

ST. DOMINIC'S *Gazette*



Issue 457 - Friday 10th March 2023

*Our SEAL
word of the week
commencing
13th March
is
Celebrate.*



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class 2A for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with 95%. In KS2, congratulations to Class 4A whose attendance was 99%.

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.



School Closures due to Strike Action

Wednesday 15th March

Thursday 16th March

As you are probably aware, a series of school strikes have been announced by the NEU, due to poor school funding and staff pay.

These two factors have led to fewer resources for pupils and staff leaving schools for better paid and less intensive jobs elsewhere.

Educators do not want to leave the profession but in its current state we believe it is failing our children and this needs to be highlighted. For this reason, staff have made the difficult decision of taking strike action.

Strike by nature is disruptive, and while the striking members acknowledge that their action creates pressure on families, it is done in order to safeguard educational quality, to ensure standards for staff and children are protected now and in the future.

In taking strike action members will be sacrificing their pay. At a time of financial tension, this sacrifice is not taken lightly. Striking staff are hoping that this action will help the negotiation process.

Your support is welcomed and appreciated. If you would like to discuss this further Miss Slingsby is happy to talk to parents.

Our risk assessment has concluded that it would be unsafe for St. Dominic's to open on **Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March.**



Assembly Time!

Our assembly themes continue to teach and nurture our children to be the best that they can be. The children are learning to feel proud of who they are and to continue to celebrate the differences and similarities amongst us.

We explored the BIG question of what love is.

God created us to love and to be loved. When we love each other and when we are loved, we know that we belong. We feel safe and secure. The children shared their understanding of what love felt like for them, using words such as 'passion', 'warm' and 'safe'. We have no right to judge each other's friendships and partnerships; as Pope Francis said, 'Who am I to judge?'

It is a delight listening to the children's ideas and thoughts on the big concepts that we are exploring. They are clearly being educated and cared for in very loving, nurturing environments by you, our parents and carers. Together, in partnership, we are growing St. Dominic's community to be a tolerant, safe and loving space!



Parents' Meetings

Meetings will take place in the KS2 hall from 2pm until 5pm. Appointment lists will be available outside class 1A from Monday 13th March.

Year 2 - Tuesday 14th March.

Year 6 - Monday 13th March.

Year 5 - Tuesday 21st March.

EYFS - Wednesday 22nd March.

Year 4 - Thursday 23rd March

Year 3 - Tuesday 28th March.

We encourage all parents to attend as these meetings provide an important opportunity for you to discuss your child's attainment and progress.



Secondary School Offer

All parents should have received an offer for a secondary school place for their child on 1st March 2023. Parents must respond to their offer by **Wednesday 15 March**.

All applicants are advised to follow the instructions in their offer email to respond.

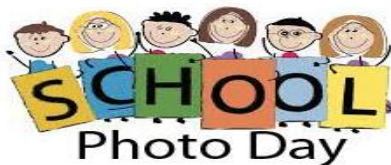
Information about the next steps is included in the offer email/letter.

Parents can also be referred to education.hackney.gov.uk/secondaryoffers for information about your options and next steps.

In all cases parents are encouraged to accept their child's offer.

- Accepting the offer will **not** reduce a child's chance of being offered a place at a higher preference school.
- Declining the offer will **not** increase a child's chance of being offered a higher preference school.
- Parents can accept the offer and:
 - wait to see if they can be offered a place at a higher preference school
 - change their preferred schools
 - submit an appeal

Declined offers may be withdrawn and offered to the next applicant on the waiting list. If this happens, it may not be possible to offer the same school again.



School Photographs

Our school photographer will be in school on **Tuesday, 14th March** to take individual and family photographs. Please sign and return the consent form ASAP. **Without your slip, we will be unable to photograph your child.**

To ensure that the sessions run smoothly and without delay, please ensure, as always, that your child is in full uniform.



FRIDAY 17 MARCH

Red Nose Day - Friday 17th March

Red Nose Day is coming. And whatever you do, no matter how small, you can help people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination. You have the power to change lives.

St. Dominic's will be supporting Comic Relief on **Friday 17th March**. We are asking you to dress as your favourite Super Hero or wear **RED** and donate £1.00. We will also have a cake sale at break time and cakes will be on sale for 50p.



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 1	Blake
Year 2	Rudy
Year 5	Helena
Year 6	Neo, Ephraim & Adanna



Third Sunday of Lent

On Sunday we hear about a meeting between Jesus and a Samaritan women. The Samaritans came from a place called Samaria. The Jews from Galilee and Judaea hated them because the Samaritans had built a temple for God on Mount Gerizim, in their own country, and refused to worship at the temple in Jerusalem.

Prayer

We thank you Jesus, for the blessing of water; for being able to turn on a tap and know that it will flow; for rain and rivers and the mighty oceans.

We thank you for the 'water of life', poured out and shared with us at baptism, and throughout our lives, so that we can have everlasting life.

Amen.

