



Newsletter No. 11

Fri 25th March

Dear parents and carers.

I can't believe that we are nearing the end of the Spring Term. Whilst being very busy, it has been wonderful to get back together again as a school community. World Book Day was a huge success and since then, some children have participated in sports competitions alongside other schools and we have been able to get out in London re-establishing the importance of school trips.

A big thank you is extended to parents who have accompanied the children on the various trips this term. Without your support, these external learning experiences would not happen.

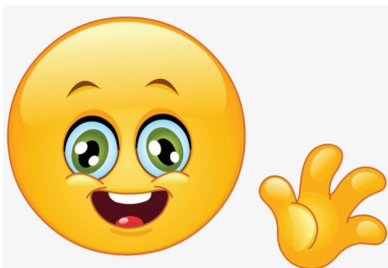
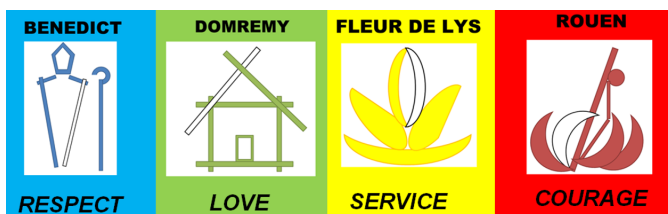
We are hoping that next term, we can get back to having some of our traditional events with parental support back in the diary. We will be combining the first cake sale with a recycled book stall which will be led by parent volunteers. If you are having a clear out at Easter put aside any school aged books that are in good condition ready for our sale early next term. We will also be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee just before May half term and will be calling on parent volunteers to come in and help us with this – so you have been warned. Towards the end of the summer term, we will also be hosting our summer fete so it will be lovely to re-establish our community support in person.

Dates for all of these events will be published in the next newsletter.

I hope you all have a lovely Mother's Day on Sunday. I am sure that your child will be spoiling you with special gifts from the heart. I personally am hoping that I am as lucky as Mrs Bear in the story, Peace at Last and am hoping for just 'Five minutes peace'!!

The Easter holidays start on Friday so I hope you enjoy a much-needed break accompanied by hopefully some sunshine.

Clare Campbell



Time to say goodbye:

Some of you will already know that, Ms Connolly (teacher of 5L) is leaving us at the end of this term. She is going to continue her travels around the world that were curtailed by covid before she relocates outside of London. We have been very fortunate to have Ms Connolly on our teaching staff for many years and so it is with sadness that we say goodbye but wish her much enjoyment on her travels and future endeavours. We have recruited a new (but very experienced teacher), Mr Kellet, to take over Class L for the final term of this academic year. A warm welcome is extended to Mr Kellet who I am sure will enjoy being part of our school community.

READATHON



2022 Readathon:

A huge thank you is extended to our local restaurant -Beam

BEAM

Readathon—the details:

In the coming weeks, we will be placing more focus than ever on the wonder of reading and the wonderful benefits reading can deliver to a child's imagination, understanding and well-being. There is nothing more important in a child's educational journey than learning to read; it is the master-skill of education and allows children to be transported to other worlds, to meet larger than life characters and to learn how the world we live in works. As a school, we want to celebrate reading in whatever way we can.

To encourage children's reading participation, we are launching our Spring Term Readathon, which starts on **Thursday 3rd March to Tuesday 19th April.**

We are encouraging all pupils to take part and to choose anything they fancy reading – from comics to classics and audio books to blogs -it's all about reading on their own terms. For younger pupils, it can be reading alongside an adult or retelling the pictures in a bedtime story.

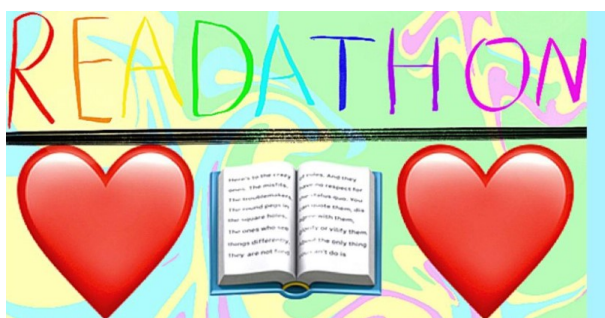
Details of this, along with the sponsor card and book marks, will be posted onto Google Classroom pages. Simply put, the children will be sponsored for their amount of reading; this might be per book/poem/blog or per unit of time spent reading. The readathon will run until 19th April so there is plenty of time to seek sponsors and begin reading. We are incredibly grateful for your continuing support to the school and appreciate any money that can be raised. No amount is too small to sponsor a child for the readathon.

All the children need to do is:

- 1 Choose what they want to read – anything they like- fact, fiction, audio- books, blogs, comics or magazines
- 2 Ask family and friends to sponsor them per book, per page, per ten minutes. It's up to them!
- 3 Collect sponsors on their sponsor card
4. Encourage the sponsors to pay online (link to follow) or place cash collected in an envelope and return to the school office
- 5 Children will be taking home a sponsor card and bookmark on the launch day. Alternatively, sponsor cards can be downloaded via your child's Google Classroom / Tapestry page.
- 6 Staff will be promoting this as part of book week, as well as during their daily English sessions.
- 7 Prizes will be given to one child from each class that has become inspired to read more literature during the readathon. Winners will be announced in the newsletter on Friday 22nd April.

Taking part in the Readathon is a brilliant way for children to get reading, whilst also helping our school's much needed fundraising drive this year. All proceeds go towards updating your child's classroom book corners and books which children read for pleasure.

Thanks again to our sponsors, Beam.



Readathon

Thank you for your encouraging your child to participate in this competition. It is lovely to see pupils from every class taking part. The Readathon is open until 19th April so children have the Easter holidays to be a book worm.

Whilst the main aim of this initiative is to raise the profile and importance of reading, the funds raised will provide

the school with additional money to purchase new reading corners for each classroom.

<https://sja.rallyup.com/readathon22/Campaign/Details>

Money raised so far: £4, 419



Easter Egg Raffle:

This year the school's House Captains will be organising the traditional Easter Raffle.

We would be very grateful for donations of Easter eggs – the ones that cost approx. £1 in major supermarkets. Please send them in with your child at school drop off time.

We would ask parents of children with specific allergies to provide an egg for their own child with their name/class on and we will ensure that are given that egg on the raffle day.

Children can purchase a raffle ticket from next Monday (28th) for £1 – children can bring their money between Monday and Wednesday and staff will organise the purchase of the raffle tickets.

The raffle will take place on the last day of term, Friday 1st April. Money raised goes towards the PA's fundraising initiative.



Parent Consultations:

Thank you for your continued support in this area. 94% parents attended meetings with their child's class teacher which really shows your continued commitment to your children's education.



Tag Rugby Success!

Last Wednesday, a year 4 team and a year 6 team attended a tag rugby tournament against other Islington schools at Market Road pitches.

Each team played four games during the group stage, and after winning all of these, they both finished top of their groups and earned themselves a place in the final. Our year 4 team stormed to victory with an impressive 5-0 win! However, the year 6 final was a much tougher match. The team had to show good resilience and determination in order to see off a tricky opponent. Tries from Samuel and Liam secured the win for SJA in a nail-biting end to the match.

Thank you to coach Mr McCormick and to Ms Madden for accompanying the squad.



Year 4 team:

Aidan, Myles, Maddox, Eloise, Ellie, Rocco,
Leticia, Ciara



Year 6 team:

Chiara, Mia M, Samuel, Gab P, Liam,
Joel, Mia S, Messi, Leo



St Joan of Arc Nursery School – September 2022

We are currently accepting applications for children to start in our school nursery from September 2022. The nursery is led by a fully qualified teacher who is ably supported by an Early Years Practitioner and Nursery Nurse. The nursery is open during term time from 8.15 to 3pm. From September 22, childcare is available for nursery children from 3pm-5.45pm through our Extended Schools Service.

Places are available for children the term after their third birthday. If you are interested in applying for either a full or part time place or would like to visit the nursery, please contact the school's admissions officer by email on: admissions@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk or by phone 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

Last day of term-

Friday 1st April

The school closes at **1.30pm**

NO EXTENDED SCHOOLS



April 2022						
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	

Tuesday, 19 April 2022



Dates for your diary:

Monday 28th – Thursday 31st March – Stations of the Cross for all pupils

Tuesday 29th March - @ 8.30am – PA meeting in the staffroom

Thursday 31st March – Y5 Passion Play

Friday 1st April – End of term Mass led by 3G – SJA Church @ 9.00am – Parents invited

1.30pm – School closes for the Easter holidays

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.



Holy week:

As the children will be on holiday during Holy Week, next week all classes will participate in the Stations of the Cross whilst visiting SJA Church.

Sunday 10th April sees the beginning of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. We remember Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem and the week of trials and tribulations that lay ahead.

Easter Passion Play – Year 5:

The children in Year 5 will be performing the Easter Passion Play on Thursday 31st March at 9.00am. Parents of children in Year 5 are warmly invited to attend. It would be lovely to invite all of you, but I am sure you appreciate that we have limited space available.

End of Term Mass:

This will take place on Friday 1st April at 9.00am, led by class 3G. All parents are welcome.

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.