



29th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Advent

Next week is the beginning of Advent. The younger classes have already started bringing home their Advent bag to share. Each child will have the opportunity to take this home during Advent. The Junior classes will be having a Reconciliation ceremony led by Fr Ivano on Monday. He is coming into school to prepare the children during assembly, and then the children are making their way to the Church for individual Reconciliation.

Parent Governor Elections

We are delighted to announce that our Parent Governors, that you elected, are Christophe Pannelay and Irene Garcia. We would like to thank all of you for taking the time to vote in our election. We would particularly like to thank Jody Graber for running in the election.

Lastly, we would like to thank Sarah Boland and Jody Graber for their time efforts and contribution during their parent governor term of office.

Christmas Performance Reminders

	Date	Time
Reception	6/12/19	9:30am
Nursery	18/12/19	9:30am
Year 1	13/12/19	9:30am
Year 2/3 production	13/12/19	2:00pm
Junior Carol Service	19/12/19	2:00pm

School Christmas Dinner will take place on the 12th December 2019 and children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Swimming Gala Preliminaries

Well done to all the Year 5 and 6 representatives that took part in the swimming trials (preliminaries) at the Cally Pool on Tuesday. The attitude, support, participation and behaviour of the children was exemplary and did us all proud. The competition this year was very tough but the children that qualified will be competing in Ironmonger on Friday 6th December. We wish them luck.



Attendance

After our last Governing Body meeting, we are writing to all parents whose child/ children's attendance falls below the expected requirement. Please see the below table for your information.

	Percentage of attendance	Days of Absence	Impact
Good Attendance	96-100%	0-8 days absent over the school year	Best chance of success in education
Poor Attendance	80-90%	19- 29 days absent over the school year	Reduced chance of success in education
Very Poor Attendance	75-80%	38-47 days absent over the school year	Safeguarding Concern
Extremely Poor Attendance	Below 75%	More than 47 days absent over the school year	Serious impact on education and life chances

Children are legally obliged to be in school. Excellent attendance and punctuality is the key to a pupil's success. Logically if a pupil is not in school, they are not learning and thereby allowing their potential achievement to suffer. The process of education is lifelong and we build on what we already know. Therefore, if pupils miss school they are damaging their future. Each year there are 190 school days which leaves 175 days for holidays, shopping, birthday treats and non-urgent medical and dental appointments. The school therefore takes absence very seriously and persistent absenteeism can lead to fining and prosecution.

Ben Kinsella Workshops

This week our Year 5 and 6 classes attended the Ben Kinsella workshops. Both class found the workshops very informative and brought the message home to many of our children.



LSO Trip

Our Year 1 and 2 children attended a concert on Monday in the Barbican to see the LSO perform. Many thanks to the Culture Mile funding that allowed the children to attend the concert free of charge.

Reception Open Day for Prospective Parents

Many thanks to the parents who attended our opening morning ahead of applying for Reception places in January. If you missed the morning and require information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kittle Photographs

If you would like to order your child/ children's individual photograph, please ensure you have completed it and returned it to school by Wednesday 4th December, before school.

PTA

Year 6 Cake Sale

Congratulations to year 6 parents and children for the wonderful cake sales yesterday. It was really Christmassy indeed: music, hats, decorations, cakes! A good reminder that Advent starts this Sunday. They raised a whopping £130!



“Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.”
Pope Francis

Have a lovely weekend

Miss T Peters