

Highgate Hill London N19 5NE

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Head of School Angela Noronha

Monday 17th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers.

The Autumn term is now drawing to a close and Christmas is fast approaching. I last wrote to you in July to share the outcome of our school review. We were delighted with the overall outcome as it recognised the hard work of the staff in ensuring each child in their care is given great opportunities in their learning. At the end of the Summer term we received our SATs results and I am delighted to tell you that our standards have further increased to place us in the top 10% of schools nationally for Reading and Writing and the top 12% of schools nationally for Maths. We were delighted with the results and congratulate the children on their great success.

So much seems to have happened this calendar year. It seems a long time since we spoke about getting a new kitchen and now it is almost a year old! We are so pleased to have replaced the old kitchen, which enabled us to create an additional room right in the heart of our school. These projects allow us to continue to improve our facilities which can be used by all members of our school community.

Since we arrived back to school in September, our Children and staff (old and new) have settled well into their new classes and there is a buzz about learning in the school.

As Governors, we continue to be regular visitors to the School and during a recent 'Governor morning' we had the opportunity to see children in lessons on current affairs, speak with them in small groups about their learning, and we received a presentation on how Chrome books are being used to enhance learning in Years 3 and 4. It was an action packed morning. What struck us is the good behaviour, enthusiasm and energy of the children when we met with them. It is clear they enjoy coming to school and learning new things. The staff must also to be commended for their dedication and commitment to the school.

This month we have launched our new RE newsletter, Chaplain Chat. We hope that you will look forward to receiving it and sharing the prayers and articles with your child.

Finally, all our work with the children is in partnership with you as parents.



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I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all you do to support our school. Thank you for your monetary contributions to the School Fund, a necessity in these lean times of diminishing school budgets.

This year we also introduced the 'Giving Tree' – a chance for parents to gift money towards some additional resources for the children, anything from some watercolour paints to a contribution towards a computer. We were delighted with the response and so far have raised almost £1400! I would also like to thank you for the many other ways you support the school as volunteers on trips, as parent readers, as PFA members and supporters, when attending parent workshops and coffee mornings and in the many other ways in which you support the school so that your child can continue to grow and learn.

In the lead up to Christmas, we have held a wonderful Advent assembly and the delightful Reception and Year 2 Nativities. Our Year 5 pupils moved us all with their choice of songs at their carol concert. This week Year 4 will be leading us in our Christingle celebration on Tuesday before Year 6 lead us in our final Christmas celebrations at our end of term Mass on Wednesday. The excitement of the end of term and the approach of Christmas should not, of course, distract us from what Christmas is really all about: the coming of Jesus our Saviour. In their end of term performances, the children are leading the way. So, on behalf of the governing body, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in 2019.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Paul Lasok,

Chair of Governors

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School