



Newsletter No.2

Friday 18th September 2026

It has been lovely to see and speak to lots of you during the last three weeks and particularly nice to get to know the families new to our school. I am pleased to report that the children have been very settled and have adapted quickly to their school routines.

I am hoping that you found last week's curriculum meetings with your child's teacher helpful. It is always good to get an insight into what your child is doing in their school day as I am sure when asked by you at the end of the day, the response is usually 'nothing'!

All slides shown at these meetings will be posted on Google Classroom for you to refer to if required.

The weekly homework routine has also started for all year groups and, as family life outside of school is very busy, this is set on a Friday for completion by the following Friday. Hopefully, having the weekend to complete homework, will make your evenings after school less stressful. Reading books have also been sent out, with children expected to read for at least ten minutes per night for younger children and twenty minutes for our older pupils.

As the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child has a coat at school (with their name on - please use labels or permanent marker rather than ball point pen).

Have a good weekend with your family.

Clare Campbell

Headteacher



Pupil Photographs

The photographer will be returning to duty on
Thursday 8th October
to take individual photos and those with siblings
(who attend our school).

Please ensure your child is in full uniform.

If it is your child's PE day,
please send their kit in a bag and they will get
changed in school on this occasion.



Welcome to SJA - EYFS - Coffee mornings

Friday 23rd October 8.30-9.30am

Parents of Nursery and Reception pupils are
warmly invited to an informal 'come and meet'
other parents in the Large Hall.

Pre-schoolers are obviously very welcome too!

For other year groups (including EYFS)

A further coffee morning will take place in the Spring Term.

Recycled uniform stall

A big thank you to parents who have
volunteered to run this initiative this year.
This is a big voluntary role that requires more
helpers. If you can spare a small amount of
time to support with this well-used facility,
please email the Parents' Association putting
'help with uniform stall' in the subject.

The next stall is on
Friday 2nd OCTOBER at 8.30am

There is a lot of uniform in stock as well as coats,
for all ages so if your child is not wearing the
correct uniform there is now no excuse!



Labeling Uniform



Our lost property cupboard is already full with items that have not been named from the beginning of this term. I have reminded the children during assembly about taking responsibility for their belongings and the importance of labelling items. I know as a parent there is nothing more infuriating at pick up time to be minus a jumper, or even worse a coat. Name labels were a fantastic invention and help to reduce the rising blood pressure levels of all adults involved (including mine)!

October - the month of the Rosary

During October, we remember the prayer of the rosary, the faith of St Dominic who was presented with the rosary and to the virgin Mary who is mother to all.



Uniform & PE Kit

Thank you so much to all of you for making such a concerted effort to ensure the children have returned to school in uniform. Having a uniform provides the children with a sense of belonging and, believe it or not, makes the morning routine before school easier for families.

Just a reminder that the PE t-shirt is a white polo shirt with a collar and buttons, however if you have still got the old SJA t-shirt with a logo that is fine too.

PE t-shirts have not replaced the blue school shirt and should therefore only be worn on PE days.

With regards to jewellery, the only permitted items are wrist watches (no camera smart watches) and plain ear-studs. Earrings are not permitted for health and safety reasons.





School building fund

Please see the attached letter for further information regarding the the school building fund.

Extended Schools Vacancies

Due to changes in family circumstances, we have had several cancellations for places in our after-school club and various clubs for this term.

If you are still looking for childcare or want your child to participate in a club, please email extended schools on:

extendedday@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Extended School Childcare & Clubs



International Evening - Friday 25th September.

Join us to celebrate International Night at SJA!

This year, we are really keen to celebrate the amazing mix of nationalities and cultures that make our SJA community so special!

Join us on **Friday, 25th September** for our **International Evening**—a wonderful opportunity to gather, connect, and feast together. We also have some great entertainment scheduled for the children to enjoy!

How you can get involved:

Share Delicious Food: Bring along a favorite dish from your home country or culture to share with everyone.

(Important Note: Strictly NO NUTS allowed, and please include a list of all ingredients with your dish so everyone can enjoy safely).

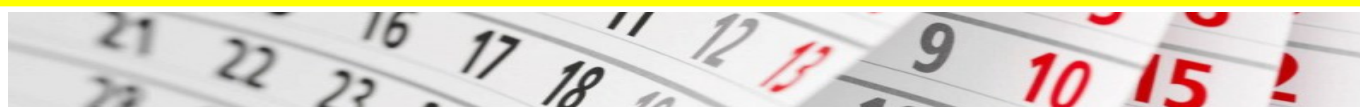
Dress Up: We would love for you and your family to wear traditional or cultural clothing!

Share Music & Performances: Do you have traditional music, dances, or performances that represent your heritage? We'd love your suggestions and participation to help set the mood. Email your ideas to sjoacommitee@gmail.com

Help out: Can you volunteer at the bar, serving food or with the clean up? Many hands make light work—

<https://signup.com/go/qQwZJtf>

Let's come together to celebrate the vibrant diversity that makes our school community so unique and special. We can't wait to see you there!



Term Dates

Attached are the school dates for the year. Please keep them in a safe place for your reference.

They are also available via the school's website: www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk



St Joan of Arc School
Growing together

EVERY DAY MATTERS

ATTENDANCE 2026/27

Come to school every day you can



Being in school regularly helps your child learn, make friends,
build confidence and feel they belong.

We are here to **support** you and your child.

BEING IN SCHOOL MEANS...



LEARNING

Building knowledge
and keeping up
with the curriculum.



FRIENDSHIPS

Spending time
with friends and
learning how to
work with others.



CONFIDENCE

Developing
independence,
resilience and
self-belief.



BELONGING

Being part of our
school community
and feeling
you matter.



EXPERIENCES

Taking part in lessons,
trips, clubs, sport,
celebrations and the
wider life of school.



DID YOU KNOW?



Missing just
1 DAY
a week =
around **38 days**
missed in a year.



Among pupils who missed
at least one day in the first
week of 2024/25,

57.4%

went on to be
persistently absent.

IF ATTENDANCE IS BECOMING DIFFICULT...



TALK TO US

You do not need to
wait until attendance
has fallen.



EARLY SUPPORT

We want to
understand what is
happening and help
remove barriers.



BETTER OUTCOMES

Working together
early leads to
better attendance
and success.

Early conversation → Early support → Better outcomes

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS



ILLNESS

If your child is unwell, please follow the school's absence
procedures and let us know the reason for their absence.



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Wherever possible, routine appointments should be arranged
outside school hours. Where this is not possible, children
should attend school before and/or after their appointment
where appropriate.



HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Holidays during term time cannot normally be authorised.
Leave of absence may only be granted in exceptional
circumstances.



PERFORMANCES, AUDITIONS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- We may consider authorising no more than up to 5 school days across an academic year for performances, theatre productions, television/film work, auditions, competitions or similar opportunities.
- As a general expectation, requests are unlikely to be authorised where a child's attendance is below 95%, unless there are exceptional circumstances or the absence is permitted under the relevant regulations.
- All requests must be discussed with the school in advance and will be considered individually.



LONG-TERM ABSENCE DUE TO HEALTH NEEDS

If a child is likely to miss 15 school days or more, either consecutively or cumulatively, we will work with the Local Authority to ensure suitable education continues. This may include education outside school where appropriate.



PERSISTENT ABSENCE

A pupil is considered
persistently absent
when they miss
10% or more of their
possible school
sessions.



AUTHORISED VS UNAUTHORISED

All absences are
carefully recorded.
Unauthorised absence
can affect learning
and progress.



PENALTY NOTICES

Where absence is
unauthorised and
meets the relevant
criteria, the national
framework allows
local authorities to
issue penalty notices.

We will always try
to work with families
early to avoid
reaching this stage.

10%

absence =
**PERSISTENT
ABSENCE**

under the national definition.

**Days missed matter
more than percentages.**



WE ARE HERE TO HELP

If you are worried about anything
that may affect your child's attendance,
please speak to us.

**We will listen, understand
and do all we can to support you.**

*Thank you for working
the partnership with us.*



EVERY DAY MATTERS. EVERY CHILD MATTERS. *Together we can give every child
the best possible start for the future.*



We are currently accepting applications for
full or part time nursery places

To apply or arrange a visit

Email: admissions@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Call: 020 7226-3920



Nursery Hours 8.15am – 3.00pm Childcare Available - 3:00-5:45pm

www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Nursery Vacancies

If you have a child or know of somebody looking for a place in our school nursery, we have a number of spaces available this term. Spaces are available for children who were three years old in the summer term, April to August 2026.

We are also taking applications for our January entry. These are for children who are going to be three years old this term, that is they have a birthday falling in the months of September to December 2026.

Please contact the school's admission's officer via email:

admissions@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

More information is available on the school website

www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk

Who to Contact

Just a reminder, that if you have a concern about your child, the first point of contact is their class teacher. They are in the best position to answer any questions about your child or investigate your concern.

It can on occasions be much easier to raise a concern by using AI or a 'frustrated' late night email.

This is not always the best course of action and often results in a much lengthier process in trying to resolve the issue.

If you are not personally dropping or collecting your child and therefore are unable to speak to the teacher directly, a message to the office asking the teacher to contact you will always be acted upon.

Staff want your child to be happy at school and will really do their best to resolve concerns.



Mission Statement

We sincerely thank all community members who completed the survey during the recent consultation period regarding our school's mission statement.

Following your valuable input, we are pleased to announce the formal adoption of our new mission statement:

"Through Love, Service, Respect and Courage, we grow closer to God."

This updated statement truly captures the current ethos and culture of our school, while honouring the enduring example of St. Joan of Arc. Thank you again for your ongoing support and thoughtful contributions to this important process.

LOVE	SERVICE	RESPECT	COURAGE
Be kind, loving and well mannered	Be generous, helpful and thoughtful of others	Look after yourself, each other and the school	Be honest and brave



The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for September 2026

We pray with Pope Leo XIV for the care of water.

We pray that everyone in the world has access to clean water, and that we learn to care for and protect this precious gift from God.

Prayer and reflection

Let us reflect on how we can put our Catholic Social Teaching principle of care for creation into practice and become peacemakers in our community.

SEPTEMBER

Week Beginning Monday 21st

Wednesday 23rd 9.15 - 10.15am	School Open Morning for prospective parents
	National Live Maths Workshops
Friday 25 th – 6.30 - 9pm	International Evening

Week Beginning 27th

Friday 2nd - 8.30am	Recycled Uniform Sale outside the main entrance
Friday 2nd - 3pm	Cake Sale in Playground

OCTOBER

Week Beginning Monday 5th

Tuesday 6th 9.15-10.15am	School Open Morning for prospective parents
	Class 3G trip to King Henry's Walk
Wednesday 7th	Class 3H trip to King Henry's Walk
Thursday 8 th	School Photographer – individual and sibling group photographs
Friday 9th	PA Meeting in Staff Room

Week beginning Monday 12th

Wednesday 14th	Year 5 trip to the Unicorn Theatre
Friday 16th – 7.30 - 10.30pm	Reception Parent's Bingo in Large Hall

Week Beginning Monday 19th

Friday 23rd 8.30-9.30am	Reception Parent's Coffee Morning-Large Hall
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WEEK BEGINNING 26TH OCTOBER – HALF TERM

NOVEMBER

Week Beginning 2nd November

Tuesday 3rd	Year 2 trip to The Tower of London
Wednesday 4th 9.15-10.15am	School Open Morning for Prospective parents
Thursday 5th 8pm	PA AGM - in person and on zoom

Week Beginning 9th November

Friday 13th 8.30am	PA Meeting in Staff Room (Christmas Fair)
Friday 13th 7.45-10pm	All School Bingo (Adults Only) in Large Hall

Week Beginning 16th November

16th – 20th	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 17th 3.15-6.30pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 18th 3.15-6.30pm	Parents' Evening

Week Beginning 23rd November

Tuesday 24th 9.15-10.15am	School Open Morning for prospective parents
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Week Beginning 30th November

Wednesday 2nd 9.15-10.15am	School Open Morning for prospective new parents
Friday 4th	Year 4 trip to the British Museum
Friday 4th 3.15-6pm	Christmas Fair—School Halls

DECEMBER

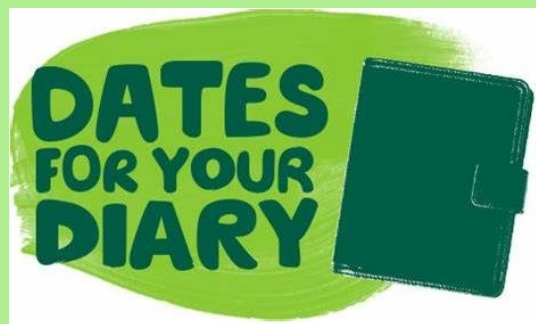
Week Beginning 7th December

Wednesday 9th 9am	Reception/Years 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity, Large Hall
Thursday 10th 9am	Reception/Years 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity, Large Hall

Week Beginning 14th December

Tuesday 15th	Christmas Disco—Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 17th 1.45pm	KS2 Christmas Carol Service, St Joan of Arc Church
Friday 18th 9am	School Mass led by Class M - All parents welcome

1.30PM SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS



PA INTERNATIONAL
EVENING
Friday 25th
September
6.00 – 9.00pm

2026 SEPTEMBER						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	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				

School
Photographer
Thursday 8th
October

October 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				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

School Closes
for Christmas
Holiday
Friday 18th
December
1.30 pm

DECEMBER 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		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		

St Joan of Arc School Calendar 2026/27

September 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36		1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
40	28	29	30				

October 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40				1	2	3	4
41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

December 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
53	28	29	30	31			

January 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
53					1	2	3
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13	29	30	31				

April 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
13				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17						1	2
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
22	31						

June 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22		1	2	3	4	5	6
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	28	29	30				

July 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
26				1	2	3	4
27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
30							1
31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
33	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
34	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
35	30	31					

■	School Closed/ Holidays	■	School Day
■	Bank Holiday	■	Inset Day