



**OUR VALUE FOR THIS HALF TERM IS LOVE: 1 Corinthians 16:14**

**Do everything in love.**

## GOODBYE & THANK YOU!

Please join us in saying a big thank you to Sima for being the chair of the SJSA for the past few years and dedicating so much of her time and efforts to raising funds for the school. Welcome to the new SJSA chair, Angela Meakin. Click [here](#) to find out how they have recently contributed to the school and also see who the other new committee members that have joined the St. John's School Association are.



## HARVEST OFFERING

For our Harvest offering this year we are supporting the local charity - Shrublands Trust. It is wonderful to see the amount of much needed items we can all collect to support those less fortunate than ourselves. Year 4 led the Harvest Service beautifully in Church. Thank you to all that donated so generously. If you would like to get more involved on a regular basis, Shrublands Trust post weekly lists of the items that the local community are in need of. Please click [here](#) to find out what is required this week. The centre is not open everyday so we advise you to check the opening times prior to visiting.



## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

This year the Mayor of London introduced his Emergency Free School Meals for all primary aged children in the capital. This means that until July 2024 all children in primary school will receive a free school lunch. At that point the free meals for all children will end.

The Mayor's meals are separate from the existing **Free School Meals scheme**, which is available to children who are eligible because their parents or carers receive benefits. It is very important that you don't delay your application for Free School Meals, even while your child is receiving a lunch under the Mayor's scheme.

**A reminder that the eligibility for free school meals is if parent(s) are in receipt of any of the following:**

- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of state pension credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

If you are unsure whether or not you are entitled to benefits-related Free School Meals, please feel free to contact the school and speak with Mrs Mackenzie who will be able to check eligibility for you.

**To apply please complete the 'Free School Meals Application' form available within Weduc or you can click [here](#) to access**



## SAFER PARKING

A reminder about considerate parking outside the school. Please join us in seeing this as an opportunity to show love to one another in the school community, as well as the local residents, by considering other people when parking at drop-off and pick-up times. It has been reported some parents and carers are parking their cars in such a way to prevent residents accessing and leaving their driveways. We have also been notified of dangerous driving. Please try not to cause an obstruction when parking as this can cause distress and can be avoided.



## RED SCARF - GOOD BEHAVIOUR AWARD

Well done to the following pupils who have recently been awarded the Red Scarf Behaviour Award! Parents/Carers of children who have been awarded the Red Scarf can collect their **FREE** hot drink from our Olive Branch Café!



Toucan - Silvana  
Dolphin - Zara  
Dragonfly - Lanré  
Bear - Jacob  
Penguin - Alice

Turtle - Asher  
Polar Bear - Maggie  
Flamingo - Sariah  
Chameleon - Lara  
Frog - Bethany





## CAROL SERVICE

The Carol Service led by Year 6 will be taking place on **Wednesday 20th December** at St. John's Church. There will be an afternoon service for Years R, 1, 2, to attend, followed by an evening service for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Please pencil this in your diaries as all children are expected to attend. Further information regarding the final arrangements will be sent via Weduc closer to the time.

## OPEN EVENINGS

The prospective parent/carer open evenings for St. John's will take place on **Wednesday 8th and Monday 13th November** at 6:00pm. There is no need to book in advance. Please click [here](#) for further details.



## POPPIES FOR SALE

The school will be taking donations on behalf of The British Legion when we return from half term. In addition to the traditional paper poppies, we also have **2023 enamel pins and poppy stickers available**. A box will be available in the school reception along with a box in the Olive Branch.



## CROSS COUNTRY RUNNERS

A huge well done to all the Y5 & Y6 runners who ran at the Lloyd Park Cross Country event! It was great to see the children doing their best and encouraging each other.



## ASC COLLECTION TIMES

A reminder to please collect your child from after school clubs on time. Football and netball collection times are **4:20pm**. J'amie's Gymnastics is **4:15pm** and Boom Academy is **4:05pm**. If further childcare arrangements are needed, MLH is available to book. Please contact Liz Gordon on 07768 684 863 for further details.



Retrofit Action For Tomorrow (RAFT) is a community interest company committed to providing education and deep retrofit advice to schools, libraries, and other community buildings on the path towards zero carbon. RAFT will be working with us after half term and with four other Church of England Primary Schools to create a zero-carbon plan for our school buildings. Our school community can help too by filling in a quick survey to give RAFT a better understanding of how our families commute to school. You can click [here](#) to complete.

## BREAK TIME SNACKS HAIR ACCESSORIES

A polite reminder to ensure your child brings a suitable break time snack to school. This includes fresh or dried fruit. Thank you.

A reminder that hair accessories worn should be within the school uniform policy colours permitted. If hair beads are worn, please ensure they are not too distracting in any way, including wearing too many. Thank you.



## ONLINE PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

Jointly run by *Off The Record* and *Croydon Drop In*, you can click [here](#) to find out which workshops are running and how you can sign up.

## GOOGLE CLASSROOM TROUBLESHOOTING

If you are experiencing problems with logging in to Google Classroom, please click [here](#) for some troubleshooting help.



# Diary Dates

### TERM DATES

Mon 23rd Oct - Fri 27th Oct 2023  
**HALF TERM**

Mon 30th Oct - Thurs 21st Dec 2023  
**AUTUMN TERM 2**

Friday 17th November 2023  
**INSET DAY** ★

Sat 2nd December 2023  
**ST. JOHN'S SJSA CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Fri 22nd Dec - Fri 5th Jan 2024  
★ **CHRISTMAS BREAK**

Mon 8th Jan - Fri 9th Feb 2024  
**SPRING TERM 1**

Mon 12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb 2024  
**HALF TERM** ★

Mon 19th Feb - Thurs 28th Mar 2024  
**SPRING TERM 2**

Fri 29th Mar - Fri 12th April 2024  
★ **EASTER BREAK**

Mon 15th April - Fri 24th May 2024  
**SUMMER 1**

Mon 6th May 2024 ★  
**BANK HOLIDAY**

Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May 2024  
**HALF TERM**

Mon 3rd June - Fri 19th July 2024  
**SUMMER TERM 2**

Mon 22 - Wed 24th July 2024  
**INSET DAYS**

## A Harvest Prayer

Loving God,

Thank you for the many ways in which you provide for us: Food, family, friendship, Housing, health, happiness, and ways to use our time and talents.

We lift to you too, the ways in which we remain in need of these things.

Amen.



*Wishing all  
a restful  
half term  
break.*