

# Newsletter No.8

Friday 6th January 2023



**St Joan of Arc School**  
Growing together

## Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas. I hope you have managed to get some rest over the holiday or enjoyed some time with 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 with our whole school Mass celebrating the Epiphany.

Thank you to the parents of pupils in 5K who also attended.

Yesterday I led an assembly celebrating the life of Pope Benedict Emeritus. He was elected the 265th Pope in 2005 and chose the name Benedict after Pope Benedict XV and St Benedict of Nursia. He resigned on 11th February 2013 and dedicated the rest of his life to prayer and supporting Pope Francis and the Church.

Kind regards,

May he Rest in Peace, Amen.

As we start 2023, 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 Amelia (Class M) was last term's worthy winner.

Many congratulations are extended to Amelia and her family on receiving this prestigious award.



# EXTENDED SCHOOL



## Extended Schools:

Thank you so much for bearing with us during the last week of term regarding our early closing.

This really did enable staff to navigate the snow and difficulties with travel. We are in the process of refunding those parents who paid for this service for the last four days of term from 5-5.45pm.



## Attendance at school/ Covid and Scarlet Fever

Flu and coronavirus are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks.

High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported.

**If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.**

If your child contracts scarlet fever, please inform us as soon as possible as we are now required to put additional measures in place to try and limit the spread within a classroom setting.

A reminder that the e-mail address for reporting absences is:

**[absence@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk](mailto:absence@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk)**



## 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. We understand that sometimes it can't be helped, but patterns are emerging. Please be on time!

### **St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School – Summer Term intake:**

If your child was born between 01.01.20 - 31.03.20, 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:

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

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.



### **Reading Books - A little reminder:**

As you know last year we asked the Parents Association to fundraise for new reading books.

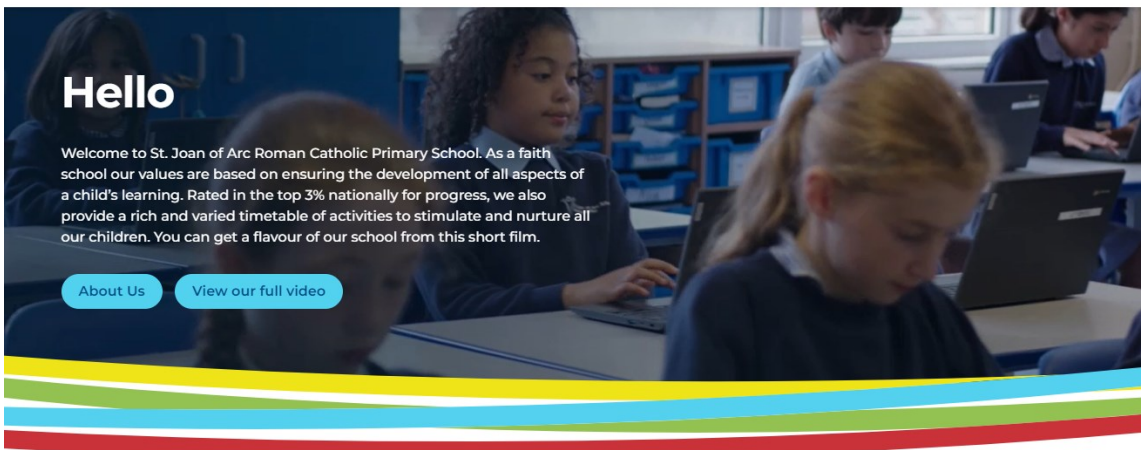
We have invested £25,000 in books for both the classroom but primarily for home reading which the children are now taking home. We are following Ruth Miskin's highly successful phonics, reading and spelling program throughout the infants and juniors. The money donated has enabled us to purchase reading books for infants to read at home, that fully correspond to the phonics being taught in class on a daily basis.

We would really appreciate if you could spend fifteen minutes every evening reading with your child and then make a note of this in their reading record.

Book bags need to be returned daily to enable children to change their books and continue in their reading journey.

We will be providing an update on phonics, with some tips of how to engage children with reading at home. This session will be particularly useful for parents of pupils in Reception and Year One. This workshop will take place on Friday 27th January at 9am via zoom—log in details will be sent nearer the time.





This week's house champions are...  
**Fleur De Lys**  
 Keep up the hard work, and check back next week to see who's won!

### Attendance Winners

This week's attendance winners are...

Class J	98%
Class K	96.5%
Class F	95.2%

As a school, we have developed and updated our website as part of our continued commitment to enhancing the school's digital profile and the effectiveness of the online content. Visit our new website using the link below to discover all the latest features that will help you keep up-to-date and informed of school events.

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

With our new alert feature, you can now view relevant messages on our website and keep up with future events, the weekly house champions, class attendance winners and newsfeeds. You can also find links to relevant internet resources and up-to-date information on your child's class page. Don't forget to take advantage of the download calendar, which connects the school events directly to your phone.

We wish to thank everyone for your cooperation throughout the photo and film shoots and the pupil, staff, governors and parents who worked diligently on this project behind the scenes.



**PE Kit** - A reminder of what children should wear for PE:

1. Plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms or leggings—No logos or stripes please
2. Plain white T-shirt or with school logo
3. School sweatshirt
4. Trainers (Velcro fastenings if your child is unable to tie their laces)

**PE Timetable** - On the day/s of your child's PE sessions, they are expected to come to school dressed in their PE kits.

Year Group	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		×			
Year 1		×			×
Year 2	×			×	
Year 3		×		×	
Year 4			×	×	
Year 5	×		×		
Year 6		×			×





## Dates for your diary

### JANUARY

- Tuesday 10th** 8.30am PA meeting in staffroom
- Friday 13th** 8.15 - 8.45am Recycled Uniform Stall in Main Entrance
- Wednesday 25th** Dentist visit - Fluoride Varnish Programme for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2  
8.45am Year 4 Assembly - **Parents invited**
- Friday 27th** 9am Reception/Year 1 Phonics Parent Workshop—via Zoom. Log in details to follow

### FEBRUARY

- Thursday 2nd** 8.45am Year 2 Assembly - **Parents invited**
- Friday 3rd** PA Quiz Night - 7pm
- Tuesday 7th** Safer Internet Day
- Friday 10th** 8.45am - Year 3 Assembly - **Parents invited**  
3pm - Valentine's Day Cake Stall - organised by Year 6 parents  
School closes for half term 3pm for School or 5 - 5.45pm for Extended School
- Monday 13th - Friday 17th February - Half term**
- Monday 20th** Inset Day - School closed for Children
- Wednesday 22nd** 9am - Ash Wednesday Mass led by Class 4J St Joan of Arc Church - **Parents invited**

- Thursday 23rd** 8.15 - 8.45am Recycled Uniform Stall in Main Entrance
- Friday 24th** 8.30am PA Meeting in staffroom

### MARCH

- Thursday 2nd** World Book Day / Readathon Starts - Non-uniform Dress as a book character
- Thursday 9th** 8.45am Year 1 Assembly - **Parents invited**
- Friday 10th** 8.45am Parent Forum in staffroom
- Thursday 16th** 8.45am Reception Mother's Day Assembly - **Parents invited**
- Friday 17th** 8.45am Mass led by Class 4I St Joan of Arc Church - **Parents invited**  
3pm St Patrick's Day Cake Stall organised by Year 5 parents
- Tuesday 21st** 8.30am PA Meeting in staffroom
- Friday 24th** 8.45-10am Open Morning for all Parents/Carers
- Wednesday 29th** 8.45am - Year 5 Passion Play - **Parents invited**
- Friday 31st** 9am - End of term Mass led by Class 3G - **Parents invited**  
School closes for Easter Holiday at 1.30pm - There is no Extended School provision

# St Joan of Arc Term Dates

2022-2023



<https://www.st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022-23-Term-Dates-grid.pdf>

2023-2024

attached