



St John Vianney Catholic School

Newsletter

Edition: 2016-17 / 15 (2nd December 2016)

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

Parent Engagement

A big thank you to those that were able to make time on Wednesday evening to attend the Parents' AGM. I know that time is precious and we are all busy, so I am grateful for your participation and your positive feedback. It was a very disappointing turnout, however, and I am keen to understand ways in which we can better communicate with the parent community. Evenings don't suit everyone. Neither do mornings or afternoons, which gives the school a logistical challenge. It is one we are happy to work with, if we feel we can improve involvement.

I don't believe there is apathy; I know that you care about the way in which the school is run and its plans for the future. I know that you have ideas for improvement and I know that from time to time, you will have specific concerns. I am determined that this is all funnelled through official, yet informal, channels, rather than allowing ideas, issues and uncertainties to simply swirl around.

I know, too, that many of you are happy with the school and don't feel the need to engage – which is absolutely fine.

Meetings such as last Wednesday's are an ideal way of creating this information rich environment. In addition, my previous appeal for class representatives to take part in a regular 'Parent Voice' forum did not gain any traction.

I am repeating last Wednesday's meeting at two different time slots over the next couple of weeks in order to gauge the optimum time for maximum engagement.

- **Thursday 8th December at 3pm**
- **Thursday 15th December at 9am**

Parent Voice

I repeat my appeal for a representative from each class. We will have a meeting each half term to discuss any ideas, issues and concerns. It will be informal and two-way (we will also give YOU and update on key aspects of school life), and I believe that it will vastly improve communication.

Please look out for the appeal letter in the next week.



School Uniform

It has come to our attention lately that certain items of school uniform are slipping. It is important that we all observe the uniform requirements; it is central to our identity and togetherness. In particular, I must remind you of:

- **School shoes:** must be black, plain (NO logos or branding) and must not go over the ankle. Boots are not part of school uniform.
- **School tie:** compulsory for KS2, optional for EYFS and KS1

Children are welcome to wear boots to school in the winter months, and they may wear trainers before school at break times to play sports, but they **must change into regulation school shoes** for the school day.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

Applications for Reception Class September 2017

- **Reminder** that the deadline for receiving completed Reception Class Supplementary Information forms for SJV is **Friday, 13th January 2017**.
- The deadline for on-line applications to the LA is Sunday, 15th Jan 2017.

Panto

For those that have not yet returned the slip and money for the Pantomime, please do so as soon as possible.

School lunch money / breakfast club money

The office has asked me to remind you that, if you have money owing, please pay at the front office as soon as you can. Accounting for and chasing monies owed takes an inordinate amount of time.

Lost Property

The lost property situation worsens; the boxes are literally overflowing. Please make sure that you have clearly marked your child's name on each article of clothing.

Autumn Dates

Please make a note of these dates and events in your diary:

Mon 5th Dec: Choir trip to Wigmore Hall

Thu 8th Dec: Parents' AGM (3pm)

Tue 13th Dec: Carol Service 4:30pm (in park with West Green, St. Mary's, North Harringay & Chestnuts)

Wed 14th Dec: Pantomime at the Millfield Theatre (am)

Thu 15th Dec: Parents' AGM (9pm)

Thu 15th Dec: School Christmas Concert – Witnesses (7pm in the school hall)

Thu 16th Dec: School Christmas Concert – Witnesses (9:15 am in the school hall)

Wed 21st Dec: End of Term Mass (10am in the school hall)

Wed 21st Dec: End of Term – school closes at 1:15pm

Tuesday 3rd/Wednesday 4th January: Staff Training Days – School closed.

Thursday 5th January: Spring Term Starts

Christmas Display Boards

The school is starting to move into 'full Christmas mode': the sound of Carols and Christmas performance rehearsals are pervading the air; glitter is clinging to every surface; the first Advent candle has been lit and the halls are well and truly 'decked'! The displays this year are stunning and a real reflection of the pride, creativity and hard work among the staff and children. We have 3-d elements, lights and...a display that gives off a whiff of cinnamon as you walk by! Wow...very well done to all concerned.



Christmas
boards at
SJV



Class 3 takes us to a world of Pure Imagination

This Friday, Class 3 gave us a wonderful presentation of their learning. Their assembly gave us an insight into their topic, 'Scrumdiddlyumptious' (I hope I have spelled that right!), which is all based on the timeless novel, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. It is heartening to see that it still captivates children as much as it did when I sat the feet of my teacher, just down the road, way back when...

Their performances, costumes, props and, most of all, enthusiasm, was an absolute joy. Well done to class 3 and to Ms. Burry, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Griffin (and one or two parents, I suspect) for their hard work in supporting the children.





Road Safety Week

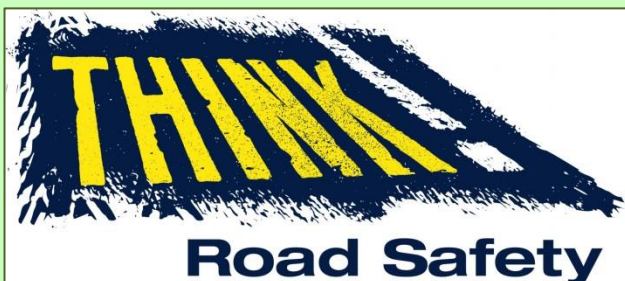
Road Safety Week

Class 5 and Class 6 led the way during Road Safety Week, when they met with representatives from Brake and Donovan's to discuss ways of keeping safe on the road, particularly when cycling and sharing the road with monster trucks like the one that visited the school.

Everyone was impressed with their knowledge and politeness and we all even managed a turn in the driver's seat!

The story made it to the local newspapers (as far as Enfield, meaning I could read about our brilliant children over my cornflakes this morning!), so keep an eye out.

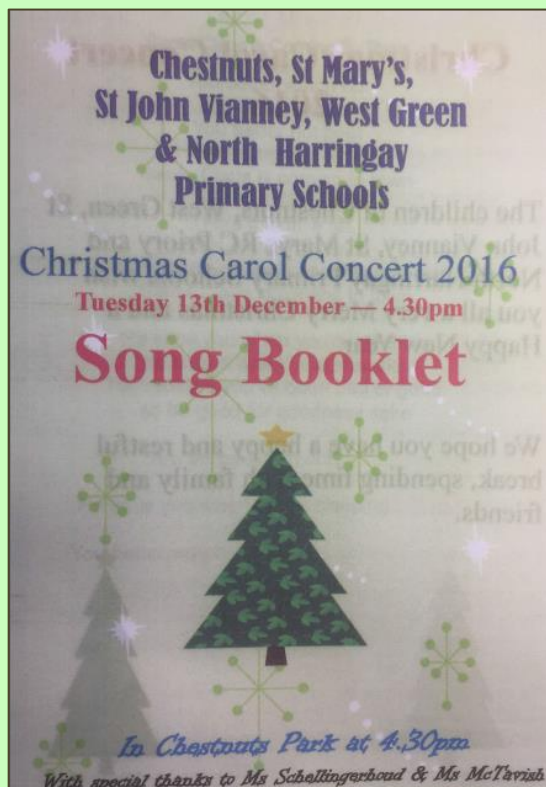
[http://www.thetottenhamindependent.co.uk/news/14931908.Children given crash course in road safety/](http://www.thetottenhamindependent.co.uk/news/14931908.Children%20given%20crash%20course%20in%20road%20safety/)



Carol Singalong!

Remember – the SJV/West Green/St Mary's/Chestnuts community Carol Signing Service event will take place on **Tuesday 13th December at 4:30pm** in Chestnuts Park.

Please put this date in your diaries and really kick start the festive season!



Christmas Cake Sale

Another HUGE thank you to our brilliant 'Friends of SJV'! This afternoon, they laid on a lavish spread of cakes and bakes, provided plenty of festive cheer and raised money to fund treats for the children at Christmas. A great way to end another busy week at school! **STOP PRESS!!!!!! This amazing event raised a whopping £730! Not only will this (comfortably) fund crackers for the Christmas lunch, we will use it to fund a special treat for all in the new year.**



Advent

Our Chaplaincy Team provided us with a timely reminder that we are entering the period of Advent; a time to prepare ourselves for the great celebration of Christmas. Each child will be given a candle and a calendar to help them to find some room each day to pray, reflect and to ready themselves for Christmas.



Community Notice

Crime Prevention Day



Saturday 3rd December 2016 11:00 - 16:00
Harringay United Church 581C-583 Green Lanes, London N8

Meet officers from Harringay and St Ann's Safer Neighbourhood teams
and learn about their work

Get tips on how to keep your home safe and secure

Discover how to protect your property with SmartWater

Interact with representatives from the local Neighbourhood Watch

Meet Harringay's police cadets

Special appearance from Father Christmas



METROPOLITAN
POLICE

Working together for a safer London

