

# SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 11th May, 2018

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



## A breath of fresh air?

In 2003 the school started a partnership with the City of London to monitor and ultimately improve the air quality around the school. London's poor quality air is a well known problem. Indeed, when we survey parents to get an idea of their priorities for school improvement it is one of the main concerns raised. As such, we're very proud to announce that the air quality enhancement projects around the school are bearing fruit.

For the first time since monitoring began the annual measure of air pollution around the site has reduced to below the legal limit.

The main reasons for the reduction in pollutants is the work that the City of London has promoted to improve the built environment in the local area. Two new open spaces have been developed—Mitre Square and Aldgate Square. Footpaths have been widened around the school site. Hundreds of plants and trees have been established.

Inside the grounds of the school our Gardener, Catherine Tidnam, has worked with the Air Quality team in the City to develop planting around the school, install green screens and develop awareness of environmental issues with our children through our gardening club.

Many of these initiatives were featured in a recent BBC News report about the improvement on and around the site: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-london-43930705/how-one-london-school-is-fighting-the-city-s-toxic-air>

We don't plan to rest on our laurels though. Over the next few months you will continue to see improvements around the site and inside the school building. We're currently evaluating our trial of an air filter in Explorers. Initial results have shown a dramatic improvement in the air quality inside after installing this. We're also going to be continuing to develop our gardens around the school, installing a nature and quiet area in the main playground, improving our green screens and installing an indoor garden in the entrance hall.

With thanks,

Mr T Wilson  
Headteacher

### Research project

Children in Year 5 and 6 will be taking part in a research project over the Summer months with a local university.

The researchers are hoping to find out about children's play in the present day and think about how it has changed in the last 60 years. The children will be using virtual reality equipment as part of the study!

### Tests and Tasks

Children in Year 6 will be undertaking their statutory assessments this week. We're very proud of their hard work preparing for these tests which mark the end of their primary school career. We wish them every success. In Year 2 children will also be completing tasks over the next two weeks to help their teacher make a judgement about their attainment at the end of Key Stage 1.



Year 1 doing a mass skip to raise money for their Class Charity— The British Heart Foundation. The classes raised £208.58

# Dates for your diary

Fri 11 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 9:30am – 1pm</li> <li>● 2:50 – 3:20pm</li> </ul>	Y3 Trip to Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Centre for World Peace Investigators Class Assembly
Mon 14 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Key Stage 2 test week Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation Test
Tue 15 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Key Stage 2 test week SATS Reading Test
Wed 16 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> <li>● All day</li> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Key Stage 2 test week Full Governing Body Mathematics Paper 1 and 2
Thu 17 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Key Stage 2 test week Mathematics Paper 3
Fri 18 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2:50 – 3:20pm</li> </ul>	Class 3 Assembly
Tue 22 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 10am – 3pm</li> </ul>	Y6 BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, London
Wed 23 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2:15 – 2:45pm</li> </ul>	Drumming Performance Inventors, Class 11 and 3
Thu 24 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 3:45 – 4:45pm</li> </ul>	Sex and Relationship Education Meetings including PSHE
Fri 25 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> <li>● 2:50 – 3:20pm</li> </ul>	Stanley Baker class photos Class 4 Assembly
Mon 28 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Half Term
Tue 29 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Half Term
Wed 30 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Half Term
Thu 31 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Half Term
Fri 1 Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Half Term
Mon 4 Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	School Closed- INSET DAY
Tue 5 Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All day</li> </ul>	Term Starts



. Class 5 had an amazing time in Wales at the Hampshire Cass Mountain Centre. The week is part of a two-year programme aimed at developing trust, confidence and their skills at outdoor and adventurous activities. Some of the highlights this year included the mountain walk up the highest mountain in Brecon, canoeing and caving. Children will visit again in October to build on their achievements. Our thanks as ever go to Sir John Cass's Foundation who generously support this trip meaning the only costs parents pay are for food and transport.

## Sex and Relationship Education Meetings

Last year we changed our approach to Sex and Relationship Education and started to implement a new approach to our Personal, Social and Health education in school. We are holding meetings for parents in Year 4-6 about the content of lessons. We will also be able to answer any questions you may have. Please come along on Thursday 24th May, 2018 at 3.45pm.

## Closure dates for your diary

The school will be closed for an INSET day on Monday 4th June, 2018. You can find out about term dates and INSET days on the calendar pages of our website: <http://www.sirjohncassprimary.org/calendar.html>

As part of our commemorations of 300 years since Sir John Cass died, the staff and governors at school will be taking part in a special event organised by Sir John Cass's Foundation on Tuesday 3rd July, 2018. As a result the school and Children's Centre will be closing early at 4.00pm. All children will need to be collected and parents will be refunded any childcare costs.

## Fashion Week

This year's Art Week has a fashion theme and children will be making and displaying clothes as part of the fun. We'll also be visiting galleries and museums throughout the week. It all starts on Monday 11th June, 2018. If you have ideas or think you might be able to help, please get in touch with Mr James Roe – our Art and Design Specialist Teacher.