

SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 1st February 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. Please take the time to read through and see what has been happening over the last fortnight here at SJC and what we are looking forward to in coming weeks.

Founders Day:

On Wednesday we are due to celebrate Founder's Day, an event that has been taking place annually since 1749. It is a commemoration of Sir John Cass, who left money in his will to support the education of our children. Our children and staff will attend a Church service on Wednesday morning, joined by pupils of the Sir John Cass Redcoats Secondary school, members and trustees of the Sir John Cass's Foundation and other local distinguished guests—including the Lord Mayor. Children will be reminded of the story behind the red feather emblem, it's rather gruesome so they usually enjoy hearing this bit and will no doubt tell you about it if you ask.

Skills in Schools:

Within the education system we experience changes in policy and expectations on a regular basis. Over the recent years and particularly the recent months, there has been an increasing discussion within the education community about development of children's skills and preparation for the world of work—from the Early Years, through to university level. We are looking at our curriculum on a continuous basis to ensure that we offer the very best for our pupils and in recent discussions we have thought about the ways that we can harness the skills and interests of our parent and carer community to support our children further. We are going to be sending out a questionnaire to parents and carers, asking about specific skills you may have or links with businesses / individuals who may be able to support us in widening our children's understanding of the world of work and support with development of specific skills. We are not asking for any time commitments at this point. The questionnaire will be available on the school website and also sent via e mail.



Adventure Cube update:

In a recent Newsletter I was able to give you the good news that we have been granted planning permission for our new adventure cube and that, through the generosity of donations from the Dorsett Hotel and PTA, we had raised the money to be able to purchase the equipment and have it installed during February half-term. Unfortunately, there has been a manufacturing error and the result is that they are having to re make the equipment. We now expect the cube to be installed by Easter rather than during the half-term, as originally planned.

School Council

Most of you will be aware that here at SJC, we have a School Council which meets on a monthly basis. The membership of the School Council is 2 pupils per class, plus the Head boy and Head girl. Members are elected by their class peers in September of each year. During our meetings we talk about what children feel is a success at the moment, what they feel isn't working so well and children offer any suggestions that they feel might be



enjoyed by the rest of the school. In a recent meeting, children discussed their wishes for a cover for the sandpit. We listened to this request and have had one specially made. The children fitted it for the first time



this week.

School Council have asked that people do not climb on the cover and that parents and carers can keep an eye on their children after school to keep them away from the cover—so that it doesn't spoil.

Recruitment of staff:

Some parents and carers have noticed that we are currently advertising for a Deputy Head and have been asking why? When I took over in my role as Headteacher, it left a vacancy for a Deputy Head, however it is not the usual practice to recruit a new Headteacher and Deputy Head in the same school year, if at all possible. Due to this we appointed an interim Deputy Head, Ms Khan, to carry out the role for one academic year. This means that we now have a legal obligation to advertise for a permanent Deputy Head. The role is open to applications from internal candidates as well as external. We will inform you when the permanent appointment has been confirmed.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 4th February: Robotics competition

Tuesday 5th February: 2.50pm E Safety parents meeting

Wednesday 6th February: Founders Day

Friday 8th February: 2.50pm Year 5 class assembly

Monday 11th February: Year 6 trip to Natural History Museum

Thursday 14th February: 9.00 Parent meeting - Supporting your child with maths in Years 1 and 2

Friday 15th February: CCFC closure afternoon

Friday 15th February: 2.50pm Class 2I assembly

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