



Dear Parents/ Carers,

It's hard to believe that it is half term already and therefore half way through the academic year.

The children have continued to work very hard this term both in class as well as participating in lots of additional curriculum opportunities too.

In Monday's assembly, our Digital Leaders introduced Safer Internet Week, with the main focus on 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.' The children also had an interactive presentation from the mobile network 3 whereby we found out that the most vulnerable age group targeted by scammers are 18-24 year olds. More information on what the children have been learning about in this area of the curriculum is attached to the email.

I hear Friday night's quiz night was a roaring success. Many thanks to the Parents Association who organised

this event behind the scenes and to those of you who attended.

We have an INSET Day tomorrow so the school is closed to pupils. The staff are attending training on how to further improve standards of children's writing at the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education.

Have a lovely half term, with hopefully some rest and recuperation. The school reopens on

Monday 24th February at 8.15am.

I hope you all manage to get a well-earned rest over the half term.

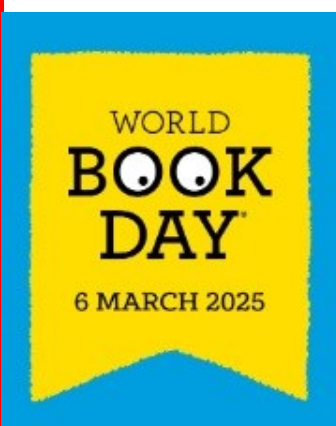
Clare Campbell



Book Week 3rd – 7th March— 'A Book at Bedtime'

We are delighted to announce that the school will be holding a book week commencing on Monday 3rd March to celebrate the joy and importance of reading. This year our celebration will be called 'A Book at Bedtime' and it will focus on how reading at bedtime not only helps us develop a love of reading but also helps us to sleep well.

Advanced notice—**World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March** and this year we would like the children to come into school in their pyjamas/dressing gown to celebrate this year's theme. Your child may also wish to bring in slippers to change into at school. This will hopefully make sourcing a costume easier for busy parents and will also support our school's sustainability drive as there should be no need to buy or make a costume.



The children will also be participating in a number of reading activities during the week, both in their class and as a year group. At 2.30 pm each day, the children will be read a bedtime story by another adult in a different classroom. We will also be learning about how using screens at bedtimes can effect our sleep and how reading is a better activity before you go to bed.

This week, we focused on Internet Safety, and the children participated enthusiastically in an assembly themed, *"Too Good to Be True? Protecting Yourself and Others from Online Scams,"* led by Three Discovery.



The junior classes had a blast using a green screen to create adverts and short movies highlighting ways to spot scams on the internet. Additionally, classes were privileged to join online lessons hosted by the BBC, gaining valuable insights into staying safe online.



During computer lessons, the focus remained on the importance of ensuring that everyone feels safe while using technology. It was a fantastic week of learning, creativity, and awareness!



Thanks to everyone for supporting the cake sale run by Year 3 and 4, which raised an impressive £292.50!

This will be our final cake sale for this school year as we've taken on board your feedback on healthy eating.

Instead, we'll be offering ice pops in the summer term.



St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School - Summer Term intake

If your child was born between 01.01.22—31.03.22, 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

The nursery is led by a fully qualified class teacher, early years practitioner and nursery nurse.

The nursery hours are Monday to Friday 8.15am—3.00pm



Coffee Morning / Visit your child in class/ Uniform Shop

Friday 28th February @8.30am

A reminder that we have our coffee morning on the first Friday after half term. This is a chance for you to catch up over a coffee with other parents as well as see your child in class.

The recycled uniform shop will also be open in the small hall.



School Building Fund

Thank you to those parents who have already made a contribution to the school's building fund this academic year, which is held for us by the Diocese of Westminster. These contributions, whilst voluntary, remain an essential element of our income: without them, we would be unable to pay the 10% of the costs of any refurbishment or major repairs which all voluntary-aided schools have to find from their own private resources.



The Governors Finance committee discussed the projects that we would like to action this year in last Friday's meeting and two main areas were agreed:

Refurbish the toilets /corridor / cloakroom areas in the Year 2 / 3 block which were installed 23 years ago and have never been updated.

Install a ventilation system for Class 1, to make the classroom environment more manageable for both pupils and staff.

Additionally, we have applied for some funding to complete the extension in the Extended school's area. If we are successful in this bidding process, we would need to make a 10% contribution to this project. We will be informed of the outcome of our bid in May.

We understand that there are many demands on your time and resources, and we ask only that you consider contributing to the building fund if you are able to do so. Even a small contribution can make a meaningful difference in providing our children with a safe, comfortable, and welcoming environment in which to learn and grow.

Every pound you give will be thoughtfully spent on improvements, and as always, we remain deeply grateful for your support. The suggested contribution is £60 per child or £100 for families with two or more children at the school, but any amount you feel comfortable giving will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and for being such an important part of our St. Joan of Arc family.

How do I pay?

Please use the following details, quoting your child's name as a reference:

Sort Code: 16-01-09
Account Number: 14983032
Account Name: WD St Joan of Arc High

Quiz Night 2025: A Night to Remember!

A huge thank you to everyone who attended Quiz Night 2025! It was great to see so many new faces. This year marked a special milestone as it was the first time the quiz had sold out since 2016, and the feedback has been absolutely wonderful. Winners: Congratulations to "We Have to Win, It's Adrienne's Birthday," a spirited group of Year 2 parents who clinched the victory in a nail-biting tie-breaker against a talented Year 1 team!



Kudos to our amazing teachers who secured third place with their impressive knowledge.

Thank you all who attended, and a special thanks to our quiz master Chris and to Ian and Sandra for writing this year's quiz. A special thanks to those who kindly volunteered to make this event such a success. We can't wait to see you next year for more fun and friendly competition!

PARENTS EVENING REMINDER

- Bookings open at 10am on Monday 3rd March—
- You will receive a text with a link.
- Parents Evening - Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th March
3.15-5.45pm



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

- Year 5/ 6 Choir Performance – Thursday 27th March @ 8.45am**
- The children who are part of the senior Choir (in years 5/6), would like to invite you to their concert to hear their beautiful singing. This will be in the large hall. The newly formed junior choir will have their performance turn in the summer term.



Friday 14th February—SCHOOL IS CLOSED

INSET DAY

School re-opens Monday 24th February