



School Newsletter

Monday 12th November 2018 Academic year 2018-19 Number 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sorry that the newsletter is on Monday instead of Friday. There was a lot going on this weekend!

Parent Governor Vacancy

We are seeking a parent governor and you have been sent a letter on ParentMail. It would be great if we had a number of candidates; anyone interested is welcome to apply, but we particularly welcome applications from minority groups in our school community. The closing date for nominations is 14th November, this Wednesday. The governors make an invaluable and vital contribution to the running of the school; what can you offer to this?

Cross country

Well done to the children who have run Cross Country for us recently. We had a team running at the first of the three South London Harriers races at Woodcote on Saturday 3rd. I must confess that I was disappointed at the turnout for some year groups; I have reflected on this and maybe it is the timing of my letters; before half term and then e-reminders afterwards. I will ensure that letters for those interested in running the event are passed out in hard copy. The SLH races are just three Saturday mornings spaced through the winter and we need strong attendances to score well. We were particularly short of runners in Y5/6.

Having said that, we had some fine individual performances, with top ten finishes from Aimee Healy and Emily Agard. Well done to all the children who attended. **The next race is 19th January.** Anyone can run. Put it in your diary.

On Thursday 8th Margaret Roper took part in the Catholic Schools Cross Country Tournament at John Fisher. We had fantastic effort from everyone and finished overall 2nd out of 12 schools. St James the Great were the winners. Aimee Healy won the Y5/6 girls' race with a really determined finish and all the children ran really well on a challenging course. Thanks for all the support we had from parents as well.

Remembrance

On Friday we held a moving ceremony of remembrance and an assembly at 11am, where we observed a 2 minute silence. Canon John joined us for this.

On Sunday, I was privileged to be able to accompany a group of twelve children from Years five and six on a visit to Cambridge. We were there as special guests of the chaplain on the Royal British Legion, whom we know through our Normandy school journey visits. We paraded with the armed forces and were inspected by the Lord Lieutenant; the Queen's representative. It was a very moving occasion on the exact 100th anniversary of the armistice and the children were

outstanding, even though they had to parade for a long time, well over two hours! Miss Robertson then took the group on a tour of Cambridge, which was fascinating. Well done children; this was a rare opportunity and I'm so proud of you.

See: <http://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk/news/cambridge/remembrance-day-pictures-cambridge-marks-100-years-since-end-of-first-world-war-1-5774493>

Children in need

This Friday is Children in Need day. We are not holding a mufti day. We wanted to do something a bit special to raise some funds, so we are organising a Pudsey-based salon for nails, hair and face painting. A flyer is attached to this newsletter and the salon will be organised by Mrs Garcia. If you want your children to participate please send them in with some money; the costs are on the poster. Children will be allocated class slots to come at specific times.

Art exhibition

Just a heads u of the exhibition we are holding on 5th December. Framed pictures, created by your child will be available to view and buy. We want to celebrate our children's talents and give them a purpose for their endeavours in art. See the attached flyer.

Attendance matters

We are tracking term time holidays as part of our audit of attendance. We have an increase in applications for term time holidays recently, and these will not be authorised without exceptional circumstances – simply travelling to see aged relatives is not sufficient. We are also restricted to the number of days we can authorise. It has been necessary recently to issue some fixed penalty notices. Our school is required to demonstrate that we take attendance and punctuality seriously, and we do!

Collecting at the end of the day

We've had some wetter weather recently and we all want to shelter from it. However this is causing a bit of difficulty, especially around the covered slope area outside Reception and Y1 doors. If you congregate there we can't dismiss the children efficiently. Please give us a bit of space!

Quiz Night

Ticket sales have been strong and we are looking forward to a great night this Friday. If you still want to come, either as a team or just a couple of you wanting to join a team; please see one of the Y6 reps on the playground or ask at the office.

Reminder to parents of Y6 & Reception children

As part of the National testing programme, height and weight checks for Reception and Y6 children will be carried out on Wednesday 21st November. A letter on this has already been issued to families.

Nasal Flu vaccinations

Similarly, flu vaccinations by nasal spray have been arranged for classes Reception to Y5. This takes place on 3rd December. Letters have been issued.

PTA NEWS:

CHRISTMAS FAYRE COUNTDOWN – 2 WEEKS TO GO!

The PTA committee together with the class reps have been working tirelessly this week in preparation for our Christmas Fayre. On behalf of the PTA team - please know we're incredibly grateful for all your help and support and thank you all for your generosity of spirit – and of course putting up with our 'nagging'!!

TOY DONATIONS

A big thank you to everyone who generously donated today. For those still wanting to donate or wanting to donate more, please drop your toys into the office right up to Friday 23rd November.

BOTTLE DONATIONS

Thank you to those who donated bottles during. Again, for those still to donate or would like to donate more! Please drop your bottle to the school office - we're very happy to take them right up to the Friday 23rd November.

GRAND DRAW TICKETS

Please check your children's school bags for raffle tickets, we would be incredibly grateful for these to be sold and returned to school as soon as possible.

There will be reps in the playground every day after school for the next 2 weeks collecting ticket stubs and giving out more tickets should you want them and selling tickets for the 'Barrow of Booze and the Voucher Raffle' which has some fabulous prizes.

Competition: We thought we would mix it up this year and instead of a 'House' competition it's a 'Class' competition – the class that returns the most sold tickets will get 'Extra Golden Time' plus some 'Sweet Treats'!!

Let the competition commence!

NEW STALL!

We've been given a new idea for a stall... **Fancy Dress Sale!**

Pick up your next world book day costume from the Fayre. Do you have costumes/fancy dress your kids have outgrown? We're looking for quality donations. Please have a rummage and drop them at the school office.

And finally...

We're looking for some Christmas trees 3ft and over for our 'brand new' Santa Grotto, they will be looked after and returned at the end of the Fayre. If you can help that would be amazing, please leave with the office and notify Jo Wiley, (Reception, Y3 and Y4 mum) so she knows who the tree belongs to and returned to its rightful owner.

PTA Christmas Fayre 'COUNTDOWN' Diary Dates:

Friday 16th November - New/Unused/Unwanted Gifts

Friday 23rd November - Lots of lovely cakes! No Nuts.

	Stars of the week 9 Nov
Red Class	Palani & Taye
Orange Class	Liam & Connie
Yellow Class	Mia C & Henry
Green Class	Tymek & James C
Blue Class	Sofia & Chanelle
Sapphire Class	Daniel M & Harry
Indigo Class	Maja & Alfie
Violet Class	Jasmine & Markos

The house of the week was St Teresa. Well done!

Attendance award went to Red Class

Four Classes had 100% punctuality; Violet, Green, Blue & Indigo. Very well done. Well done!

School meals menu for week commencing 12th November is Week Three.