



"We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together"

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Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the end of another busy and productive term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful progress our school community has made. We have just had a beautiful Easter reflection led by Father Robert, which provided a peaceful and thoughtful moment for all the children to reflect on this special season. Fr Robert is a frequent visitor to the school and I would like to thank him for giving up so much of his time. The children love to see him, he seems to particularly enjoy painting in nursery!!

I'm incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked this term. Their academic progress has been outstanding, and it is clear to see that their enthusiasm for learning continues to grow. Our focus on fostering positive behaviour has also been incredibly successful with many external visitors reporting on the fantastic behaviour and respect that the children show towards one another.

There are too many exciting events to feedback to you so I will just share a few.

STEM focus: A Huge Success!

One of the highlights of this term has been our STEM (*Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths*) focus. The term has been filled with a fantastic range of hands-on workshops and experiments. From exploring the wonders of bubbles, testing materials and challenging ourselves with exciting *Knex* builds, junk modelling, Lego club and construction of catapults! The list is endless. The children were fully immersed in the joy of scientific discovery. There have been opportunities to engage in practical activities that sparked their curiosity and problem-solving skills. We are so proud of how engaged and well behaved the children were.

A special thanks to Mr Sansom, parent and teacher from The Saint John Henry Newman School, for delivering a wonderful science assembly and of course all our staff, particularly Mrs Batty and Mrs Glover our Science leads and all the parent volunteers who helped bring these activities to life and inspire our young scientists. Of course, thank you to the PSA for raising the funds for these workshops and to all the parents for supporting these fundraising events.

World Book Day: A Whole-School Celebration

Another memorable event was our *World Book Day*, which this year took on a special twist. Of course the children and staff enjoyed the dressing up however, we also chose to focus on one book, **Barnabus Project**, and explored it as a school-wide theme. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience, immersing themselves in the world of the story through creative activities, discussions, and even drama! The enthusiasm for reading was infectious, and we were thrilled to see all the



children from Nursery to Year 6 sharing their thoughts and interpretations of the same book. Thank you to Mr Crump and Mrs Peters, English Leads c.

Visitors

I am delighted to share with you the positive feedback we've received following recent visits from key educational leaders. The Primary Director from DOWAT, the RE Advisor from Westminster Diocese, and our school Governors have all had the opportunity to monitor and assess the school's progress. We are thrilled to report that their feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, particularly highlighting the excellent behaviour, attitudes to learning, and the overall happiness of our pupils. Enthusiasm for learning was also a key theme, and they were impressed with the improvement in teaching and learning standards across the school. Additionally, we have had the pleasure of welcoming many families who have been impressed by their visits, and we look forward to continuing to grow our school community next academic year. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us create such a positive and thriving environment for our children.

Sporting Achievements

We continue to offer our children a whole host of sporting experiences from 'love your heart, defibrillator training, mental health and well-being workshops, lacrosse and tag rugby. Next term we hope to provide cricket, skateboarding, tag rugby and fencing opportunities. These are all experiences over and above their weekly PE lessons.

Our school teams continue to proudly represent the school, we triumphed in the Quidditch Festival, bringing home the winning trophy. Our school has participated in many competitions including cross country, badminton, sports hall athletics, girls and boys football and netball.

A huge congratulations to all our students involved, and thank you to our dedicated teachers and coaches, particularly Mr Jennings and Mrs Levy.

New look PSA?

The PSA held their AGM in March, unfortunately they were unable to fill the committee roles. As you will be aware, the PSA not only provides much needed funding for the school, but also runs the fun events that brings the community together. *So one option is to dissolve the PSA in its current form and create a new parents fundraising platform.* I desperately want to offer events such as the school disco, colour run, Frosty Fridays, etc., but I can't do this without parent help. PLEASE come to the next meeting on April 24th 6:30pm to find out a little more about what we could do. Please come! A huge thank you to the PSA and all those who have supported them. Since September you have raised a whopping £5,505.73. We are currently trying to raise £20,000 to update the EYFS outdoor area.

Clubs

I want to say a huge 'THANK YOU' to all the staff who have voluntarily run afterschool clubs this half term. Without them giving up their own time, it would not be possible to have so many opportunities for the children. Make sure you check any letters sent out as there are a number of new clubs starting in the Summer Term!

Communication

All payments and email communications with parents have now moved to Arbor. 98% of our parents are accessing Arbor, but it is very important that all parents are now using this platform. Please ensure that



your contact details are correct and kept up-to-date. You can access your child's information and change and edit at any time.

Academy Conversion

We are continuing to work with the legal teams in order to convert into the Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust (DOWAT), hopefully by the end of the summer term. We will keep you updated.

Summer Term Dates

There may be additional dates to follow and all dates may be subject to change.

April 22nd	Summer Term starts
April 24 th	Gaelic Football Y5 Parents Fundraising meeting 6:30pm
April 25 th	Y6 Tag Rugby starts
April 25 th	Y5 Mass at St Joesph's Church
April 29 th	Cricket Enrichment Day – classes tbc
April 30 th	Fitkidz Y3 New Nursery Parent Meeting 2:15pm
May 2 nd	Y4 Mass at St Joesph's Church
May 2 nd	Gaelic Football Y6
May 9 th	Reception assembly 2:30pm
May 12 th	Y6 SATs week
May 16 th	Y3 Mass at St Joesph's Church
May 19 th	Y6 Indoor rowing
May 22 nd	Cricket enrichment day – classes tbc
May 23 rd	Y2 Mass at St Joesph's Church
May 23 rd	Colour Run – after school fundraising event
May 23rd	Break up for Half Term
June 2nd	Back to school
June 2 nd	Drama Workshop Rec, Y1, Y2
June 5 th	Y5 Agnesi SJHN taster day Curling / fencing enrichment day – classes tbc
June 6 th	Y1 Mass at St Joesph's Church
June 6 th	Y4 Michelangelo Assembly 2:30pm
June 9 th	Y1 Phonics screening begins
June 10 th	Skateboarding enrichment – classes tbc
June 13 th	Y6 Mass at St Joesph's Church
June 13 th	Year 4 Bonafacio Assembly 2:30pm
June 17 th	Year 5 Teresa SJHN taster day
June 18th	Nursery Sports Morning
June 18 th	Recycling assembly KS2
June 20th	EYFS, KS1,KS2 Sports Morning
June 24th	Open Morning 8:35am -9:15am
July 4 th	Y5 Mass at St Joesph's Church



July 4 th	Y4 Community Mass at SJHN
July 4 th	School Disco tbc
July 10th	Transition Day (Children spend time in their new classes and meet their new teacher)
July 10 th	Parents / New Teacher meet and greet 3:15pm on playground
July 11 th	Y4 Mass at St Joesph's Church
July 14 th	Y6 Leavers' Mass at St Jospeh's Church (Parents and Y6) 11am
July 18 th	Leavers' Assembly 9:20am
July 18 th	Leavers' Procession 1:40pm
July 18th	School finishes 2pm

Easter Prayer

*As the school community prepares for Holy Week,
 Let us pray for a renewed spirit of hope and joy,
 We seek guidance and strength in the message of the risen Christ,
 And for a safe and restful break for all.
 Amen*



Wishing you all a wonderful Easter.

Alexandra Whitty
Headteacher

