



Newsletter No. 9

Fri 17th January 2025

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.

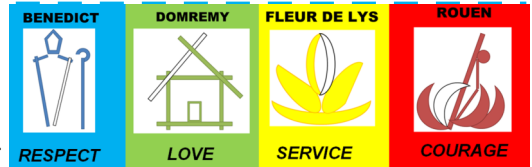
The children have made a very positive start to the Spring Term and have got straight back into working hard in class. The school has a very calm and purposeful working environment and it is a real pleasure to see the children so settled in class. It was nice to start the term on Monday, with a whole 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 – both arrival and collection and improving attendance.

As we start 2025, 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 Betty (Class M) was last term's worthy winner.

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



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.

CHILDREN'S ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school for any reason, it is extremely important that you let us know.

Please use the absence email - **absence@st-joanofarc.islington.sch.uk**

or telephone the school 0207 226 3920 choosing option 1

Please leave a brief message, include your child's full name and their class.

This helps keeps our registers compliant and saves the need to chase you.

St Joan of Arc Catholic Nursery School – Summer Term Intake

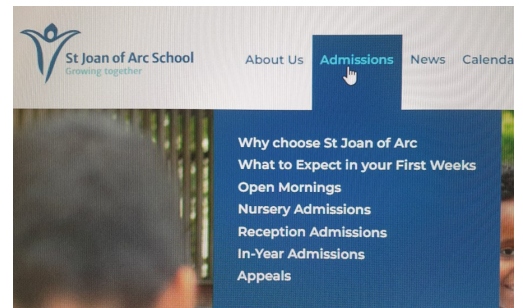
If your child was born between **01.01.22 - 31.03.23**, and you are interested in applying for either a full or part time place to start in April, please contact the school's admissions officer on:
020 7226-3920.

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.



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 books to read both at home and at school. You will be aware that reading is a life skill and in order for children to read fluently, they need to read for a minimum of 15 minutes per day. 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 on their reading journey.

Lost Books—Please have a look around at home for any school books and return them to school.

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 a large number of requests for term time absence.

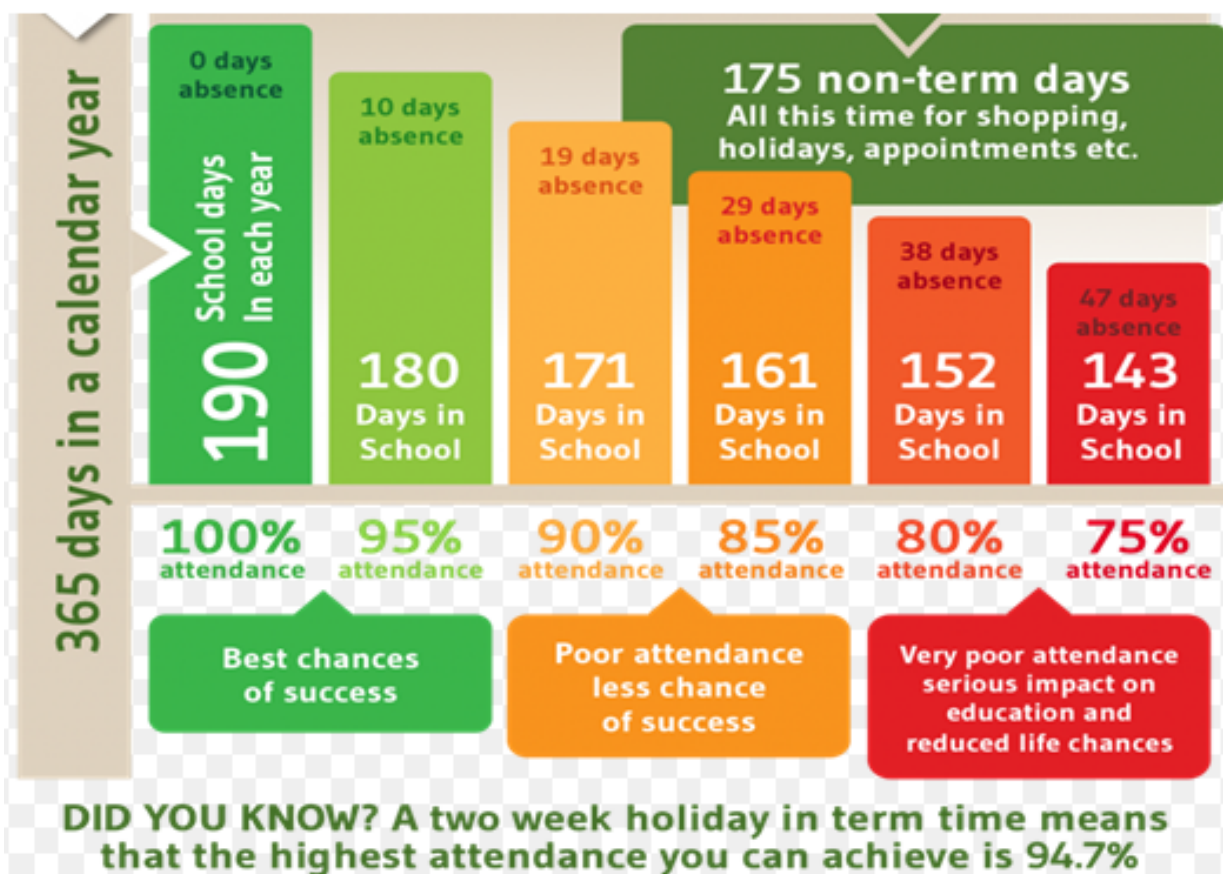
These requests amounted to a total of
90 school days lost.

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.



St Joan of Arc School[™]
Parents Association

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY
31ST JAN

Starts at 7:30pm

St Joan of Arc School, N5 2UX

£10 per person

Food and drink available to buy

BUY YOUR TICKET

<https://sja.rallyup.com/quiz25>

Kindly supported by Knight Frank Islington

Quiz Night

Our quiz night is on
Friday 31st JAN

Buy your tickets
now to ensure you do
not miss out on a
fun evening -

[https://
sja.rallyup.com/
quiz25](https://sja.rallyup.com/quiz25)

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)

We give you praise, O God, for everything
that is new and beautiful, for everything
which holds promise and brings us joy.

Bless us as we start this new year with
our friends and teachers Help us to make
the most of every chance we have to start
afresh. May we show love to one another
and to all.

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

2025-2026

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
21.01.25		Fluoride Varnish Application—Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2
23.01.25	8.45am	Year 4 Special Assembly
23.01.25	1-3pm	Year 6 trip to tfl/Islington Junior Citizenship Scheme, Sobell Centre
29.01.25		Year 6 trip to Unicorn Theatre—Pig Heart Boy
31.01.25		PA Quiz Night
03.02.25		Reception Vision and Hearing Tests
04.02.25		Reception trip to the Discovery Centre, Stratford
07.02.25	8.30am 3pm	PA Recycled Uniform Stall PA Cake Sale
11.02.25		Safer Internet Day Reception Vision and Hearing Tests
13.02.25	8.30am	Parent Support Network
14.02.25		Inset Day
17.02.25	21.02.25	Half Term Holiday
28.02.25	8.30am	Parent Coffee Morning
24.02.25	07.03.25	Class 5 K Course of Swimming Lessons, Highbury Pool
03.03.25—07.03.25		World Book Week
03.03.25	10am	Bookings open for Parents Evening appointments
05.03.25	9am	Ash Wednesday Mass led by Class 5L
06.03.25		World Book Day Readathon opens
10.03.25	21.03.25	Class 5L Course of Swimming Lessons, Highbury Pool
10.03.25		Tag Rugby Tournament
11.03.25		Year 5 and 6 Netball
12.03.25		Network Tag Rugby Competition
13.03.25	9am	Year 4 Trip to the British Museum Parent/Caregiver Forum
14.03.25	8.30am 3pm	PA Meeting, Staff Room PA Cake Sale
19.03.25	3.15-5.45pm	Parents Evening
20.03.25	3.15-5.45pm	Parents Evening
21.03.21	9am	School Mass led by Class 4I
28.03.25	8.30am	Year 4, 5 and 6 Reconciliation Mother's Day Tea Party for Reception Mums/Carers
21.03.25	04.04.25	Autism Awareness Week
01.04.25	12pm	Stations of the Cross
02.04.25	12pm	Stations of the Cross
03.04.25	9am	Year 5 Easter Passion, School Hall
04.04.25	9am 1.30pm	End of Term Mass, St Joan of Arc Church led by Class 4J School Closes for Easter Holidays