



Newsletter No.9

Fri 12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers.

We hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas with your family and friends. On behalf of all the staff, thank you for your kind Christmas wishes and gifts, which were very generous and much appreciated.

We are sure that you will agree that the Christmas performances were spectacular.

The children always look forward to having a parent/carer there to see them in their starring role so, thank you for taking the time to support these events. Thanks are also extended to all of the staff who prepared the children for their performances.

The children have made a very positive start to the Spring Term and have got straight back into working hard in class. The school has a very calm and purposeful working environment and it is a real pleasure to see the children so settled in class. It was nice to start the term on Monday, with a whole school assembly celebrating the Epiphany and then today with our school Mass led by Class 5K.

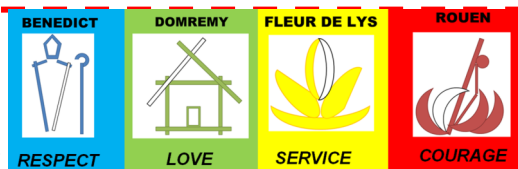
The start of the new year and term always brings about a renewed focus on certain areas of school life. This term, we are focusing on uniform compliance and punctuality – both arrival and collection.

Earlier this week, Mr Fuiava sent all families a letter which outlined how we are going to improve expected standards in uniform. There is also an insert in the newsletter regarding punctuality for your attention.

As we start 2024, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy and healthy new year, bringing positivity, peace, love and happiness for all of us.

Kind regards,

Clare Campbell



Year 6 Citizenship Cup Winner

This award is presented at the end of each term to a year six pupil who, during the course of their time at St Joan of Arc, has been an example of model citizenship in our school. I am delighted to announce that Quinn (Class M) was last term's worthy winner.

Many congratulations are extended to Quinn and his family on receiving this prestigious award.



Punctuality



PUNCTUALITY

You may have noticed the school gates are closing promptly at 8.30am. We still have children arriving after this time which is disruptive to the class who have already started their first lesson.

Similarly, the school day finishes at 3pm and the same children are late to be picked up—some even 40 minutes late. A member of the school's senior leadership team will be greeting late comers in the main entrance, in the hope that being late is a one off.

We understand that sometimes it can't be helped, but we need to get back into good habits.



Uniform

On Wednesday (10/01/24) all families received a letter outlining a strategy for improving uniform standards. This half term we will be sending reminders home for children who are not wearing the correct shoes, shirts and jumpers. Please lend your support towards this initiative. 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.

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

Reading Books

As you know over the last few years we have been very fortunate to receive money from the Parents Association for new reading books. The total investment has been a whopping £45,000. This has meant that every child in the school has access to good quality, up to date and at school. You will be skill and in order for they need to read for a day. We would really fifteen minutes every child and then make a note record.



books to read both at home aware that reading is a life children to read fluently, minimum of 15 minutes per appreciate if you could spend evening reading with your of this in their reading Book bags need to be

returned daily to enable children to change their books and continue on their reading journey.

We will be providing an update on phonics, with some tips on how to engage children with reading at home on Friday 26th January at 9am. This session will be particularly useful for parents of pupils in Reception and Year One. This will be a virtual meeting. Link to be sent out.



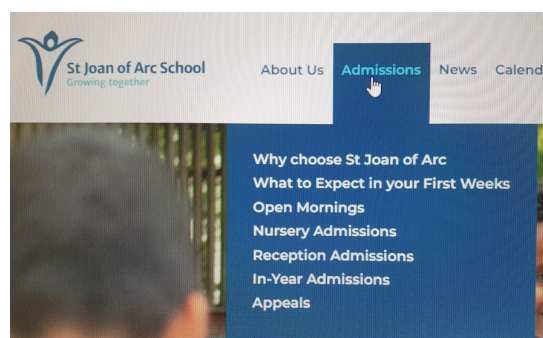
St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School – Summer Term Intake

If your child was born between **01.01.21 - 31.03.21**, 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

<https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/admissions/nursery-admissions/>



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.

CALL FOR TEA CUPS AND SAUCERS

Later this term, we will be hosting our first Mother's Day tea party for our reception mums. If you or family members are recycling china tea cups, saucers and plates, please consider donating them to us. As long as they are in good condition, they don't need to match.

Please hand them in via the school office.



Taking Holidays In Term Time



School attendance is important to all children.

It is vital that children are in school everyday unless they are unwell.

Excellent school attendance enables them to access every opportunity to support their global development.

Over the Christmas holiday period we had an unprecedented number of requests for term time absence.

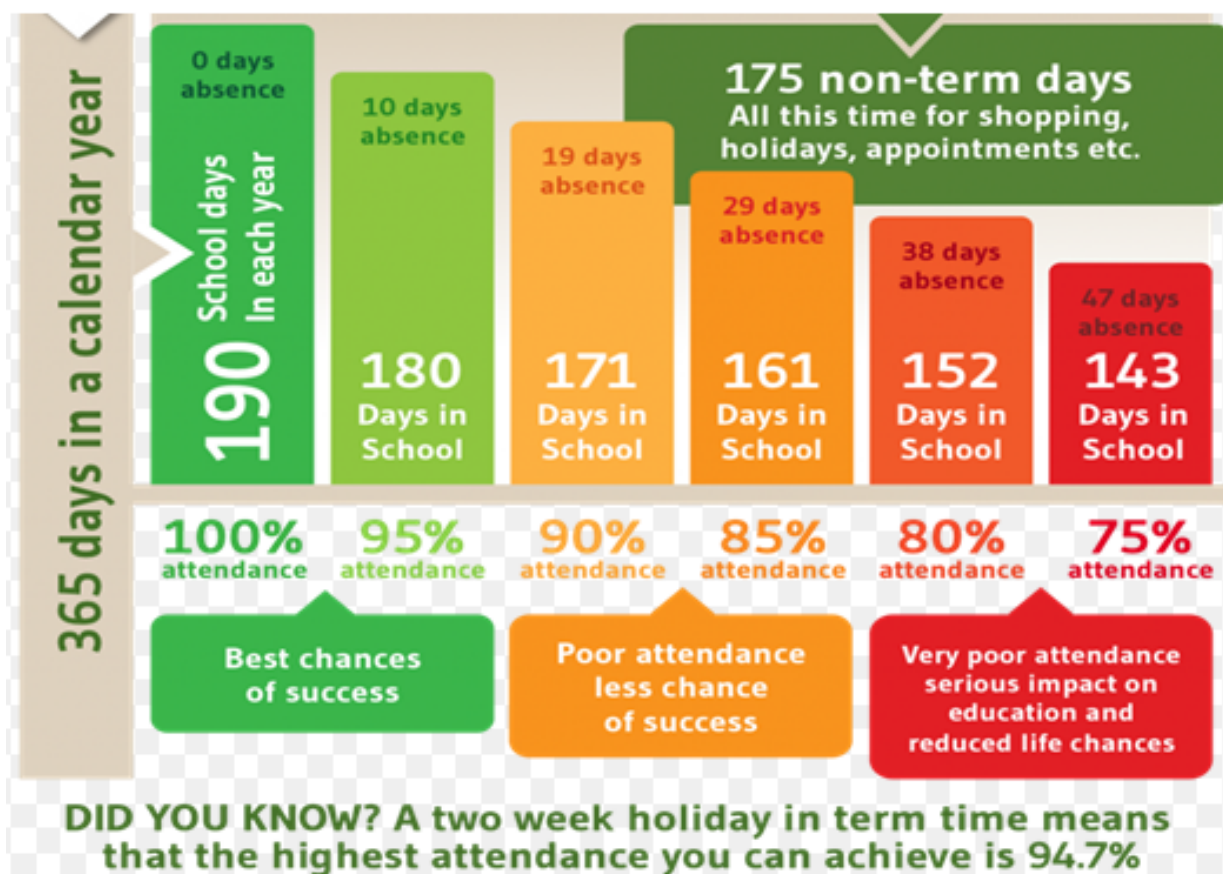
These requests amounted to a total of
112 school days lost.

This is a disappointing statistic, which we hope not to repeat.

The school year is 190 days which leaves a large number of days that children are not in school.

When booking time away, please consider using the 13 weeks of school holiday.

Below is a chart which explains the learning time lost by being absent from school.



Quiz Night

Our quiz night is on Friday
2nd Feb! Buy your tickets
now to ensure you do not
miss out on a fun evening -

<https://>

[sja.rallyup.com/87bbd4/
Campaign/Details](https://sja.rallyup.com/87bbd4/Campaign/Details)



For the event to be
successful, we need a few
volunteers to help out. So if
you are not a quizzier but
fancy joining in please sign
up to volunteer and you
receive free food -

[https://signup.com/go/
FVYhVwB](https://signup.com/go/FVYhVwB)

A poster for Quiz Night at St Joan of Arc School. The background is dark blue with a starry pattern. At the top left, it says "Parents Association" and "St Joan of Arc School Growing together" with a logo. At the top right, it says "BUY A TICKET" above a QR code. In the center, "QUIZ NIGHT" is written in large white letters inside a glowing blue rectangular frame. Below that, it says "FRIDAY 2ND FEB", "DOORS OPEN AT: 6:30PM", and "QUIZ STARTS AT: 7PM". Further down, "£25" is written in large white letters, with "ENTRY FEE" below it, and "INCLUDES ENTRY & FOOD" and "TABLES OF 8 AVAILABLE" to the right. At the bottom, it says "MORE INFO: [HTTPS://SJA.RALLYUP.COM/87BBD4](https://sja.rallyup.com/87bbd4) OR ASK YOUR CLASS REP". At the very bottom, in smaller white text, it says "*IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE DATE YOU COULD STILL BUY A TICKET TO HELP SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS.".

Parents Association St Joan of Arc School Growing together

BUY A TICKET

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 2ND FEB
DOORS OPEN AT: 6:30PM
QUIZ STARTS AT: 7PM

£25 INCLUDES ENTRY & FOOD
ENTRY FEE TABLES OF 8 AVAILABLE

MORE INFO:
[HTTPS://SJA.RALLYUP.COM/87BBD4](https://sja.rallyup.com/87bbd4)
OR ASK YOUR CLASS REP

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PRAYER FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

**God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonders of
our being, for mind, body, and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.**

**Bless them and their teachers
and staff.**

**Give them strength and grace as
their bodies grow; wisdom and
knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their spirits.**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

You will find
St Joan of Arc Primary
School
Term Dates Calendar

2024-2025

attached to this email.

They can also be found on
our website under the Term
Dates Tab at the top of the
home page



IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TERM

Date	Time	Event
15.01.24	8.45am	Digital Leader's Assembly
18.01.24	8.45am	Year 4 Special Assembly
22.0.24		Year 6 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
26.01.24	9.00am	Reception & Year 1 Parents Phonics Update
		Year 5 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
29.01.24		Year 4 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
02.02.24		Year 3 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
		7pm - PA Quiz night
05.02.24		Year 2 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
06.02.24		Safer Internet Day
09.02.24	8.30am	Parent Open Morning / Coffee Morning – Safer Internet Focus
		Year 1 – Visit to Gillespie Park –‘Sustainability in Action Project’
		Cake Sale – Year 4 parents
		Uniform Sale
12.02.24 – 16.02.24		Half Term
19.02.24		INSET DAY – School closed for pupils
23.02.24	9.00am	School Mass – Beginning of Lent- led by Class 4J
04.03.24	10.00am	Bookings open for Parents Evening appointments
07.03.24		World Book Day
08.03.24	8.30am	Reception Mother's Day Tea Party
15.03.24		Cake Sale -Year 3 parents
		Uniform Sale
19.03.24	9.00am	School Mass led by Class 4I
20.03.24	3.15-6.00pm	Parents Evenings
21.03.24	3.15-6.00pm	Parents Evenings
25.03.24		Holy Week
27.03.24		End of term Mass led by Class 3G
28.03.24	8.45am	Easter Passion Play led by Year 5
	1.30pm	School closes for the Easter holidays