

SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 18th January 2019

A voluntary aided Church of England primary school in the heart of the City of London



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Over the last week you should have received a paper letter with a list of the current key dates for the term and one regarding the term dates for next academic year. If you did not receive one, please see the office for another copy.

In the list of key dates for the term, you will notice that there are a number of meetings for parents. We understand that you are all very busy and attendance at such events can be difficult, however we also know that you like to be kept up to date with what we are teaching your children and often approach us for ideas as to how to support your child; do take a look at what is on offer this term. We are already planning the sessions for the summer term, if you have any suggestions do let me know and we can look at arranging such a session.



Some of you may have noticed that on Wednesday, a blue plaque appeared on one of the walls outside of school. The

City of London Corporation places plaques in places of significant historical interest and importance. Although many of you are aware of the Roman burial ground in the playground, you might not also have been aware that this was the site of a priory before it became a school.

I'm sure many of your children have pointed out Thursday's addition to the entrance hall. There are still a few finishing touches to be made but I'm sure you will agree that our new mosaic - made by every child from Year 1 to Year 6 is a stunning piece of artwork that we will be able to enjoy for years to come. If you haven't already seen it, do come and take a look!



Philosophy for Children—P4C

On Wednesday 3rd January, all of our staff returned to school after the Christmas break. On this day, most of us undertook the first day of Philosophy for Children training. We still have more training to complete before fully introducing it to the children and when we have it up and running we will invite you in to take part in a session! P4C is an internationally used approach to support children to think for themselves in a safe environment. It has been found to have positive impacts on behaviour in schools, to improve children's written work, to support children's personal relationships and also to help them develop their resilience. Some of the outcomes for children who engage in P4C regularly are:

- To learn to think before they speak and give reasons for what they say.
- To value their views and the views of others.
- Not taking things personally.
- To learn respect and negotiation.
- To learn not to be fearful.

If you are interested in finding out more about Philosophy for Children then you might like to visit the following website: <https://www.sapere.org.uk/>

Playcentre

In response to comments from some parents we have changed the format of our after school playcentre slightly. From now onwards the session will have slightly more structure and the first half hour will be for children to make a start on their homework. We realise that by the time many of our pupils who attend playcentre get home, it is very late and that to fit in a meal, some quality parent and child time, homework and get to bed at a reasonable hour can be challenging. This time is not to replace you supporting your child with their learning or listening to your child read, it is just to slightly ease time commitments. It is also not the same as our Homework Club, where children are specifically supported by a teacher with their homework. After the first half hour in playcentre, children will have their snack and then go onto their other activities as previously. We welcome any further suggestions from parents and carers, although please be aware that we cannot turn every idea into reality.

City Livingwise
HEALTHY LIFESTYLE SUPPORT

FREE NHS HEALTH CHECKS

During the health checks we will measure your height, weight, cholesterol blood pressure, cardiovascular risk and provide personal advice based on your results.

St Botolphs

EC3N 1AB

Wednesday 30th January
9.30am - 4.30pm

- For residents and low paid/manual staff aged 40-74
- Lower your risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease or stroke
- It only takes 20 minutes

To book call **0207 616 2338**, email city@livingwise.org.uk or pop in on the day

*Some exclusions apply based on existing medical conditions and if you have had a check completed within the last 5 years

REED

Momentum



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New Staff

We have a few new staff who have joined us this term and I am sure you will extend a warm welcome to them as you meet them. As you know, Pat Toon and Sue Lowe both retired last term. Ms Godwin (TA in 2C) is still unwell and Mrs Hanson (TA in Reception) has had to take an extended leave of absence for personal reasons.

- Nosheen - Early Years Practitioner in the 0 to 2 year old room
- Cristal - Early Years Practitioner in the 2 to 3 year old room
 - Fiona - Early Years Practitioner in the Reception class
 - Ms Mills - TA in class 2I
 - Ms Maiyat - TA in class 2C
- Ms Rahman - on placement in Year 5 until February half term.

Dates for your diary

21st Jan – 25th Jan: Book Fair

21st Jan: Dental Fluoride Varnish programme

22nd Jan: 9am Gorsefield Parents meeting

22nd Jan: 5pm Gorsefield Parents meeting

24th Jan: 9am Maths for parents: supporting your child with their times tables

25th Jan: LDBS Schools Church service

1st Feb: Safer Communities Youth Summit

1st Feb: Coding Club research trip

1st Feb: 2:50pm Inventors class assembly



Key Stage 2 visit the Sky Garden get started on their next project

Faith, hope and love abide, these three: and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13