



# St John Vianney Catholic School Newsletter

Edition: 2016-17 / 49 (3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017)

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



## Welcome Back

With the clocks now firmly back, we know it's time to start the second half of the Autumn Term. The sound of bells and carols start to waft through the building as Christmas plays are cast and rehearsed; new topics are started (Ancient Greece, WW2, Playlist, Paws Claws and Whiskers, Alchemy Island to name a few) and the 'busy' scale gets racked up to 11! Ask any teacher, the second half of Autumn is the most frenetic, eclectic, messy, fun and unique. I am sure that you all remember your time in primary school at this time of year – it truly is a special part of the school calendar and it's here again – enjoy!

## Dates for your diary

- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November: Flu Vaccinations, Reception through to Year 4
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 9:15: Reception 2018 Open Morning
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November: Year 4 / Reception Class – Buddy Assembly
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November: Anti-Bullying Assembly
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November: Year 3 Assembly
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December: Advent Assembly
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December: Year 2 Assembly
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December: School, Trip to the Millfield Panto
- Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Performance – 'Nativity Nightmare' 7pm
- Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Performance – 'Nativity Nightmare' 9:15am
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: School Closes for Christmas – 1:15pm

## Lost Property

At the Christmas cake sale this year, we will have a stall containing the huge amount of lost property that we have amassed. For a donation to our Malawi charity, you can take any items you like.



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**B:M@30**

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

## Black History Celebration

Now celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, October saw schools across the country celebrating Black History Month, and this Friday our pupils shared their work and their learning.

Each class picked a different subject, and it was great to see a diverse set of figures from recent and not-so-recent history, ranging from sport to politics to poetry to the founder of the Notting Hill Carnival.

All had an important role to play in forwarding the cause of equality, respect, acceptance and humanity.

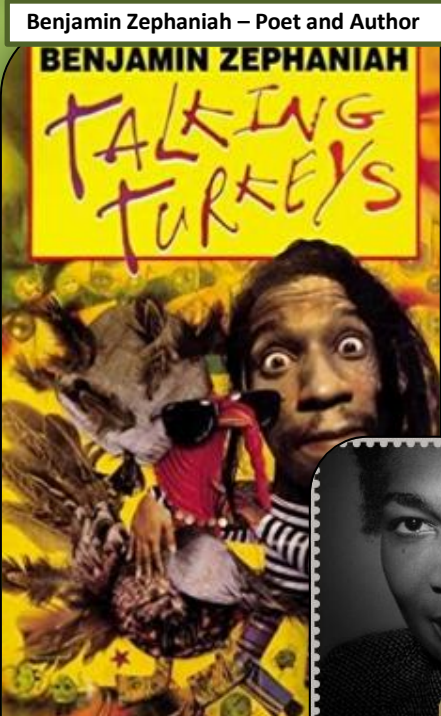
Congratulations to our pupils for such a wonderful celebration.



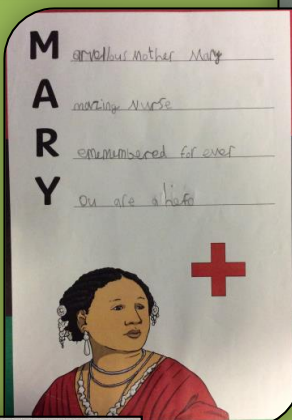
**Bernie Grant – First black member of parliament**



**Mary Seacole – Inspirational Nurse**



**Benjamin Zephaniah – Poet and Author**



**Walter Tull – First black footballer to play for Tottenham. War hero.**



**Claudia Jones – Civil rights activist  
And founder of the Notting Hill Carnival**







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## Is it a bird? Is it...wait, yes – it's a bird! Owl Hour Returns...

This week, we were again fortunate to have some very special feathery visitors to our school. Organised by Ms. Collins as part of their topic this half term, the whole school were treated to a wonderful, up close encounter with some of the most beautiful and fascinating of nature's predators.

They swooped, they screeched, they soared and they delighted the whole hall.



# The SJM Daily News

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

## Samba Sensation!

Notting Hill Carnival founder celebrated as part of Black History Month



### Carnival Time

A highlight of the whole school celebration of Black History this week undoubtedly was Class 4's wonderful, Notting Hill Carnival recreation. The boys and girls had clearly been busy, as they donned their special, custom made, Carnival headgear as they prepared to come forward.

As if that were not enough, they then proceeded to 'Samba' their way to the front, giving a demonstration that would have garnered a '10 from Len'!

Their celebration was based around the incredible story and perseverance of Claudia Jones, who fled persecution and prejudice in America and settled in Britain, which itself at the time was not a welcoming place. Not content to just avoid prejudice, she worked tirelessly to bring communities together and to encourage respect and tolerance of race and creed, culminating in the founding of the Notting Hill Carnival, a wonderful celebration of culture and diversity, still going strong today! Great work team 4!





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## Medusa

Everyone should see this! Class 3 are starting their Ancient Greece project (their class already has a re-creation of the Parthenon in place!), and this is a wonderful example of the creativity of the pupils (and their parents!).

This masterpiece is a nailed-on papier-mâché-paint-glue-pipe-cleaning classic!

Congratulations; so impressive.



## All Souls Poppies

Before half-term, we sent home a cut out Poppy. The idea is that, if you have any loved ones that you wish the whole school community to pray for in the month of All Souls, please send their names in on the poppy and we will add them to our remembrance display.

So far, we've only received a few; if you have lost the poppy, please ask at the office for another copy.