



In everything we do today, we're following Jesus and his way

School Newsletter 13

Autumn Term 2022
Thursday 8 December

Headteacher: Mr P O'Rourke
Deputy Heads: Mrs C McGivern
Mrs S Hukowski
SENCo: Mrs J Burke

Our School Houses

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Blue

St Oscar Romero

Red

St Francis of Assisi

Yellow

St Josephine Bakhita

Green

This Week's Merits

Each week, teachers nominate children in their class to receive a special merit. This could be in recognition for working hard, achieving something particular, being a good friend, or any number of reasons that show that they are living up to the school motto - 'In everything we do today, we are following Jesus and his way.' The following children have been chosen by their teachers (CM = Class Merit):

Class	Name of children
RG	Anulika, Maryanna
RW	Hanna, Ethan
1A	
1DS	Year 1 at Mass
1W	
2B	Wesley, Tristan
2K	David, Aleeyah
2NS	Nico, Amaka
3A	Class merit, Oliver
3F	Class merit, Tyrone
3S	Class Merit
4GC	Margaret, Erin
4P	Nyapollo, Anoushkea
4OS	Paolo, Lily
5B	Chloe, Ilaria
5M	Viktor, Niamh
5S	Joseph, Yannick
6K	Joseph, Ailish
6M	Dylan, Adam
6OT	Alfie, Alanna

St. George's Catholic Primary School,
Gordon Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 0QA
Tel: 020 8363 3729
e-mail: office@st-georges.enfield.sch.uk
web site: www.st-georges.enfield.sch.uk
 @stgeorges_head

Next Week in School

Friday 9 December

Year 5 Christmas Production 2:15pm

Monday 12 December

Year 6 Carol Service at Church 2pm

Tuesday 13 December

Christmas lunch

Wednesday 14 December

Year 2 liturgy 10am at Church

Thursday 15 December

Christmas jumper day and class parties

Friday 16 December

End of term Mass (Year 4) 10am

It is that precise time of the school term when I transform from being a real grump about Christmas and its shameless commercialism to wearing a festive tie and reflecting on all the positive elements that this season can bring. This transformation happens because of the children and their beautifully executed presentations over the past week, reminding us of the real meaning of Christmas. A huge thank you to the children and staff of year 1 who worked so hard to make our Advent Mass a fitting start to the season. The year 3 carol concert was really uplifting and we thank all the children and staff involved for lifting our spirits with your singing and readings. Finally, the reception Wiggly Nativity was absolutely gorgeous. All your families and staff at school are so proud of you! Well done to everyone involved for coordinating the singing, dancing and costumes resulting in such a wonderful performance.

A huge thank you to all of our families who have attended the events, creating a really warm atmosphere at each one.

Christmas Fair

What an incredible success the Helping Hands Christmas Fair was on Saturday. It requires such hard work and dedication to coordinate and run such an event, so huge congratulations to all of those involved. I am told that the final total raised was an incredible £5270, and this means that we can now begin work on our library at school, creating an inviting, professional space for the children. They certainly deserve it. In thanking all those responsible for organising the event, I would also like to extend my thanks to all those who supported the fair by holding stalls, donating prizes, helping with setup or by coming along and enjoying the day. It all results in a fitting reward for all those involved.

"As we journey through Advent we are reminded that we all have a part to play in preparing for Christmas, inviting God's grace into our school community. Lord, we open our hearts and minds to let You be our guide through Advent. Help us to put aside the distraction of the secular world and focus how to better serve you." Prepare the way of the Lord. Amen.



For those of you who drive your children to school, please:

- **Drive carefully** on the roads surrounding school
- **Park considerably** to our neighbours
- Turn your **engine off**, not leave it running while parked
- Make every effort to walk all or some of the way to school if possible. It's healthy and good for the environment.



School Places for September 2023

The Governors invite applications from the parents of children born between 1st September, 2018 and the 31st August 2019.

Parents need to complete:

1. The application to the London Borough of Enfield (online).
2. The supplementary information form from our website, please download, complete and email to us. Please include in your email a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.
3. A certificate of Catholic Practice. To obtain this, please visit the Parish website www.catholickenfield.org and follow their instructions.

Come and visit us? Please use the form on our website to book a school tour. The next tours are taking place on Tuesday 13 December.

Whilst the Borough application is completed online, the two other forms should be submitted to the school together in person or via email to admin@st-georges.enfield.sch.uk
Closing Date for Admissions: 15th January 2023.
For further information, please contact the school office on 0208 363 3729

Applications across Enfield were significantly lower this year, to compound lower numbers of applicants last year. This has resulted in significant numbers of schools in the borough having surplus places, with many reducing the size of the school intake to lessen the financial impact of the lower numbers. It is worth noting that **all applicants to our school last year were offered a place.**

Times Table Rock Stars

TTRockStars results will be back in our Newsletter starting from the New Year so get practising. If you need your username and password - please ask your class teacher. To find out more about TTRockStars use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqPIa17hKLA>

Please see information leaflet attached to this newsletter



Chess Club update

We are still awaiting confirmation as to who will be leading our chess club and which day this will be on. We will update you with the details and the cost per term as soon as possible. There is still time for a parent/grandparent volunteer to help support the new club. The Chess Association is offering one free training session to a parent volunteer who is willing to support the club. Please email the office for the attention of Mrs Angland if you are interested.



Upcoming Dates

Advance warning of some key school dates. The school calendar is constantly updated on the school website, under the parents information section.

December

Thurs 8th	Year 5 production 2:15pm
Fri 9th	Year 5 production 2:15pm RW stay and play
Mon 12th	Year 6 carol service at church 2pm
Tues 13th	Christmas lunch
Weds 14th	Year 2 liturgy at church
Thurs 15th	Christmas jumper day...and class parties
Fri 16th	Year 4 End of Term Mass at church 10am School closes for Christmas 2pm

January

Weds 4th	School reopens for pupils
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First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion forms are available from the presbytery or online at www.catholickenfield.org

The programme starts on the 9th January with masses taking place mid May. For further information please contact the Catechetical Coordinator on 0208 363 2569 or email enfieldcat@rcdow.org.uk. Deadline for the return of the forms is 14th November.

Christmas Liturgies & Performances

December

Thursday 1st

Year 3 Christmas Carols at 2:45pm

Friday 2nd

Year 1 Advent Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. George at 10am

Monday 5th

Year 3 Christmas Carols at 2:45pm

Tuesday 6th

Reception Nativity at 9:45am

Wednesday 7th

Reception Nativity at 9:45am

Thursday 8th

Year 5 Christmas production at 2:30pm

Friday 9th

Year 5 Christmas production at 2:30pm

Monday 12th

Year 6 Christmas Carols at 2pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. George

Tuesday 13th

Christmas dinner

Wednesday 14th

Year 2 Christmas Liturgy at 10am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. George

Thursday 15th

Christmas party and jumper day.

Friday 16th

Year 4 leading Whole School Mass at 10am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. George

Primary Maths Challenge

Well done to the 27 UKS2 children who took part in the recent Primary Maths Challenge 2022. Everyone that took part will be receiving a certificate. The PMC is a fun and exciting challenge created by The Mathematical Association and the Primary Mathematics Challenge and is designed to show the different way questions can be asked through **problem solving** and **reasoning skills**.

The following children did especially well and achieved either a gold, silver or bronze award.



Gold: Olivia A. **Silver:** Dylan D, Emily L, Oliver C, Freddie B, Niamh M and Rily D. **Bronze:** Azhahinii R (yr5), Ellis G, Joseph M, Neo S, Freya H, Ronan C, Sammy T and William W.

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION



Supporting mathematics in education

Miss O'Toole who administered the test said: 'The children loved it so would definitely be interested in doing it again!'

Can you solve this question from last year's paper?

Three cats, Flopsie, Lopsie and Topsie, were weighed in pairs.

The weights of each of the three pairs were 5 kg, 8 kg and 9 kg.

What was the weight of the heaviest cat?

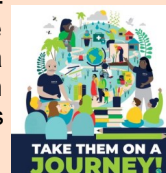


(The tests are timed so don't take too long....)

Mrs Angland (Maths Leader)

CAFOD Volunteering

CAFOD (The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) reaches out to Catholic schools through volunteers who deliver assemblies and workshops using the excellent resources produced by CAFOD's Education group. Would you, or someone you know, be interested in joining the team? We provide training and termly refresher sessions, arrange for you to have a DBS check and pay your travel expenses. The role is especially suitable for someone looking to return to work after a career break, thinking about a career in education or recently retired and looking for a volunteering opportunity where they can make a difference. For more information contact Marcela Keech at mkeech@cafod.org.uk or Chris Driscoll at westminsterschools@cafod.org.uk 07776 493162.



Strep A

I have obtained the following information from a meeting with the local authority this morning. I hope that parents find it helpful.

Strep A is a common illness at this time of year, and this spikes every few years or so. This year is such a year, exacerbated by the recent time of social distancing. This means that many children who would have encountered this infection and built up some immunity have not done so, and this has resulted in an unusually high spike in numbers. The social distancing scenario has also resulted in a higher than normal instance of colds, flu and chicken pox amongst pupils who have not built up their immunity.

Strep A can have a number of symptoms such as high temperature, sore throat, headache and other cold-like symptoms. This can turn into scarlet fever which, though treatable, is quite unpleasant and highly infectious when the affected person is showing active signs of infection (coughing, sneezing). Other symptoms to look out for include a white coating on the tongue, a flushed face and areas of peeling skin.

If your child is showing any of the above symptoms and you believe it could be Strep a, Scarlet Fever or Chicken Pox, prompt medical attention is important. The usual form of treatment is antibiotics, which are reportedly

in good supply in tablet form.

Schools are currently awaiting an information (Q&A) leaflet from Public Health England that we will distribute to parents as soon as it is received.

- Please report any confirmed cases of strep a to school in the usual ways: by phone or email to the office.
- The school will inform Public Health England if there are two or more confirmed cases in a year group, and they will provide the necessary literature to distribute to parents.
- A confirmed case is a child who has been clinically treated by a medical professional.

Tissues

A few years ago, our school council had a great idea - if each child brought to school a box of tissues, the class would never run out and it would save the school a lot of money.

The system is still in operation and, as our supplies have diminished, I am asking parents to honour the children's wishes and send a box of tissues to school with their child.

The school council did not specify that it had to be a particular standard of tissue, so an economy box would be as welcome as a 3-ply luxury brand!

Bless you!