

# SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 24th March, 2017

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



## Growing and changing



The Governing Body of the school met last week for its termly meeting. Among topics for discussion were pupil progress, residential trips, and new initiatives in mathematics.

Governors also approved a new policy on Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) that had been proposed by Mr Wilson and the Senior Leadership Team. The policy emphasises the importance of safe and healthy relationships and brings forward the teaching on body changes during puberty to ensure children within the school are adequately prepared for these.

The review of this policy is well timed as Justine Greening, Secretary of State for Education, recently announced proposals that will make elements of SRE mandatory in all schools from 2019.

We are aware that SRE has the potential to be a controversial subject amongst parents. The new curriculum has been designed to sit within the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme and makes use of the PSHE Association scheme of work, which teachers have already begun to use in other areas. It has also been the subject of extensive consultation with governors and parents, through discussion groups and a questionnaire. We hope you were able to contribute to that.

Parents expressed a range of views during the consultation process. There was general and broad support for the new curriculum and a clear feeling that the subject should be taught in the same manner as other topics in the PSHE curriculum. Parents also requested that faith and cultural contexts be explained and that teaching should be sensitive to these. The teaching team already considers such sensitivities in its delivery of the Religious Education curriculum and we are confident that topics within SRE will be delivered in the same manner.

If you wish to contact the Governing Body on this, or on any other matter relating to school strategy, you are very welcome to do so via the school office.

Mr Matt Piper  
Vice Chair of Governors

You can find out about our governing body, read meetings and discover more about our governors on the governance pages of our website. We also publish minutes from our regular school council meetings here.  
<http://www.sirjohncassprimary.org/governance.html>



## Oral Health

Did you know that in Tower Hamlets and the City we have some of the poorest dental health in the country? You may have seen a recent report on the news about the huge increase in the number of extractions of baby teeth: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-39327425>

The NHS Community Dental Services will be visiting the Children's Centre on 2nd May, 2017 from 9.30-11.30am. All parents are more than welcome to attend.

If you're interested in improving your family's oral health or would like information and advice about keeping your children's teeth clean and healthy come along to our workshop.

# Dates for your diary

Mon 27 Mar	1:00pm – 3:00pm 2:00pm – 5:00pm	☑ Creative stitchcraft ☑ ☑ Strings Afternoon- Lattymer
Tue 28 Mar	All day	☑ Class One to Natural History Museum
Wed 29 Mar	All day	☑ School Nurse in
Thu 30 Mar	3:30pm – 4:00pm	☑ SATs Meeting Year 6
Fri 31 Mar	9:00am – 10:00am 2:40pm – 3:10pm	☑ Outdoors and Active! Early Years Workshop ☑ Year 4 class assembly
Mon 3 Apr	9:00am – 1:30pm 1:00pm – 3:00pm	☑ Y4 British Museum ☑ Creative stitchcraft ☑
Wed 5 Apr	2:00pm – 3:00pm	☑ Year 3 and 4 Performing Arts Performance
Thu 6 Apr	All day 9:00am – 10:00am 2:30pm – 3:10pm	☑ Easter Bonnet Parade ☑ Easter Bonnet Parade- Parent's Welcome ☑ End of Term Assembly - YR to 6
Fri 7 Apr	All day 10:30am – 11:00am 1:30pm – 1:45pm	☑ Playcentre and Children's Centre open ☑ Egg Race!- Parent's Welcome ☑ School Closes for the Easter Holiday

## Terrorist incident this week

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims of the horrific incident this week in Westminster. The City of London Police have asked that we pass on the following guidance to parents, carers and staff.

*You will all be aware of the shocking events at Westminster this week. The Metropolitan Police Service is **not** advising that people change their plans, lock down buildings, or anything of this kind. We do continue to advise, however, that all our communities and partners remain alert but not alarmed.*

*Businesses in the Westminster area should be prepared for likely congestion that will potentially last for several days.*

*In common with all Police Forces across the UK, the Metropolitan Police continually trains and plans for incidents of this type and several of those plans are being put into place now.*

*Many of you will have customers or staff who will look to you for advice/guidance.*

*Our advice to you is:*

- Remain alert not alarmed
- Review your plans
- Report all suspicious sightings as soon as possible

We regularly review our safety plans and emergency arrangements. We have provided additional guidance today for school trip leaders about managing risks during educational visits around London. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch.

## Summer Sandals

School Council met last week and one topic on the agenda was sandals! Councilors were concerned that shoes could be very hot and uncomfortable in the summer months. We agreed that during the summer term, sandals could be worn in school. We had a long discussion about the types of sandals which we thought would be safe on the school playground and the type which wouldn't be safe to wear. Mr Wilson will be writing to parents and carers to explain!

## Wellington Boots



We're always on the look out for old wellington boots your child has grown out of. Don't throw them away— you can bring them into the Nursery who will be pleased to add them to their collection. We particularly need 2 year old to 5 year old sizes at the moment.



Year 3 in Gorsefield