

BISHOP JOHN ROBINSON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Edition No.3 January 2019

Welcome to the January edition of the BJR Newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the many parents and children who showed me great kindness through a difficult time. The cards, flowers and personal messages were much appreciated, thank you.

It is amazing to think that by the end of this half-term, we will be half way through the academic year. The **Christian Value** that we are studying this month is **Justice** and fairness. Last week the children heard the passage from John 8:7 in which Jesus challenged those who wanted to judge others, to look at their own imperfections. We also read from Mark 10:46-52 where Jesus heals Bartimeus to show that no one should be left out and everyone included. As always, we use these passages and other stories to guide children in making good choices in their daily lives and to help build a fairer and stronger community within and outside school.

... He that is
without sin
among you,
let him cast the
first stone...

~ John 8 : 7

Curriculum newsletters: Class teachers have provided parents with curriculum newsletters to summarise what the children will be learning in class this term. This includes **Esafety lessons** and **Relationships and Sex Education** which was discussed with parents in the summer term. This is a subject which all schools are required to teach. Our RSE policy is on the school website and parents should speak with class teachers, senior leaders or Rev Jane if they have any questions. The newsletters have been distributed to children and emailed to parents. Copies are also available on the school website. In addition, a weekly overview is also available. It is hoped that parents use these documents to take an interests in your child's school learning and support it where possible. Both documents are also on display in the classrooms.



When I last wrote to parents, the OFSTED report was only in draft form. Since then the report has been made public and was sent out to parents. It is also available on the school and OFSTED websites. The **GOOD** grade marks a ten year period in which the School has been judged **Good** (first **Good Grade** was April 2008) which should give parents confidence about the consistency of provision at the school.

I give my thanks to my hard working team of teachers, leaders and support staff who work tirelessly every day to help each child 'Be the best they can'. Thanks also to the parents to contributed to the online survey and who spoke so highly of the school during the inspection.

Outdoor Gym: An outdoor gym has now been installed in the playground. All children have been trained on its use and have been allocated playtimes to use it. Children have been asked not to use it unless supervised by an adult. This includes before and after school. Children who use the equipment outside school hours do so at their own risk. Parents should also be aware that we do not have first aid trained staff after school. However, if parents wish to use the equipment or are happy to supervise their children's use, then please do so. Also being installed this week is a large roofed sandpit/stage in the main playground. We hope this will encourage imaginative play as well as a focal point for outdoor dance routines, concerts and drama.





Maintenance Fund: Governors will be writing to parents soon, reminding them about maintenance fund payments. This is a fund all parents of children attending Church of England Primary schools are asked to contribute to. The fund is used to help with the upkeep of the school and is deducted from school funds if parents do not pay. This means money intended for our children's education is used for maintenance. The cost is £30 per child in Reception through to Y6 per year and £15 for Nursery. Please respond promptly to the reminder when it comes and thank you to those parents who have already made their contribution.



Parents are invited to a presentation on homework on Wednesday 30th January 9-10 in the school hall. The talk will aim to give practical advice to parents on helping with homework and will also focus on research on the impact of homework and other activities (like play) which help children flourish. I hope lots of parents can come to this.

Parents as Partners: Thank you to Mrs Ogabi who has been running the successful Parents meetings this academic year. A useful ESAFETY talk was given this week and the group are raising funds for the school through a bring-and-buy sale in the school hall on Thursday and Friday after school. The group is well represented by parents from EYFS and KS1 and would love more parents from KS2 to take part. Rev Jane has also started leading family prayer meetings before school on the day of the parents as partners meeting. All are welcome!



If you are reading this message via Parent Mail, thank you for using this cost effective and very efficient means of communication. We aim to give parents as much information as is useful but are concerned that many parents are not reading these messages. As a result, many families are not aware of events in school. If you know of parents who are not using this service, please encourage them to do so.

School uniform: One of the providers for school uniform has changed: We are no longer using Tesco and have changed to a new company called My Clothing. Please see the attached leaflet for details. We currently have a mountain of unwanted school jumpers, summer dresses, white shirts, trousers and skirts in our lost property bin. If your child has recently lost one of these items then please collect it. Parents are also asked to write names in clothes to make it easier should children lose them.



As part of children's Religious Education, all classes will be learning about a world religion other than Christianity this half term. This is an integral part of the scheme of work which was commissioned by the Southwark Diocesan

Board of Education and blessed by the Bishop of Southwark last year. Learning will include a visit to a place of worship. In addition, each class will lead an assembly, which parents are invited to, to share some of the learning and classes will also be updating their hall displays with RE work about the faith.

At the end of this term, all classes will be studying different aspects of Easter culminating in a musical service at the end of the term. The dates of the assemblies are in the table below and are also on the school website. We will also be holding a 'Day of Prayer' on 13th February and launching an exciting 'School Prayer' competition for the February half term. The winner will have their prayer adopted as the official 'school prayer' and runners up will be invited to eat the pancakes during the Shrove Tuesday assembly.



Important dates for Spring Term (also available on the school website)

January		March	
8th	Back to School	5th	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) Assembly Parent & Teacher meetings 4-7
9th	Epiphany Service @ St Paul's	6th	Parent & Teacher meetings 4-7 Ash Wednesday Service for KS2 @ St Paul's
21st	Year 4 Parent meeting after school for Carroty Wood Residential 3:45	12th	Y6 trip to the Globe Theatre Year 1 Class Assembly
22nd	Year 6 Class Assembly 10:15	15th	Comic Relief Dress-up day
23rd	Parents as Partners E-Safety Talk 9:00	19th	Year 2 Class Assembly
24 th /25 th	Bring and Buy Sale	20th	Parents as Partners meeting
28th	SIAMS Interim inspection visit	21st	World Book Day - Dress-up day
29th	Year 5 Class Assembly 10:15	26th	Reception Class assembly: 10:15
30th	Head Teacher talk to parents: Homework		
31st	Young Voices Choir @ 02		
February		April	
4th	Safer Internet Day assembly in School	2nd	Nursery Class Assembly:10:15
5th	Year 4 Class assembly 10:15	5th	Easter Service @ St.Paul's 10:00 Last day of Spring Term - Finishing at 2:30
11th	Parent meeting for children in Reception and Nursery: Early Learning Goals	8th-19th	Easter Holiday
12th	Councillor Danny Thorpe Visiting Year 3 Class Assembly	22nd	Bank Holiday
13 th	Day of Prayer in school	23rd	Back to school
15th	Last day of Spring Term 1st Half School prayer competition launch		
18th	Half Term Break		
25th	Back to school Prayer competition hand in date		
27th	Year 4 Residential: Carroty Wood Parents as Partners Meeting		