

Newsletter: November 2016

Dear Parents,

We are in November and on the countdown to Christmas! Please read on for some important items in our November newsletter...



### Parents' Evening

Thank you for your attendance at our autumn term parents' evening last half-term. We hope you have been working with your child on his/her targets. Please continue to refer to them as we begin to approach the end of the autumn term. Teachers really do notice a significant difference in the progress of children who work on and achieve their targets ☺

### Advent/Christmas Events

Below is a list of events we will be holding during the season of Advent. Please make a note of the dates relevant to you, so that you can attend.

- Senior Citizens Christmas Tea – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 10:30am, Thames Room.
- Nativity Performances – upper school hall
  - Parents of children in Reception to attend the performance on Fri. 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. (doors open at 1:30pm)
  - Parents of children in Years 1 + 2 to attend the performance on Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. (doors open at 1:30pm)
  - Both performances are ticketed and tickets will be given out during the week of the performances
- Nursery Nativity – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2pm (doors open 1:45pm), Nursery
- Children's School Christmas Parties – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. (afternoon) – *children only!*
- Advent Carol Service – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10:45am (doors open 10:35am) – *All parents are welcome to attend.*
- Carol Singing – this year our group of Year 6 children will be performing carols at the following public locations:
  - Bermondsey Tube Station – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 4:00pm - *TBC*
  - Canary Wharf – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12:30pm - *confirmed*
  - Hay's Galleria – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. 12:30pm - *confirmed*
- There is the possibility of a 'Parents' Christmas Cake Sale' provisionally booked for Wed.14<sup>th</sup> Dec. in the school grounds at 3:30pm. Watch this space for further details!



### Also...

- Our school calendar for the Year 2017 is at the printers! Last year's calendar theme was 'Famous quotes/proverbs' and this year's calendar theme is 'School Saints and Founders' A school calendar makes a great family gift! We will be selling these soon for only £6.00!
- Good News – if you ordered personalised Christmas cards designed by your child, these will be sent out next week!



### Our Annual Advent Fundraising Project

This year we are going to encourage our children to perform Random Acts of Advent Kindness at home, in school and in our local community. We hope to donate gifts to create class hampers for the senior citizens in our community working closely with Age Concern. Refer to details in our previous letter for items to donate ☺



## October & November Fundraising

A huge 'Thank you' for supporting all of our fundraising initiatives! We raised a fantastic £326.00 for Children in Need.



## Remembrance

### Remembrance Day



The children have been wearing their poppies with pride during the month of November and we have been remembering all those in heaven with Jesus in our prayers. We held a two minutes silence in school on Remembrance Day, joining the rest of the nation in this. Our poppy sales in school have raised £210.46 for all those affected by wars past and present. Thank you for your support.

### WWI Centenary (1914 – 1918 → 2014 – 2018)

We are marking the centenary of WWI over four years reflecting the duration of this Great War. This year, we will be learning about aspects of WWI through animals and looking at their role in the war. We will also be asking our children to continue completing their WWI journals started last year, and continuing over the next two years so they can develop their understanding of chronology and fully understand the duration of the war.



## We have a new Green Team!

Your green team projects and posters were outstanding! Congratulations to both children and parents for your time, effort and originality! We had houses with solar panels, mini greenhouses, many recycling bins and green poems! Each class teacher had the very difficult job of choosing just one winner and these children were announced in assembly last week on Tuesday! These children make up our new Green Team 2016/17! Congratulations everybody! Miss Allen, our Green Team leader, is excited to be working with the new Green Team – they have already had their first meeting!



## Reminders

Please remember that children are not permitted to wear jewellery during the course of the school or nursery day. Shoes should be worn to school, not trainers. All items of school uniform should be marked with your child's name – there are still coats found without names!!! You may wish to put a small badge on the coats of young children for easy identification, although they are getting very good at checking name labels and delivering coats to their owners!

## Staffing Announcements

### Congratulations!

Miss Crowe and Miss Ryan have both had their babies!



Miss Ryan welcomed her daughter 'Poppy' into the world on Thurs. 6<sup>th</sup> October at 8:00pm weighing 8lb 8oz and both mum and baby are doing well.

Miss Crowe is the proud mother of baby larleith (an Irish name pronounced Ear-la) – he was born on Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> October at 1:18am weighing 7lb 5oz!

Also, we are sure some of you may have already seen Miss Bates visiting the school with her bouncing baby boy Freddie! Freddie was born last July (16<sup>th</sup>) at 7:27pm weighing 8lb 6oz.

### Goodbye...

We say goodbye to Ms Sheeran at the end of this term. Ms Sheeran has worked in an admin. role in our school previously, she has helped to stock and catalogue the books in our school library and she is currently working in our nursery. We thank Ms Sheeran for her contribution to our school and wish her well in all her future endeavours – thank you Ms Sheeran!



If you have any questions regarding the items in this newsletter then please do not hesitate to speak to Miss Alford or Mr Macauley.

Please contact the school office for appointments, which can be made throughout the year.

Kind regards,

*St. Joseph's School Staff*