



# St Joachim's Primary School Newsletter

## 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014



### Dates to Remember



- 11<sup>th</sup> Nov Remembrance Day - School Council at Central Park Memorial
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 10:00am Y4 Assembly**
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Nov Y5 Rome Trip
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Year 3 and Year 4 - Boys' football @ Langdon
  - 16<sup>th</sup> Nov Year 3 out @ Royal Naval College Myths and Masks WS
  - 26<sup>th</sup> Nov Year 1 and Year 2 - Hot potato Mixed @ St Helen's
  - 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 10:00am Greek Myths Assembly - N, 1, 3, 5
  - 27<sup>th</sup> Nov Brentwood diocesan Carol Concert - Y6 choir
  - 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2:00pm Greek Myths Assembly - N, R, 2, 4, 6
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 10:00am KS1 and Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 1:30pm KS1 and Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
  - 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 7:00pm KS2 Carol Concert/Nativity in St Anne's Church
  - 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 6:00-8:00pm School Disco
- 19<sup>th</sup> December last day of school**  
**School finishes at 1:30pm**

**Christmas Break starts 22<sup>nd</sup> December**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January Whole School Returns**



### Rome Reminder



Year 5 children will be going to Rome from 18<sup>th</sup> November to 21<sup>st</sup> November and will be accompanied by three other school staff. They will be travelling with St. Edwards.

### Reception's Trip to the Discovery Centre

We went on an exciting trip on Wednesday to the Discovery centre in Stratford. We explored lots in the Discovery centre in the play area, in the story tent, on the slides, in the lollipopper and in the space ship. We went on a story trail to help Hootah, a baby space monster, to make up a story for *planet Squiggly Diggly*. We had a lot of fun and we made up a story with crocodiles and sharks.



### From the Headmaster

Dear Parents and friends,

It's always good to come back to school and start a new term, but even more so when we have, on the first day, an exciting new project. It was fantastic to see all the children and staff dressed up as characters from a variety of Greek myths. As usual, Miss Pape and Mr Helliwell delivered a dramatic assembly to launch the project, which inspired and motivated the children. Children from Nursery to Year 6 will be studying Greek mythology such as King Midas and Jason and the Golden Fleece. The Hobgoblin theatre company came to school and performed a variety of Greek myths while teaching the children about the history of the Ancient Greeks. On Tuesday it will be Armistice Day, this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary since WW1 began and as usual we will be having an assembly to remember all those who gave their lives so that we may live in a free country. The School Council will be going to Central Park to the memorial with all the other Catholic Schools and the local mayor. On Tuesday next week many of the Y5's together with myself and staff and pupils from St. Edward's will be going on a pilgrimage to Rome to see Pope Francis and also many of the sites such as the Sistine Chapel. This will be the fourth time visiting the Vatican City. Christmas will soon be upon us and so now it is time to start preparing for the nativities and carol services.

### Reminder - Collecting Children

Please ensure that we have contact details of anyone collecting your child even if it only happens on occasion. Information should be given to the school office.

### Termly Punctuality and Attendance

**Attendance since 1<sup>st</sup> September to 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

Class	Attendance %	Punctuality %	Number of Lates
YR	98.4	0.47	9
Y1	97.1	0.48	11
Y2	99.2	0.35	8
Y3	99.3	0.87	19
Y4	98.1	0.61	14
Y5	99.6	0.98	22
Y6	98.8	1.07	24



**Very Good attendance by Y5!!**  
**Good punctuality by Y2!!!**

Don't forget parents that children must be in school at 8.45am or even earlier if they attend one of our morning clubs.

### Reception Shapes Trail Wednesday

Last week in Reception we were learning about shapes. We made our very own shape detective binoculars and went on an outdoor shape hunt. We found circles on the bus wheels, we found rectangles on the windows of people's houses and garages and we found triangles on the roofs of people's houses.

We used our five senses while on our shape trail. We have been learning about our five senses and we used them to hear the trains, lorries and cars, to see our shapes, and to smell different smells.



### The Brilliant Club: Trip to Sussex University



On Wednesday, 5th November twelve gifted and talented Year 6 pupils (7 girls and 5 boys) visited the University of Sussex. Over the forthcoming weeks, they will be working under the tutorship of a PhD student, Maha Abdollah, from University College, London. The children will be taught how to research a Biology topic, "The Healthy Heart." Their programme of work will include study skill sessions, tutorials, written homework tasks and a final assignment which must consist of one thousand words. This piece of work will be submitted and marked in University style and the children will be awarded a result classed like a University degree. As a result, the pupils will have a first-hand experience of working like a student at University and, hopefully, their memories of this will encourage each of them to consider studying for a degree, of their choice, at a top University in the future.

### Sports News



Well done to the children in years 1 and 2 who came in second place in the handball and football tournament at Langdon School!

#### *Upcoming sports events:*

11<sup>th</sup> Nov – 3pm-4pm Boys Football Math

@Flanders Vs. Winsor

19<sup>th</sup> Nov – 12pm-1pm Y3 and Y4 Football Match

@Langdon

### Black History Assembly

A big well done to all of the children who entered our WW1 Black History Week competitions. We were amazed by the quality of the poems and model bi-planes that we received. All classes worked extremely hard to learn and perform their poems, thank you so much for all of your hard work.



### **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

Have you registered to see if you are eligible Free School Meals. If not St Joachim's needs you to go on to this website:

<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

**This is an easy to use checker and it could result in St. Joachim's receiving an extra £1300 towards your child's education. Please check today!!!**

### Myths and Legends Dress up Day

Tuesday's assembly saw the launch of our exciting 'Myths and Legends' project! The children were introduced to St Joachim's very own heroes of Ancient Greece, Theseus and his sidekick Muscleus! They had travelled to the school to give a dramatic recount of one of the most famous Greek myths 'Theseus and the Minotaur'.

Strangely enough the appearance of these two Greek heroes coincided with the sudden disappearance of Miss Pape and Mr Helliwell. A coincidence? After Epic re-enactments, a few songs and some tasty Spartan black broth the two heroes revealed which exciting Greek myths and heroes they will be studying this term.



Help obtain government funding for your child's school!

Did you know the government gives additional funding to schools for those children entitled to free school meals?

Schools use this money to obtain additional staff and resources that help improve the quality of education.

To find out whether your child qualifies for free school meals, and hence whether their school would receive additional funding, please fill in the details requested on this site.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to do this by offering you free Antivirus software to use at home\*, regardless of the outcome.

Your child's school will be informed by this service if your child is entitled to free school meals.

Check eligibility



### RECEPTION 2015/2016

If your child was born between the above dates you need to complete the application forms.

There are 2 application forms to complete if you are applying to a catholic school;

the **Common Application Form for the Local Authority** and the **Supplementary Form and Priest Reference Form**.

If you are not sure, please contact the school.

**Application forms must be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015.**

We advise that you submit the forms at least a week before this date for checking.