

St John Vianney Catholic School

Newsletter

Edition: 2018-19 / 89 (7th December 2018)

"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Advent Peace

It's kind of ironic that this week's Advent focus is Peace, given that this week has been anything but peaceful! But...that's also the point, isn't it? In a busy period, we are lucky to have a structure to our preparations for Christmas that give us the opportunity to stop and reflect. Our Year 6 team today reflected on Peace – not necessarily 'quiet peace', but peace of mind, happiness and gratitude for what we have been blessed with. And we have been blessed with another wonderful week!



Letter to Parents and Carers

Parents will have received a copy of this letter today, outlining some important information about the school's leadership from January.

Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts...

St John Vianney Catholic Primary School



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Headteacher: Mr S McNicholas

7th December 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

As many of you may know, Florence Collins, the Headteacher of St. Mary's Priory Infant and Junior schools, is retiring at the end of this term after 19 years as Headteacher. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing her well for a happy and well deserved retirement. She has been a wonderful asset to our local Catholic education community and we will all miss her greatly.

From the start of the Spring Term in January, my responsibilities will be extended to include the St. Mary's schools; as Executive Headteacher, I will be responsible for St. John Vianney and St. Mary's Junior and Infant schools.

The schools' relative locations, shared ethos, aims and strengths are ideally placed to support success for all going forward.

As with our previous arrangement with St. Bernadette last academic year, I must reassure you that I remain the Headteacher of St. John Vianney and my commitment to this school remains unchanged. I plan to be a ready and accessible presence in both sites.

It is an exciting time for us all, and the closeness of our schools represents an opportunity for staff and children to work more collaboratively and supportively going forward.

I hope to see many of you before we break for Christmas, with the upcoming shows and events in 'full-prep' mode, it promises to be another wonderful time!

Yours sincerely

Stephen McNicholas Headteacher

"In our school children, staff, parents and carers, governors and parish will work together to create a caring, learning environment with Our Lord as the focal point in which each child is valued as an individual, nurtured and encouraged to fulfil his/her potential."

Christmas Fair

We ended the week in Christmassy style as the Friends of SJV put on the annual Christmas cake sale and fair. It was hugely popular, as ever, and very well attended by our families. Santa was in place, sugary treats went down well and an amazing £700 approx was raised for the school. Huge thanks, as ever, to the Friends for their hard work, and to all of you for supporting them!



Admissions for 2019

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, you must apply for a primary school reception year place for September 2019. The deadline for applications is midnight on **Tuesday** 15 January 2019. If you haven't yet applied, please do so as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If you require any assistance, please contact the school office. If you known anyone that would like a place in Reception Class 2019, or in Nursery from January, please have them contact the office. Why go to SJV?



Reception 2019 & Nursery Places



Why send your child to St. John Vianney?

We know that choosing the right primary school is one of the most important decisions you will make for your child.

We know that primary school is where children learn <u>how</u> to go to school; how to get on with others, to make friends; where they learn to work with each other and with the adults that are there to help them every step of the way; where they can make mistake after mistake, learning from each and growing stronger; where they learn to read, write, to become numerate, to begin a lifelong exploration of self and of the world; to form and build a relationship with faith and with God.

These are the building blocks of a successful life and at St. John Vianney, we are building strong futures.

Ofsted











What does Ofsted Say (March 2017)?

- "Pupils' personal development is outstanding."
- "Pupils' behaviour is outstanding. Their conduct in school is exemplary."
- "The Headteacher's calm, measured and incisive leadership has ensured that pupils make good progress and develop into confident young people."
- "Pupils' progress in writing in English is particularly strong."
- "Major changes to the curriculum have ensured that it is relevant and interesting for pupils."
- "Pupils make good progress in reading, writing and mathematics at key stages 1 and 2. This is as a result of consistently strong teaching."

What do our results say (KS2 SATs 2018)?

- Progress in Maths was in the highest in the borough, and in the top 10% of all schools nationally
- Progress in writing is in the top 10% of all schools nationally
- Attainment and progress in Writing and Maths was, significantly above average nationally
- 2017 League Tables rank SJV in top 5 schools in Haringey

Pupils **attain above national averages** at all key stages: EYFS, Phonics, KS1 and KS2

See for yourself - Come to visit us, see us in action. Meet our staff and our wonderful children, and we know you will agree that this is the best place for your child. Please make an appointment at the office.

Reminders and Notices

Parent Dining Experience

 Parental lunch for 14th December is now full! There will be another one next term.

Parent Money (Cashless Payments)

- There are still some parents who haven't logged into the on line payment system - School Money.
- If you are having problems logging on please report any issues to the office so they can be rectified before the end of term.

Class 4 sing at Westminster Hall

Year 4's Westminster Choir outreach programme continues, and they had their end of term performance at Cathedral Hall earlier this week.



Meet Viking – the horse named by SJV pupils!

Last year, the school took part in a competition to name one of the new Met Police horses. We were asked to think of a name beginning with 'V', and Viking was a winning response. Last week, our year 4s went to say 'hello' to our new four-legged best friend: Viking the Police Horse!



The SIV Daily News

Friday 7th December 2018

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes...etc.

In-School Panto Goes Down a Storm!



Jack and Beanstalk

Once upon a time, in a far off Kingdom, there lay a small village, at the end of the woods...

On Tuesday, the hall was turned into 'once-upon-a-time' land, as we staged an exclusive production of Jack and Beanstalk.

Having the production in school proved to be a huge hit with the children; they were able to join in more, interact with the baddies more loudly, sing along and develop a real relationship with the characters. Many children enjoyed moments onstage with the characters, including a section involving the 'fastest flosser' one of the actors had ever seen! Also...there were no silly 'adult' jokes about Brexit, which was a relief! A panto 'for the kids' – at last!









Supercalifragilistic expialidocious!

This week saw the culmination of many, many weeks' preparation as the St. John Vianney Choir took to the stage in support of the St. Thomas More Christmas production of Mary Poppins.

They lent their voices to a wonderful production, and each song that they contributed to was notably richer in sound and effect – absolutely brilliant!

It was a gruelling couple of days (hey – that's showbiz), as they put in 6 performances, so we had some very 'tired teddies' indeed come final curtain on Thursday.

It was also brilliant to see our ex-pupils up on stage, brimming with confidence and happiness: well done to Dylan, Maja, Eliana, Gabriela and, the star of the show, Mary Poppins herself – Yazmin. Yazmin was amazing; she gave an all-singing, all-dancing performance of genuine star quality and she absolutely 'nailed' the character of Mary Poppins: "Close your mouth Michael, we are NOT a codfish!"

We are SO proud of her, and all the ex-SJV stars. Huge thanks to Mrs. Griffin again for preparing, looking after and showing our children off in the best possible way! Spit-spot!













Key Dates for Autumn

- 13th Dec Christmas Performance (6:30pm)
- 14th Dec Christmas Performance (9:30am)
- 19th Dec School Christmas Lunch
- 21st Dec Mass 10am; End of Term School ends 1:15 pm

Key Date for Spring

Children return to school on Monday January 7th

Congratulations:

I am delighted to share with you the great news that

Christmas has come early in the Agu household!
Mrs Agu gave birth to a baby daughter this morning, and mum and baby are both well!
No name has been chosen yet, but I will keep you updated...









