

ST. DOMINIC'S Gazette



Issue 273 - Thursday 19th October 2017

Our **SEAL**
word of the week
commencing
30th October
is
Peaceful



Half-term holiday

Today is the last day of this half-term. The school will be closed tomorrow for staff training and next week from Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October. We will re-open on **Monday 30th October at 9.00am.**



Secondary Transfer

A few weeks ago, parents/carers of pupils in year 6 received a letter outlining the process for choosing a secondary school for September 2018. Open days and evenings have been taking place in and out of the borough and we know that many of you have been attending these to help inform your choices.

In almost all cases, secondary school applications need to be made online via the eAdmissions system and details of how to register and create an application can be found in the leaflet you received from the school entitled *Apply for a secondary school place 2018: A brief guide for parents of children in year 6.* **The deadline for making your application is Tuesday 31st October.** Any applications

submitted after this date will be considered as late applications.

Please note the following important points when making your application:

1. Once you have registered successfully, you will receive an e-mail from eAdmissions.
2. **It is essential that you do not delete this email as it is necessary for completing the eAdmissions secondary transfer process.** E-mails from eAdmissions may go to your junk/spam folder so please check these too.
3. If you have used eAdmissions to make an application in the past (e.g. for another child), login with your email address and password from your previous application. If you cannot remember your username or password click the 'Forgotten username or password?' link.

If you need to speak to a member of staff at Hackney Learning Trust about your application, you can call the Admissions Team on 020 8820 7247/7489 or email y6sectransfer@learningrust.co.uk.



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class 2A for the best class attendance this week with 97% in EVFS/KS1. In KS2, congratulations to Class 3A whose attendance was 99%. Can we please remind parents to inform the school on the first day of all absence and to give an expected return date. GP and dental appointments should be made after school whenever possible.



Hackney launches Black History flag competition

School children in Hackney are being encouraged to send in their designs for a Hackney Black History flag as part of the Council's celebrations for Black History Season 2017. Deputy Mayor, Annetta Bramble, recently launched the competition at a Black History workshop at Hackney Museum with Year 4 pupils from Princess May Primary School. The winning design will be picked by a panel of judges and will be made into a real flag with the help of a local artist. The flag will then be flown on top of Hackney Town Hall in time for Black History Season in October 2018.

Winners will be announced in early 2018. The deadline for entries is Thursday, 21 December 2017. The flag must:

- Honour the past while celebrating the present and the future;
- Be exciting and colourful;
- Have a simple design;
- Use two or three basic colours clearly;
- Be easily recognisable and distinctive;
- Be designed to be flown so it can be seen when moving in the wind.

All entries should be sent to:

Tara Hudson
Communications, Culture and Engagement
Room 50 Hackney Town Hall
Mare Street E8 1EA

Or you can email at tara.hudson@hackney.gov.uk.

For more information, including competition guidelines, and for a full list of the Council's free Black History Season events please visit www.hackney.gov.uk/black-history-month.



Christmas Card Competition

Pupils at our school have been invited by our local MP, Meg Hillier, to take part in designing her Christmas card for this year. The winner's design will be printed professionally and sent to hundreds of people in Hackney as Meg's official Parliamentary Christmas card. There will be prizes for the winning design and for the runners up. If you would like to take part, then designs should be for the front of the card only and contained on one side of A4 paper. They should not include any glitter or cotton wool. You should write your name, class and school on the back of your design.

All designs must reach Meg Hillier's office on or before **Friday 3rd November**. The address to post them to is:

Meg Hillier, MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Alternatively, you can bring your designs into school and we can forward them on. The deadline for returning your entries via the school is **Tuesday 31st October**. Happy designing!



Judaism Week

Judaism Week

As part of our R.E. topic which looks at other faiths, our pupils have been learning about Judaism. This week, all year groups attended sessions led by our visitor, Nina Leigh. At the sessions, Nina spoke to the pupils about Judaism and showed the pupils various artefacts. This is what Abraham from Class 1B had to say about the year 1 session:

'I learnt that Jewish people go to a synagogue to pray to God and on a Friday night, the mum lights the candles and the family share the bread and wine. The mums and dads have the wine and the children have apple or berry juice.'



Pupil Premium Eligibility Check

This week, parents/carers of pupils in years 1 to 6 will have received a form entitled *Consent form for pupil premium eligibility check*. If you are entitled to certain benefits, the school is also entitled to receive additional money, known as the pupil premium, to support the education of our pupils. However, we can only claim this money from the government if you have declared your entitlement. We therefore urge you to complete this form as soon as possible and return it to the Admissions and Pupil Benefits Team at Hackney Learning Trust (the address is on the form). Alternatively, you can return the form to the school and we will pass it on. Thank you in advance for helping us secure additional funding for our school.



Governors' Building Fund

As you will be aware, we currently have a Building Fund that parents/carers support to help keep the school in good repair. Currently, parents donate £30 per year for one child or a total of £45 per year for two or more children. Starting from next half-term, we are changing the way that you may contribute towards this fund. Instead of donating a set amount once a year, you can donate £1 per week instead. This money can be sent in with your child or you can pay it directly at the school office. Thank you for your support. We are currently bidding for funding to upgrade our fire safety and for the roof in our KS2 building.



IMPORTANT: Providing the school with up-to-date details

Can parents please ensure that contact details are kept up to date. It is essential that we have current telephone numbers for at least three adults who we can contact in case of illness, emergency or absence. If you have changed your contact details recently please advise the school office immediately.



Elasticated School Ties

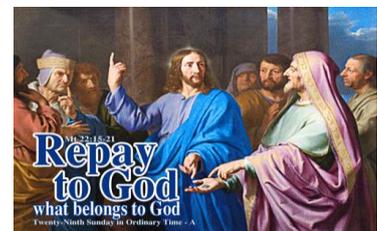
Elasticated ties are now back in stock and can be purchased from the school office for £4.00. Please ensure you bring the correct change when purchasing school uniform.



Birthdays at St. Dominic's

Happy Birthday to the following children who will be celebrating their birthdays over the next couple of weeks.

Ryan Escobar Gomez 2A	24 th
Abraham Bisuga 1B	26 th
Jessica Anoboga 6A	27 th
Miyah Dornelly Alexander 3A	27 th
John Paul Maughan 1A	28 th
Malachy Farrugia-Scott 1B	30 th
Louis Kirabo 5B	30 th
Angela Ofoegbu 4B	30 th
Kofi Bah 2B	31 st
Lana Day Nursery	31 st
McFred Yanga Massa 1B	31 st
Kene Okoli 6A	1 st
Michael Onugha 2A	1 st
Daniel Derosa 4A	2 nd



Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year

Although the Jewish people hated living under Roman rule, there were many benefits that arose from Roman occupation. The taxes collected from the Jews were used to improve roads and build towns, and for many ordinary people business flourished and their standard of living improved. In Sunday's Gospel we hear how some of the Pharisees tried to trick Jesus into speaking out against paying taxes to Caesar, the Roman Emperor.

Prayer

Loving Father, help us to share what we have received through your love and generosity, without counting the cost of following you. Grant this through Christ your Son. Amen.