SCHOOL

Extended Schools:

Thank you so much for baring with us over the last four weeks, regarding our early closing.

This enabled me to reorganise the staff so that they could cover colleagues who were absent in the school day. We will resume to the normal closing time of 5.45pm after half term (from Monday 21st February).



Book Week 28th February– 4th March:

We are delighted to announce that the school will be holding a book week commencing on Monday 28th 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 3pm 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 3rd 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 to use 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.

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 your child's class teacher by Thursday 3rd March.

More information about other events happening during this week, as well as visiting authors will be published in the next newsletter.



2022 Readathon:

Stay tuned our Readathon is back and will be launched on World Book Day.

More information in the newsletter after half term.

Safer Internet Day 2022

Tuesday 8 February

ALL FUN AND GAMES



Exploring respect and
relationships online



E-Safety Week – Starting Monday 4th February:

Safer Internet Day 2022 is on Tuesday 8th February and will be celebrated with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online.' On Monday, our Digital Leaders will lead an assembly to launch Online Safety Week. Each class will partake in activities to support their understanding and guide them towards making positive choices and developing healthy online relationships.



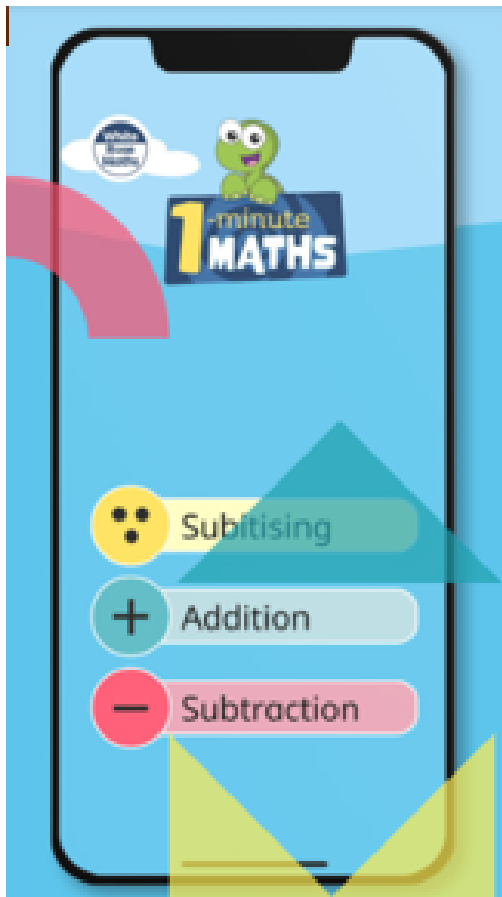
St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School – Summer Term intake:

If your child was born between 01.01.19 - 31.03.19, 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.



FREE APP FOR KS1 MATHS PRACTICE!

As you'll know we follow the White Rose scheme for our maths learning in school, and they have just launched a new, free app aimed at children in KS1.

The '1 Minute Maths' app focusses on addition, subtraction and subitising; and mirrors the concepts the children are learning in school- so will be fantastic and fun practice for them. Give it a go!



1. Excellent practice — and no distractions.
2. A clear, intuitive process that children pick up straight away.
3. No login or internet access needed. Just download and play.
4. Enjoyable and motivating... How many can they get correct in one minute?
5. Helpful hints match those used in class.
6. Brilliant for building number fluency and confidence.
7. The mobile app is **completely FREE!**

And don't forget the other online resources that we subscribe to for you to access at home...

(All children have their necessary log in's in their Reading Records)



NUMBOTS- aimed at ages 5-7, focussing on efficient mental calculation strategies. Really engaging and rewarding gameplay, we recommend playing this game for about 3 minutes a day, 3-4 times a week!



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS- learn your tables the fun way with TTRS. Go from Garage Rocker to ROCK HERO as you move through the levels and become quicker and more confident at your tables.

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. The uniform promotes unity and allows opportunities to practise discipline and responsibility. 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. **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.



Dates for your diary:

Friday 4th February

- Uniform Stall – before and after school
- 7pm -PA Quiz Night

Friday 11th February

- Cake stall—donations required
- School closes for half term (normal closing time – 3pm or 5pm)

A PRAYER FOR INNER PEACE

*Dear Lord,
Still my heart's stormy seas,
Quiet my mind's wild crowds,
Be the silence
between my sighs.
Make me still
so that I may be
filled with your peace,
amazed by your grace,
and deeply aware
of your presence
in my life...
and in the world.*

AMEN

