

ST. DOMINIC'S Gazette



Issue 402 - Friday 1st October 2021

Our **SEAL**
word of the week
commencing
4th October
is
Motivated.



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class Rec B for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with 95%. In KS2, congratulations to Class 6B whose attendance was 95%.

Can we please remind parents to inform the school on the first day of any absence and to give an expected return date. GP and dental appointments should be made after school whenever possible.

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 020 8985 0995 (option 1) to report their absence. Please do this before 9:00am on each day of absence.



Half Term

The school will close for half term from Thursday 21st October as Friday 22nd October is a school Inset Day and return on Monday 1st November. A full list of term dates is available on the school website:
www.stdominics.hackney.sch.uk



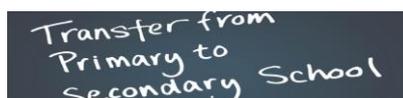
On-line Payments

We are going on-line for all payments this term.

SIMS Pay provides a safe, secure and easy way to pay online for school items such as school meals, trips, events, clubs and other school activities.

SIMS Pay allows you to make online payments to the school whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

All parents will need to sign up to SIMS Parent App by clicking on the link sent to you in the activation email. If you have not received an email inviting you to sign up, then please provide the school office with your email address.



Secondary Transfer

Parents/carers of pupils in year 6 recently received a letter outlining the process for choosing a secondary school for September 2022. Open days and evenings have been taking place in and out of the borough and we know that many of you will be attending these to help inform your choices.

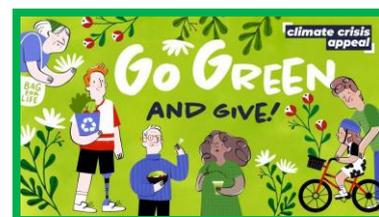
Secondary school applications need to be made online via the eAdmissions system. The deadline for making your application is **Friday 15th October**.

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.

Parents/carers should complete the applications at home themselves but if you would like the school to assist you with your application then you should make an appointment at the school office to see either Ms Finan or Ms Frankland on:

Tuesday 5th October 2-4pm
Thursday 7th October 3-4pm
Wednesday 13th October 8.30-10.30 am.



CAFOD Go Green Harvest Festival - Wednesday 6th October

This year Brighten Up goes green to support Amazon communities protecting the rainforest. Children will attend a special assembly where they will hear how CAFOD is working with

communities around the world to support people who protect the planet and communities affected by climate change.

Just £8.00 gives a family five fruit trees saplings to grow fruit to eat and sell. £54.00 builds a greenhouse for a family to grow vegetables all year round.

We are asking for your support for CAFOD this harvest by donating £1.00 to wear your **GREEN** clothes and an extra 50p for our special all **GREEN** cake sale!

We are also delighted to be supporting our local charity RISE 365 again by asking you to donate tins of food, pasta, rice and toiletry items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shower gels, sanitary items etc. to help support our local families.



Halo Hair Code

We are excited to announce that St. Dominic's has adopted 'The Halo Code', the UK's first Black hair code. No Black staff or students should have to change their natural or protective hairstyle in order to thrive at our school.

We hope that the Halo Code will move us one step closer to a world free from discrimination, where all Black members of our community have their identities fully recognised and celebrated.

The Code: *'Our school champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance.'*

We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscaves, and wraps.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed.'



Black History Celebration Day and Lunch.

On Thursday 14th October, as part of our Black History celebrations, children are invited to come to school dressed in national costume or the colours of their native flag. Lavena and her catering team will also be preparing a special school dinner of rice and peas, jollof rice, fried chicken, plantain and dumplings for children. If your child normally has a packed lunch but would like a school dinner on this day, then please pay £2.10 at the school office.



Cake Sale for MacMillan

Last Friday our pupils took part in the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' to raise money for Macmillan cancer nurses.

So far £186 has been raised. Our school staff will hold a Coffee morning later this month to raise even more money. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.



Governors Fund

As a Catholic Voluntary Aided School, we are required to contribute 10% towards all costs relating to the maintenance of and improvement to the children's classrooms, all other buildings and the school grounds, including the school gates and fencing to the playground, as well as any IT and other equipment used in the School, including the laptops and iPads. Our School does not receive 100% funding from the Government. This is why we ask all parents or guardians for a donation to the Governors Fund.

The donations remain at £30 per child or £45 for a family. This fund is vital and makes a difference to our school and ultimately your child's education.

Please make your donation in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class.



Birthdays at St. Dominic's

Happy Birthday to the following children who will be celebrating their birthdays over the coming week.

Year 1	Mowalolaoluwa
Year 4	Patience
Year 5	Kairah
Year 6	Kevin-Prince, Patrick & De-Shornae



Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year

Jesus loved to spend time with children, enjoying their laughter, talking to them, and listening to what they had to say. They have always been just as important to him as grown-ups.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, friend of little children,
You are always ready to listen to what we have to say, and to take care of us in the grown-up world. As we become adults, help the special trust and friendship we shared with you as little children grow within us, and draw us ever closer to you.

Amen

