

ST. DOMINIC'S *Gazette*



Issue 454 - Friday 10th February 2023

Our **SEAL**
word of the week
commencing
20th February
is
Unique/Special.



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class 2A for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with 100%. In KS2, congratulations to Class 4A whose attendance was 98%.

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 holiday

Today is the last day of this half-term.

School will be closed next week and we will return on **Monday 20th February at 9.00am.**

We wish you a relaxing break.



Turkey and Syrian Earthquakes

We have been horrified by the news of the devastating earthquakes taking place early this week in Turkey and Syria. We will keep all our families affected in our thoughts and prayers.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Granville has issued this statement in support:

"Hackney is home to one of the largest Turkish and Kurdish populations in the country, we have also more recently welcomed refugees from Syria; and we know many of them will be anxious for family and friends in the region, and devastated by the impact of the disaster. We stand with you - and think of all those grieving at this terrible time."



On-line Payments - Cash is no longer accepted!

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.



Children's Mental Health Week 6th - 13th February

Our assembly on Wednesday was on the Children's Mental Health Week theme of **'Let's Connect'**.

Connection with others is not just through words, it is also about eye contact, facial expressions, gestures, touch, such as shaking hands, high five etc.

We discussed whether friendships and connections must be with people who are the same as us? Is anyone exactly the same as us? We then looked at people who have changed the world by thinking about others and connecting with others to do good.

Our children thought about people they know in our community and famous people, such as Marcus Rashford, Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai who have made real changes by building connections, locally, nationally and globally, for amazing good causes. We also thought about people who may feel disconnected from others in our community.

What can we do to include them better in our community?

What happens when we feel alone and disconnected from others? How do we feel?

What can we do for children in the playground when they feel disconnected from others? Encourage your child to tell a trusted grown-up at school or home and/or connect with the playground leaders, DIVERSE-a-TEAM. Our children always respond so constructively during these assemblies - they do not judge, they reflect thoughtfully and create positive solutions.

Let's continue to work together in raising our children to be pro-active, connected citizens; we will all feel the benefits in future years.

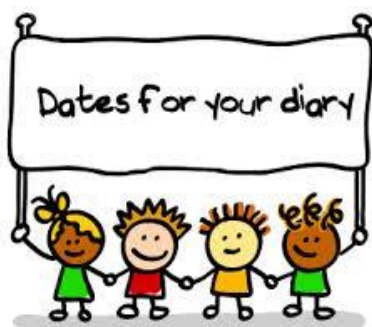
Here are some useful websites to support Children's Mental Health Week - Learn and ENJOY!

Childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families

Childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools

Childrenssociety.org.uk/mental-health

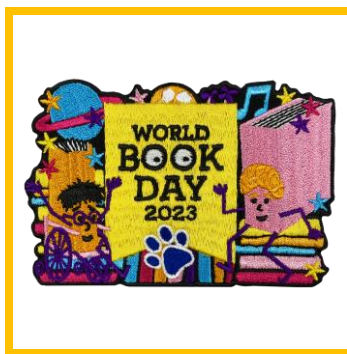
Barnardos.org.uk/mentalhealth



Ash Wednesday Mass - 22nd February.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and, traditionally, people give up something they like or enjoy during Lent or do something extra.

We will be holding a service where we will receive the ashes from palm branches that were blessed on Palm Sunday last year for KS2 at 10.30am in the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Dominic and for KS1 at 2.00pm in the school hall. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend.



World Book Day

World Book Day 2023 will take place on **Tuesday 28th February 2023** and aside from the World Book Day books, the theme is 'You are a reader'

To celebrate, children will be able to come to school dressed as their favourite book character and enjoy a week of reading related activities. If you need some dressing up inspiration or would like to find out more about World Book Day then please visit the website at <http://www.worldbookday.com>



WOW! Day - Wednesday 1st March.

St. Dominic's will be holding next term's WOW Day on **Wednesday 1st March**.

Children are invited to dress up in clothes appropriate to their topic theme and spend the whole day enjoying projects, tasks and activities centred around their learning adventure.

Make sure you ask about your child's class theme - we can't wait to see all of the incredible costumes!



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.



Birthdays at St. Dominic's

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

Year 3	Stephanie & Oyintare
Year 6	Nuria & Naissa



Sixth Sunday of the Year

When Moses was leading God's people through the desert, God gave them ten rules or commandments, to help the people to live in God's way. In Sunday's Gospel we hear Jesus reminding his followers of the 'rules for life'.

Prayer

God our Father,
Help us to keep your
Commandments 'written' on our
hearts to guide us on our journey
through life, and lead us closer to
you each day.

Amen.

