



School Newsletter

Friday 14th December 2018 Academic year 2018-19 Number 10

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are approaching the end of term at a rate of knots! Life in school (and probably at home too) never seems to slow down. We have a lot to share in this week's newsletter! Please look especially at the items and arrangements for next week.

Infant Nativity

Our Infant Nativity 'Superstar' took place on Wednesday and Thursday this week. It was a delightful production, sung and performed with great enthusiasm by the infant children. Thanks to everyone who came and supported it. Thanks also to the PTA for setting up a Christmas sale of goods and mince pies and refreshments in the Pannett Classroom afterwards. The PTA raised £220, which is terrific!

The Nativity was professionally videoed and an order form is attached – it has also been sent out previously on parentmail. Orders need to be received at the school office by Monday to ensure delivery before Christmas.

School Christmas Dinner on Tuesday

Our children really love Christmas dinner day and Mrs Jennings, and her team and Mrs Howard and her team try really hard to make it special for the children. We also ask if the children can bring in a Christmassy hat to wear – we always have some amazing concoctions – but if you are pressed for time, a decorated hat of any type is possible. We do like to see that the children have had a hand in them too! Prizes will be awarded.

Please make sure that your child's dinner money account has sufficient funds for the dinner, if they normally have a packed lunch.

This year, the staff will be sitting down together to eat at 3.30pm, so there will be no after school club. Please make sure you collect your children promptly, as the staff will have been very busy and deserve to sit down and enjoy a meal.

Carol Service

On Thursday we celebrate our Carol service at St John the Baptist. The service commences at 7pm, but we would like the children in place for 6.45pm. The service will be led by Year Six readers and each junior class will have a carol to share in the story. We would like whole families to come, so the infant children will sit with their parents for the Carol Service, while the junior children sit in their classes. We will have a command performance from the Infants present of one of the hits from their nativity at the end.

On Thursday afternoon we are walking all five junior classes down to St John the Baptist in the afternoon for a practice. I would appreciate it if any parents who are free to volunteer could meet us up here in school at 12.55pm, to help walk the children down. We will be walking back at 2.40pm, so again, if any parents are available to help I would be grateful. You can let me know by emailing head@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk.

Sports Reports

On Tuesday 5th we travelled over to Whitehorse Manor to compete in a Croydon Schools cup game. Straight from the off we battled hard and got three goals in the first five minutes of the game. We grabbed another two goals just before half time. In the second half another four goals were smashed in which gave us a comfortable 9-1 win. Ollie scored two, Adam, three, Archie, three and Charlie one. Man of the match was Daniel M. We progress into the next round of the cup. Well done boys! Go Roper!

On Wednesday 12th six girls attended Selhurst Park for a girls' football tournament. Coach Kiera said they played really well and came fifth out of 20 teams, only being knocked out in the quarter finals. Player of the match was Faithful, who battled for every ball and stayed determined throughout, despite being the youngest team player! Well done girls. .

Well done to our sportshall athletics team who competed recently at Llanfranc High School in a Croydon competition – as a result of their amazing efforts they have qualified for the borough finals next term.

Parent Governor Election

We have four candidates standing for election as parent governor. I'd like to thank all of them for volunteering to stand and for their interest and commitment to school governance and supporting our school. Ballot papers have been sent out and should be returned by Thursday 20th December. There is one ballot per family.

The four candidates standing are Melanie Appleby, Raul Gonsalves, Alex Reeves and Shanmugalingam Sabesan. You should have received their personal statements and the letter with these is attached to this newsletter again. Thank you. Don't forget to vote!

Clubs in last week of term

Most clubs have now ceased until after the Christmas break. The exceptions to this are Skillz, which will run next week as usual and Choir on Tuesday (practising for Carol service). All other clubs will be re-commencing after Christmas. A matrix will be circulated for bookings next week.

Special school choir for Christmas Eve Mass at St John the Baptist

On Christmas Eve at 5pm, St John the Baptist parish are holding their Children's Christmas Eve Mass. A flyer is attached. Mrs Hession is looking for children to act and read – see the flyer – you need to do this by tomorrow.

Also, Canon John has asked us if we can provide a special Margaret Roper choir to help the singing. The more the merrier. If you think your child is able to attend and join the choir, please send in the slip in the letter attached to this email. I appreciate that some families may be away with relatives, but Canon John and the parish do so much to support us and I'd like to show them we care and support them too. Miss Kelly and I will both be present. Please send in the reply slip by Wednesday, or email me at head@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk to let me know your child is available. We will have a practice in school next week.

Driving up to school

I've had to have a couple of awkward conversations this week; mainly with our colleagues at Thomas More. You all know the agreement we have with them – namely that driving up to Margaret Roper is prohibited between the hours of 8am and 4.30pm. This includes after-school clubs. Why, then, am I seeing (and stopping) drivers of cars who seem completely ignorant of this rule? Surely it's been said enough times by now?

Please observe the restrictions and do not drive up to the school unless you have specific permission. It's hard not to look foolish to Thomas More School and to answer their criticism or, indeed, to feed back to them about the behaviour of their pupils when we are not following the rules ourselves. It only takes a few.

Save the children Christmas jumper day

Thanks for sending your children into school today looking so amazing in their Christmas jumpers. You support these things so well. Donations will go to Save the Children – I'll let you know how much we raised after it is counted. However, look at this link to a video describing the work done – we showed it to the children in assembly today. <https://player.vimeo.com/video/302101445> Thanks so much for your support.

We liked the Christmas jumpers so much today we have decided that your children can wear them again on Tuesday, if you wish, for Christmas dinner day. The same arrangements will apply – school uniform with a Christmas Jumper.

Art Exhibition

I know that our children and parents enjoyed the exhibition just over a week ago. The pictures the children produced were lovely. Thank you for viewing them and joining in the fun.

School newspaper

Miss Jackson has been working with a team of children on a school newspaper and they have just completed their first edition. They are keen to sell it and will be doing so on the playground next week. It costs 20p which just covers the cost of printing it. Please encourage your child to support them by sending them in with 20p to buy an edition. The editorial team are also very keen to expand the newspaper next half term and are inviting articles and contributions from anyone in the school. Does your child want to send in a report?

Term Dates 2019-20

Our term dates for next academic year 2019-20 have now been agreed by governors. Please find them attached to this newsletter. They can also be accessed on the school website. I have matched our dates with the Croydon Dates very closely, and with dates from secondary schools that siblings attend, where these dates are published. Note, interestingly, that the Easter holiday falls in the middle of the two week Easter break next year.

PTA NEWS:

Christmas Raffle!

Tickets are on sale for our Christmas Raffle - £1 a strip - draw will take place Wednesday 19th December.
1st Prize – Cinema Hamper - 4 cinema tickets to Vue, a Nandos Platter plus other yummy treats!

Runner up Prizes:

Free day at Skillz February Activity Camp
4 x free swimming Lessons with Rachel Wooton Swim School

	Stars of the week - 7 Dec	Stars of the week – 14 Dec
Red Class	Joseph & Tabitha	Leo & Akai
Orange Class	Isabella & James	Eleanor & Vanessa
Yellow Class	Isabella & Mia B	Sorcha & Sophia
Green Class	Callum & Maya	Sophie & Rajarshi
Blue Class	Diego & Alex	Oliwer & Bobby
Sapphire Class	Stefan & Faithful	Anna & Aoife
Indigo Class	Ava & Jack B	Richandy & Jacob
Violet Class	Charlotte & Nate	Megan & Adam

House of the week: St Bernadette

Attendance award: Yellow Class. Punctuality Award – Green Class & Yellow Class

Don't forget that school closes for pupils on Friday 21st December at 1.15pm.