



## Newsletter No. 12

Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have had a very busy return since half term and this week was no different.

As Ash Wednesday fell during half term, Class J led last Friday's Mass to mark the beginning of Lent. It was lovely to see these children read so confidently at Mass in front of so many people. I also noticed some of the Year Four children now taking on the role of being an Altar Server – truly living one of our Christian values of 'Service'. I am always amazed at how well the children behave during school Masses. I know I sometimes find it hard keeping two children under control at Sunday Mass so, all credit to the staff for managing thirty children so effectively. I had a number of parishioners speak to me after the Mass so say how impressed they were with the children so they are a real credit to their families and school.

The next school Mass is on Tuesday 19th March, to celebrate the feast of St Joseph. It will be Class 4I's turn to take the lead. Parents are of course welcome to attend.

We have a number of exciting events coming up over the next few weeks which I have summarised below.

*Claire Campbell*



### SJA Nursery applications

Nursery applications – closing date 31st March- to Start in September.

The school's nursery admits children the term after their third birthday. We are currently accepting applications for children to start in September 2024. Places are available for both 15 hour and 30 hour provision. The closing date for applications is 31st March 2024. The nursery is led by a fully qualified teacher and is ably assisted by an Early Years Education worker and Nursery Nurse. Information, application forms and a virtual tour can be accessed via the school's website:

[www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk](http://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk)



### **Mother's Day tea party – Friday 8th March from 8.45**

For Year R mums (or special women in your child's life)

This is a chance for you to have a relaxing morning. If at all possible it would be lovely for you to have this time with your child so if you can leave your pre-schoolers in the care of someone else, we would be grateful. However, please don't stress if this is not possible. This event will take place in the large hall. One adult per child please as we have limited space.



### **Parents Evening Booking**

The online appointment booking service will open on Monday 4th March at 10am in preparation for the parents evening being held on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March after school. You should have already received an email on how to book your appointment this week. Parent consultations will take place in person in your child's classroom, apart from nursery parents – yours will be in the Green Room in the main school. Please come to the main entrance 5 minutes prior to your appointment.

Please note, parents of children with an EHCP will not need to make an appointment as you will be seen at an alternative time.

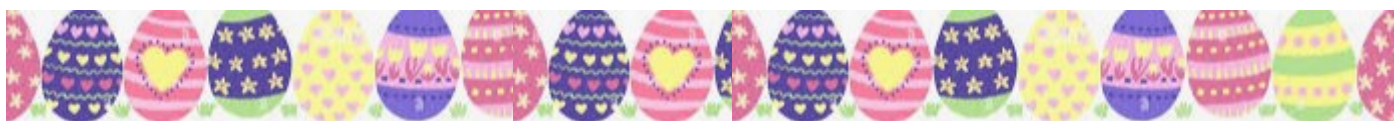


### **Easter Raffle**

This year the school's House Captains will be organising the traditional Easter Raffle. This is a time of the year that the children really look forward to. We would be very grateful for donations of Easter eggs – the ones that cost approx. £1.50 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 they are given that egg on the raffle day.

Ms. Doogan will be selling the tickets during the school day (week beginning Monday 25th March) and the maximum purchase is £1 per child. The raffle will take place on the last day of term, Thursday 29th March. Money raised goes towards the PA's fundraising initiative.



### Ofsted Report

You should have received our report and cover letter yesterday via email. I hope you are as pleased with it as we are.



### Uniform

Thank you for your support with our efforts to raise the uniform standards to the levels we are used to. We really appreciate how you understand the principles and benefits behind high uniform standards. Thank you, also, to those who responded to the requests for the uniform to be corrected. Please sign the Uniform Reminder Notice so we know that you are aware of the situation.

If there are extenuating circumstances (temporary injuries etc.) please contact your child's teacher. Anything more permanent (medical requirements, financial hardships) please contact Mr Fuiava. We are here to help in any way.

### **THIS TERM—SPRING 2—WE ARE FOCUSING ON PE KITS—CUT OFF DATE TO CORRECT UNIFORM 18 MAR**

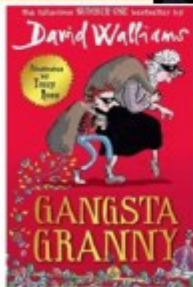
	Uniform review	Cut-off date	Focus
Spring term 1	Week 1 – week 4	Week 5 Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sport brand free, black/navy blue leather footwear</li><li>• Logo jumper/fleece</li><li>• Button up shirt</li></ul>
Spring term 2	Week 1 – week 4	Week 5 Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Logo White t-shirt</li><li>• Navy/black shorts or tracksuit bottoms (plain)</li><li>• Navy/black/grey/white leggings/tights</li></ul>
Summer term 1	Week 1 – week 4	Week 5 Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<p>All of the above plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• general uniform (jewellery, hair accessories, make-up etc)</li></ul>

Next uniform stall—Mar 15th 8.15

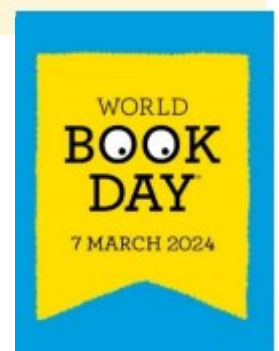


Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day. We will be celebrating in school with a week of special activities to help support the children's' love of reading. On World Book Day itself, we are asking the children to dress up as their favourite book character.

Like last year, we are encouraging the children to think about the sustainability of their costumes. Rather than go out and buy a costume, the ECO Team have been working with the children and explaining how they can create their own costumes by making, reusing, borrowing or upcycling things that they already have. The costumes can be as simple or as complicated as you like and there are loads of good ideas that can be found online. Below are a few that we really liked.



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, we will be having a special assembly to celebrate the children's fantastic costumes and the ECO Team will be awarding prizes to the 'best sustainable costumes' from across the school.





### **Fundraising heroes**

Last Sunday a group of parents braved the cold to complete a 10k run in Regent's Park to raise funds for the school. They have already raised an impressive £1400. It's not too late to contribute whatever you can through the link below.

<https://gofund.me/1aefc732>

Our school is very lucky to have such a supportive and active parent/caregiver community. This generosity and spirit our families exude makes us very proud to be working at SJA. Thank you again for your 'active' support.



As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we will be running a "pre-loved" book stall in school on Tuesday 5th March. This is a great opportunity to recycle books and to encourage children to renew their own book collection with good quality, second-hand books.

In order for us to do this, we will need your help. We need donations of lots of books. We are looking for books of all genres from Reception level through to older readers (Years 6+). No baby board books please.

We will be collecting the books at school from Monday 26th February — Friday 1st March. Children will need to leave donations in the school office.

We would also like some parent helpers who would like to help us sort the books into different year groups. If you are able to help with this on Monday 4th March, please contact the school office.

All the money raised from the sale will go to the school to purchase much needed school resources for our children.

Thank you for your continued support.

A yellow banner with the text "PRE-LOVED BOOK SALE" in a stylized, bold, brown font. The text is slightly arched. On either side of the text, there are small, stylized icons of books. The banner has a decorative border.

## March

4th – 10am – Parents Evening bookings open

7th – World Book Day – Non-uniform Day

8th – 8.45am – Mother's Day tea party for Year R mums – large hall.

14th – 8.30am – Parent/Caregiver Forum

15th – 8.15-8.45am -Uniform stall

– 8.30am - Parent Support network meeting

– 3pm Cake stall

19th – 8.30am -PA meeting

- 9.00am – School Mass led by 4I- Parents invited

20th and 21st – 3.30-5.45pm – Parents evening

22nd - Reconciliation service for Years 4-6

26th – Neurodiversity Awareness Day – non-uniform day

27th – 9am – Mass led by Class 3G – parents invited

28th – 8.45am – Easter Passion Play led by Year 5 – Parents invited

– Easter Egg raffle

– 1.30pm – school closes for the Easter holidays



**DATES FOR  
YOUR DIARY**



## Prayer for the Third Sunday of Lent

God of the vineyard, give us reverence for life in Creation.  
Show us your beauty in the promise of eternal Spring.  
Form us in your likeness,  
and give us a heart for the grace and patience of gardening,  
that we might nurture the life you entrust to us.  
Amen.

