



Newsletter No.6

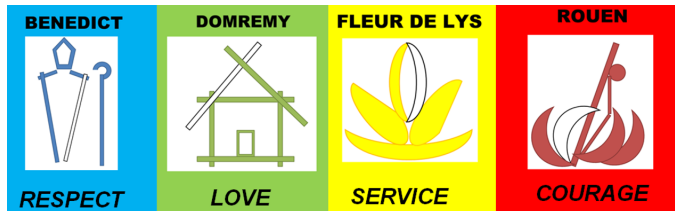
Fri 25th November

Dear Parents & Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are now preparing for Advent, with the first candle on the Advent Wreath being lit at Mass this Sunday. The first candle symbolises Hope with the 'Prophet's Candle' reminding us that Jesus is coming. The children will be focusing on Advent and its meaning during their RE and class prayer time over the coming weeks. We are all looking forward to celebrating this special time with the children and their families over the coming weeks.

Kind regards,

Clare Campbell



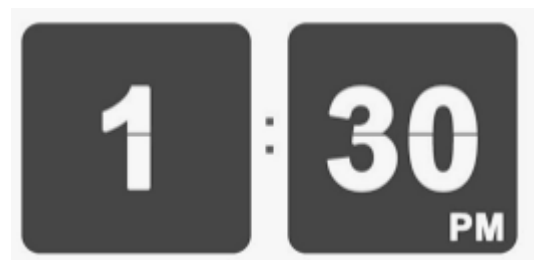
International Evening

This was a great success and enjoyed by all. Thank you to all of the parents and staff who helped to organise the evening.



Early school closure

Friday December 16th the school will close at 1.30pm. There will be no after school care provision on this day. Please ensure your child is collected at this time.



Anti-Bullying Week

Last week Mr Fuiava spoke to the children about “Odd Socks Day”. The children had been invited to wear odd socks which was in support of national anti-bullying week. We recognise that we are all different and unique and should celebrate our differences. Bullying is when something bad happens several times on purpose – which spells the word stop! This year’s theme is “reach out” which means we want children to reach out to someone they trust if they are being bullied or know someone who is. Please talk to you children about it at home.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2022-reach-out>

These classes won their categories for ‘Odd Sock Day’ class photo





Anti-Bullying Certificates

The following children were chosen by the adults in school to receive the Anti-Bullying award as they personify the traits of a defender: they are loyal, brave and stand up for injustices while supporting those who need reaching out to. A huge congratulations to them all.

Talia (Nur), Matthew (RA), Amalia (RB), Aila K (1D), Finnika (3G), Miles (3H), Livia (4I), Ify (4J), Leticia (5K), Elizabeth (5L), Amelia (6M), Ted (6N) and Gaia (6LN)



St Vincent de Paul collection

This week the children have been collecting for the SVP. 'Love Service Respect Courage' is definitely evident with the generous contributions so far. Last day for donations is Monday Dec 12th. Thank you again for your kind donations.



Rouen	Domremy	Fleur de Lys	Benedict
Food with long shelf life tinned meats, tinned fruit, biscuits	Sweets and chocolates Haribo, chocolate bars, sweet bags (no Advent Calendars)	Stationery small stationery set, pens, notebooks, felt tips, crayons, colouring pencils	Toiletries bubble bath, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel, shower gel

Football success

On Monday, twenty children from years four and six represented St Joan of Arc in a local football competition. The children worked extremely hard to train and prepare themselves for the day, with a special thanks to Ottilie and Emily M for all your behind the scenes preparation and organisation!

The group stages consisted of 5 games, of which both the year 4 and year 6 teams won or drew all games. The year 4 team went straight to the final, whereas the year 6 team had to participate in a penalty shoot-out due to a three-team tie. Well done to Anselme for being in goal and Jacob and Luke for stepping up to taking the penalties, bringing the SJA year 6 team in to the finals too.

Congratulations to the year 4 team who beat their opponents 2-0 and were the champions! Unfortunately the year 6 final ended in a draw so extra time was added and in the last 30 seconds they conceded a goal. They should be incredibly proud of their efforts and placing 2nd overall. A special mention to the year 6 girl footballers, of whom the lead referee praised for their incredible skills and even mentioned they were among the best at the competition... future Lionesses I wonder?!

Both teams displayed excellent sportsmanship, resilience and teamwork, as well as showing great support to each other. Very well done to all the children. Year 4 team: Orlando, Oliver, Patrick, David, Mathias, Ify, Hosanna, Aldana, Betty and Eisliah-Rose. Year 6 team: Ottie, Emily M, Emily H, Bella, Jack S, Luca, Luke, Jacob, Anselme and William.



PA AGM

It was a privilege to attend the annual general meeting of the Parents Association on Friday. There were twenty parents present and it was fantastic to hear about how much was raised over this last year (£35,000!!) This surpasses any expectation from the school and is so much appreciated.

I am enormously grateful to the committee, Pilar Gomez- Alcala, David Lake, Lauren Anderson and Aine Stewart who remained in post for two years and ensured that this vital part of our school community continued. Thankfully some parents have offered to take up the official committee roles for this academic year so, we will continue to work together to ensure that our school community thrives. Just a reminder that, as a parent at SJA, you are automatically a member of the committee and so you can attend any meeting held and if everyone helped with one event in the year, this would also share the load.

A reminder that the next cake sale is being run by parents of Year 3 pupils on Friday 9th December at 3pm.

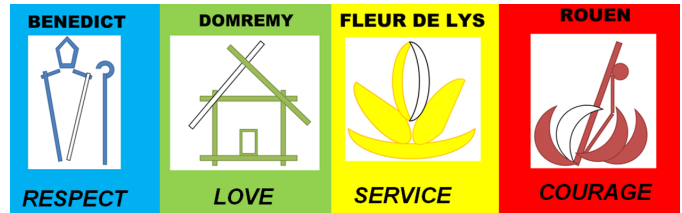
As we communicated in earlier newsletters, a large proportion of the money went on updating the class libraries with new furniture and books. These were installed in the summer holidays and have made a very positive addition to the classroom environments.

The money also partly funds our specialist music teachers, MS Gallagher and Mr Owen.

You will have seen them leading performances with the children at the summer fete and will meet them again at the Christmas performances.

We are so grateful to you as a parental body for your very generous donations last year and to the parents who gave up their time to be part of the PA.





LSRC Legend Award

Our first recipients of the LSRC Legend Award have been revealed. These children have exemplified the school Christian Values in their conduct and school life. Staff award the recipients when a pupil demonstrates these traits daily.

Congratulations to Miles (Y5) and Chloe (Y3)



Advance notice - Bank Holiday Monday 8th May

Following the decision from government that a bank holiday will be awarded in honour of the King Charles III's coronation, school will be closed on Monday 8th May 2023.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bank-holiday-proclaimed-in-honour-of-the-coronation-of-his-majesty-king-charles-iii>



St Joan of Arc Catholic Primary School – Admissions for 2023

If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, you will be looking for a school place for September 2023. If you (or a friend) have missed our open mornings and would like a tour of the school please telephone the school office on 020 7226-3920. Please visit the school website for more information



Christmas Jumper Day

(Jumper Exchange)

We will be celebrating Christmas jumper day on **Thursday 8th December**, on this day, children will be encouraged to wear their favourite Christmas jumper. However, as a school we are working on becoming more sustainable. Instead of going out and buying a new jumper we are encouraging you to wear a pre-loved jumper in doing so, we will reduce our environmental impact.

From next week we are asking for outgrown or unwanted Christmas jumpers in children's and adult sizes to be donated to the school and these will be sold in a pre-loved Christmas Jumper sale. The sale will be held on **Tuesday 6th December**, we would love for you to purchase your jumper via the uniform stand and be a part of our new initiative.



The Eco Team



School disco and non uniform day

On Thursday 15th December a disco will be put on for the children during the school day. This will be a chance to boogie in celebration of the festive season. On this day, children can attend school in their own clothes, but sensible footwear is required. We are asking for a donation of £1 to contribute to our efforts

Water Bottles

Some parents have mentioned that their children are not drinking enough water during the school day. After discussion with the staff, we will do our best to ensure that this is happening in addition we will have a discussion with the children about the importance of hydration during the school day. It would be helpful if the children arrive at school with their bottles already filled, to avoid time being spent on queueing at the class refill station first thing in the morning.



The Garden Classroom and Eco Team

Members from The Garden Classroom came to our school to get us thinking about how to become more sustainable. The Sustainability Now day kicked off with a very entertaining and engaging assembly. The children became the jury and decided whether or not to send characters to jail for their crimes against planet earth. The children were excellent at understanding the concept of sustainability and learned a great song to remember the key concept: Sustainability is meeting our needs without hurting our planet. The facilitators then went into each classroom to deliver a session with the classes. They were impressed by the children's knowledge of sustainability and loved that as a school we are composting and recycling. It was a fun day for all and both staff and children left thinking about little ways to change their lives to stop 'hurting' planet earth. The Garden Classroom will be working with the school's Eco-Team all year long to support us on our journey to be a more sustainable place, alongside ten other Islington schools.

Please see the video below that Siri and the Garden Classroom team have created to document the children's first session at the garden classroom and mark the start of the Sustainability Champs programme.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zd_TisZIDTN5vjgb89f2IUfVKroMnakF/view?usp=sharing





Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 6th December—Pre-loved Christmas jumper sale

Thursday 8th December—Christmas Jumper Day/Festive Jumper Day

Friday 9th December—Cake Stall—3pm (Y3 caregivers)

Friday 9th December—Nur Rec Y1 Christmas Nativity—9am and 1.40pm showings

Tuesday 13th December—Y 2 3 Christmas Concert—9am and 1.40pm showings

Wednesday 14th December—Y 4 5 6 Christmas Concert 2pm

Thursday 15th December—Christmas Disco and Non-uniform day (£1)

Friday 16th December – Christmas Mass – Led by Class 6N—9am

*** PLEASE NOTE, ANY YEAR ASSEMBLIES THAT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED FOR DECEMBER WILL NOW TAKE PLACE IN THE SPRING TERM***



Advent Week 1

As you light the first candle in the Advent wreath, take a slow deep breath. Remember that achieving the perfectly orchestrated holiday doesn't matter. What matters is watching for God in every situation.

Christmas CONCERTS

Friday 9th December

Nur Rec Y1 Christmas Nativity —9am and 1.40pm
showings—School Hall

Tuesday 13th December

Y 2 3 Christmas Concert—9am and 1.40pm showings—
School Hall

Wednesday 14th December

Y 4 5 6 Christmas Concert 2pm—St Joan of Arc Church