St John Vianney Catholic School



Newsletter

Edition: 2016-17 / 18 (6th January 2017) *"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."*

Happy New Year to all of our families

After a frighteningly short Christmas break, it was lovely to welcome you all back on Thursday morning, all smiles and enthusiasm as usual.

Once again, the children have made a fantastically positive start to the new term – long may it continue!



Our new, whole school, entrance hall display adds a vibrant and beautiful aspect for all visitors. All of the children's photographs feature on the tree, along with their reflections about its theme: we are stronger when we grow together. Please take a look when you are next in – see if you can spot your 'leaf'!

Funeral of Bornali Shade

We were very saddened to hear of the passing of Ms Shade, mother of Rekha in class 4, shortly before Christmas. I am sure that you will join me in sending our sincere condolences and prayers to the family at this very sad time. **The funeral service will be held at St. John Vianney Church on Tuesday 17th January at 9:15**.

Parent Voice – Calling Class 4 and Class 6 Parents!

We now have just two places to fill before our first meeting later this month.

Nursery: Ms Batchelor Reception: Ms McGaw Class 1: Ms Denker Class 2: Ms Mikeli Class 3: Ms Quilliec Class 5: Ms. Dunne Class 4 and Class 6 all still vacant.



Applications for Reception Class September 2017

This is the final week – please ensure that your applications are in by the end of next week. If you know anyone that this might affect, please give them a reminder on our behalf. Competition for places is keen, and late applications will mean that your place will be offered to someone else.

- 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.

Friends of SJV Meeting

The first meeting of the Spring Term will take place here at the school on **Monday 9th January at 7:30pm**. Please do all you can to support the Friends – they do magnificent work for the school and always appreciate extra help.



Maths Teaching and Training

The staff were back in even earlier after the Christmas break, and we spent our training days going through some important Maths training, ready to push for even more improvement. We welcomed the staff of Our Lady of Muswell during this training and we hope to forge a strong professional partnership with them over the balance of the year. It is vital that we work with other schools, as the sharing of practice and ideas is the single most effective route to sustained school improvement.

We will be creating some parent workshops in the coming term to share the principles behind our maths teaching here at SJV – it is very different to the way I (and I'm guessing most of you!) was taught at school, and indeed very different to the way in which it was taught in the previous curriculum. Watch this space for details and dates.



Spring Dates

Please make a note of these dates and events in your diary: Mon 9th Jan: Friends of SJV meeting 7:30pm Wed 11th: Science Dome Day Thu 12th Jan: Swimming starts for Class 4; Guitar Lessons begin Fri 13th Jan: Friends of SJV – Junior Film Evening (3:45pm) Fri 3rd Feb: Class 2 Assembly; Cycling Proficiency Bike Check Mon 6th Feb: Cycling Proficiency Week Tue 7th Feb: Parent Consultations (letter to follow) Thu 9th Feb: Parent Consultations (letter to follow) Fri 10th Feb: Class 3 Assembly; Friends of SJV Valentine's Cake Sale (3pm to 4pm) Mon 13th Feb to Fri 17th Feb: Half Term, school closed



The Feast of the Epiphany

At Friday's assembly, the children helped us reflect on one of the most important aspects of the whole Christmas story – the Epiphany. The importance of the visit of the Kings is sometimes lost so it was a timely reminder. The Kings were Gentiles (the Shepherds were Jewish); the Kings were rich (the Shepherds were poor). It helped us to understand that God's gift in the form of his son Jesus was a gift to us all, regardless of race, colour, religion or background.

"No matter what our race, nationality, colour or religion, each of us is made in the image and likeness of God. For all of us, this is a day of real celebration – we, too, are chosen."

'What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.'

Fair Funding for Schools

Unless you are avoiding news and the newspapers altogether, you will be very aware that schools are facing unprecedented challenges due to issues with funding. We are having to do more, with less money than ever before. Conservative estimates report that school **budgets will be reduced by 10% by 2020**.

A new funding formula is seeking to redistribute funds from cities, where funding has been a success, to rural and coastal towns, where attainment is worryingly low. While that may sound sensible, it leaves those in the cities, such as us, with a significant challenge. Haringey has been a relative success in recent years and therefore is in line for some of the more significant cuts.

A public meeting is being held for parents concerned about the effect this will have on Haringey schools on **Tuesday 17th January at 8pm at Rhodes Avenue School.**

FAIR FUNDING FOR ALL SCHOOLS

PLEASE COME TO OUR MEETING

Tuesday 17 January, 8.00pm – 9.30pm

Rhodes Avenue Primary School, Rhodes Avenue, London, N22 7UT

SPEAKERS TO INCLUDE

Catherine West MP

Claire Kober, Leader of Haringey Council Kevin Courtney, General Secretary, National Union of Teachers Matt Dykes, Fair Funding for all Schools

CALLING ALL PARENTS

Schools in Haringey are really up against it. We are facing a funding crisis as a result of government cuts.

Haringey schools could be losing up to 10 per cent in real terms by 2020.

We are a group of parents in Haringey and we want to stop the cuts to our schools.

Please come to our meeting and find out how we can join forces to get our voice heard for Fair Funding for All Schools.

MaringeyParents

facebook.com/FairFundingForAllSchools