

# St John Vianney Catholic School

## Newsletter

Edition: 2015-16 / 5 (24th June 2016)

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



We continue to work hard and enjoy our learning, as you will see from the many lovely photographs in this edition of the newsletter; the Summer term really is a whirlwind of activity, and the children are enjoying it immensely, even though the weather is challenging us at every step along the way!

As we begin to close another academic year here at St. John Vianney, it is time to start thinking about plans and actions for next year—it is never too early, and we will never stand still!

Please have a read of the Parent Voice section later in this newsletter, and reflect on whether you are able to help in this capacity.

The Parent community is vitally important to the success of the school, and to the success of our children, so it is a wise investment to ensure that our families' voice is heard in a constructive and positive manner.



Next Friday, at 9am before assembly, Michael Pugh will be visiting the school to discuss the borough's housing situation. Michael is our new representative from London Citizens, and in the past the school has worked in partnership with them to good effect, most notably in the 'City Safe Haven' initiative.



Michael would again like to work with the school, so that real issues that affect our families' housing are brought out in the open, discussed and ultimately resolved.

Mr. Pugh will make himself available in the Parents' Room for an informal discussion from 9am. Please, if you have a view and if you have the time, come along and tell him what matters to you. We look forward to working together to improve the lot of the families in our community.

**NB:** Confirmation that the 5th and 6th of September 2016 are Staff Training days and the school will be closed. **Children return to school on Wednesday 7th September 2016.** Full 2016/17 dates to follow.

### Parent Questionnaire

You should all have received a **Parent Questionnaire** over the last few days.

Please may I ask that you complete the form (it should only take a few minutes) and return to the office or via your child to their class teacher. Your views are an important factor in school improvement, so it would be great to hear from as many of you as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☒  
Disagree ☐  
I don't know ☐

### Scooter Security

It has come to my attention that, sadly, there have been one or two cases of scooters left outside Nursery being stolen. May I ask parents to ensure that scooters left here be secured to the bicycle rack or the railing with a secure lock, as we cannot supervise this area during the day.

Alternatively, there is a secure place outside Class 5 in the main playground that can be used to store scooters.

In the longer term, we will investigate the possibility of a scooter rack, but in the meantime, please ensure that your property is secure.





# School Life



## Life in Modern Britain

This week's assembly was always meant to be a culmination of the hard work each class has been undertaking in order to reflect on what it means to be a positive member of British society. Timed, as it was, for the day after the referendum, it was always going to be topical! While the news was sinking in, and clearly not the news that the majority expected or wanted, it was a good time to reflect on what it all meant. The children have been superb in this topic: open, sensible, considerate and passionate. Some were disappointed and confused, worried even, but we at St. John Vianney are a diverse bunch, with a strong sense of community, and we are a shining example of how British Values can work for the good of all. Click to look at more: <http://www.st-johnvianney.haringey.sch.uk/catholic-life/events-gallery>

Brexit Poetry Slam!



Reception Rules!



The great Brexit Debate!



Diversity brings new experiences!



Wonderful religious diversity



We come from EVERYWHERE!

## Values

- ▶ You must do what most people want, not what YOU want.
- ▶ **Democracy**
- ▶ There are so many different cultures, nationalities and religions to understand.
- ▶ **Mutual Respect and Tolerance**
- ▶ You can get into trouble for doing certain things.
- ▶ **Rule of Law**
- ▶ People are allowed to have different opinions and disagree with me!
- ▶ **Freedom**



## Parent Voice



**Parent Voice** is a committee of parent representatives, one from each class, which meets with the school leadership each half term. The aim of Parent Voice is to contribute to school improvement. It ensures that questions and suggestions from the wider parent community are forwarded in a constructive manner to the school and, where appropriate, used to improve aspects of school life for everybody.

The aims of Parent Voice are:

- \* To encourage parents to participate fully in the life and work of the school
- \* To ensure effective communication is maintained between all stakeholders
- \* To be a forum for parents to express the views of their class.
- \* To gain the support of parents and actively encourage them to participate in the process of school improvement

### Parent Voice IS:

- \* A body of parents that represents ALL parents.
- \* A group that collates ideas and suggestions for consideration by the Headteacher and the Governing body.
- \* A way for parents to learn more about the school.
- \* A real way for parents to contribute to the successful running of the school.



### Parent Voice IS NOT:

- \* A way of tabling complaints about individuals.
- \* A way of dealing with complaints from individual parents.
- \* A decision making body – appropriate suggestions are presented to the Headteacher and Governors for consideration.

### How Can I Get Involved?

We need one volunteer from each class group to represent the whole school, from Nursery to Year 6.

Volunteers need to be able to commit to a meeting, once each half term, from 2pm to 3pm.

Volunteers must be supportive of the aims and intentions of Parent Voice, as outlined above.

The school will communicate your role to all parents so that they are aware of who they need to see to forward ideas and suggestions.

**If you feel that you are able to support the school in this way, then please see me in the playground or let the office know.**

In the event that more one volunteer comes forward for any given class, we may ask that the duties are shared over the course of a year.

We would be extremely appreciative of assistance in this important area, so thank you in advance for your consideration and time.





# School Life



## Class 3 Graffiti Hunt

This week, Year 3 finally got to go on their 'Graffiti Hunt' - last week unfortunately was a washout, and I became the most unpopular person on the planet as I called off their trip, just as they were about to leave, because of a deluge from the skies! Never mind—good things come to those that wait, and I am reliably informed that this hunt was most definitely a 'good thing'! Ms. Burry had painstakingly researched the local area, taking photos of street art, and the children were then challenged to find them as they explored the local streets— fabulous fun! The first one, much to everyone's surprise, had been cleaned off, but there was still plenty to see. A fascinating look at the changing face of our streets.

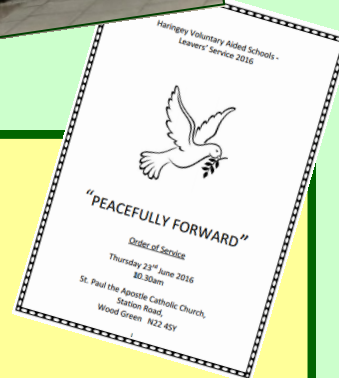


## Year 6 Leavers' Service

On Thursday this week, our Year 6 Class began their series of 'goodbyes' to St. John Vianney and Primary Education! We gathered together at St. Paul's in Wood Green, along with other local Catholic and Church of England schools, to celebrate the passing of another fantastic group of Year 6s from this school (this is my first: are they ALWAYS this good? This sensible? This polite? This hard working? I hope so...). The 'Peacefully Forward' service was a beautiful way of giving thanks for our time together and to look forward to the future—they are ready for it, I can assure you.

But...we didn't just turn up and to make up numbers! Our boys and girls took centre stage and kicked the service off with in rousing style with their superlative rendition of 'Our Time' (my favourite 'show tune' - yes I have a favourite show tune!). Mrs. Griffin's arrangement, enthusiasm and good old fashioned talent, coupled with our children's angelic voices, made for a rousing and emotional moment— **"It's Our Time, breathe it in, worlds to change and worlds to win, our turn coming through, you and me, yes, me and you."**

Click here to see more: <http://www.st-johnvianney.haringey.sch.uk/catholic-life/events-gallery>





# School Life



## Farmers' Market

Coming to the end of their work with the Country Trust, class three this week held their very own Farmers' Market! Presenting and selling some very fresh and reasonably priced produce, Class 3 showed a real talent for the traditional 'Fruit 'n' Veg' stall holders—"Git yer bananas 'ere! Only 30p a paahnd!" Lovely—look forward to the 'feast' in the coming weeks when they get to eat the fruits of their growing project!

We also made over £20 profit!



## Parent Support—"Maths No Problem" Tutorials

Long Division



Our newly implemented Maths Mastery scheme is proving a huge hit with teachers and children alike. It is a highly structured approach to teaching maths concepts, designed to leave no one behind and to deepen understanding!

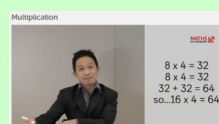
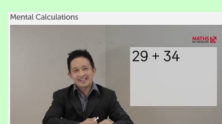
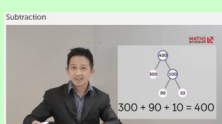
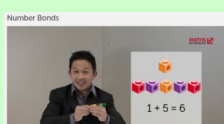
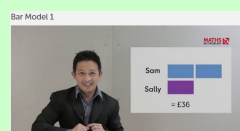
The way in which concepts are explored and taught may be very different to the way in which you were taught yourself, so it is important that you have a good understanding of 'how they are being taught now.'

In order to help you to support your children at home, we have secured some parent support materials, which clearly explain the thinking and the teaching behind they key concepts - they are a fascinating watch! After having seen a few, you will see how carefully the teaching builds understanding and leaves nothing to chance.

We will be supplementing this parent support with workshops for KS1 and KS2 in the Autumn term. In the meantime, let Dr Yeap give you an insight into Singapore Maths!

The Videos are on the school website, on the 'Curriculum/Maths No Problem' page:

<http://www.st-johnvianney.haringey.sch.uk/curriculum/maths-no-problem>







# School Life



## Maths Peer Tutors

This week, Mrs. Kennedy has been trialling an exciting new feature of Teaching and Learning in maths—**Peer Tutoring**. Put simply, this is confident maths pupils, teaching less confident pupils how to conquer key skills.

But it's not simple...the 'tutors' not only have to be confident in their subject, but they have to be skilled in explaining how the skill is constructed, how it uses other concepts we already know and, most importantly, they have to be skilled in 'not just giving the answer away'. Easier said than done—ask any teacher!



The Tutors love it—they get a sense of satisfaction and deepen their own mastery. Their Peers love it—they get to have an in-depth discussion with a patient, knowledgeable and skilled friend (on a 1 to 1 basis!).

Research shows that children learning from each other is an extremely effective way of making progress, at all levels—it is a dictionary definition of a 'win-win', and if the children enjoy it, we have a perfect educational model!

Look forward to lots more of this in the Autumn.





# School Life



## Park View Partnership

Since September, a small group of our Year 5 pupils have been attending weekly Literacy and Maths outreach sessions at Park View Secondary School, along with a host of other local primary schools. They have enjoyed their taste of 'big school' immensely, and have had exposure to advanced, challenging Teaching and Learning. Our teachers have also benefitted, with key skills being brought back and used in our Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms to great effect, particularly in reading.

That's all very well...but what does it all amount to? Well, to give you an idea, some of our pupils in Year 5 are now working at a level expected at the end of year 6 and beyond. Not only that, there was a prize given at the end of the year, by Park View's Headteacher Mr. Webster, for the school that showed the best combination of ability and perseverance. Who won? Have a look at our brilliant students—well done, we are all so proud of your achievements this year.



champions  
+ - x ÷ maths



## Dates

Date	Event
27th June	Choir perform at the Royal Albert Hall
1st July	Reception Class Assembly
6th July	Early Years Sports Day (Reception and Nursery AM only)
12th July	Infant Sports Day (weather permitting)
13th July	Year 2 Optional Parent Consultations
13th July	Class 6 Leavers' Variety Show (4pm)
14th July	Reception Optional Parent Consultations
14th July	Junior Sports Day (weather permitting)
15th July	Fun and Fitness Assembly (10am)
19th July	Class 6 Leavers' Mass (7pm)
20th July	End of Year Mass (10am)
21st July	End of Term - School Closes 1:30

