

Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School, vewsletter

October 3rd 2020

Newsletter 1163

Dear parents: Parent consultations are booking for next week. Do not worry if you are not techie these can also be done via a phone call. We planned to send our usual invites out Monday but our tech provider had not updated the online calendar and could not be contacted. This has been such a familiar theme recently. Anyone says that people working from home is more efficient please refer to me. I am sure it can be depending on the nature of the job but I could tell numerous stories from this week alone of how hard it is to contact both public, private and government centres. Parent consultations first time virtually. 10 minute calls booked in. Please be ready for the teacher to let you in and also please be patient. Einstein talked about time being relative but punctuality is a virtue in my book. We hope to do more virtual meetings very soon if these ones work as planned. Just click the link and pray it works. Some good news. De Beauvoir Ward where we are has seen Covid rates go down this week and is now well below local and lowest of all the Hackney Wards. But do maintain social distancing please and wait where signs are posted. Thank you.

Diocese of Westminster Prayer for Black History Month

The Diocese of Westminster have asked us to share this prayer with you for October and Black History Month

Spirit of Abundance, God of Grace, Mother of Hope,

We pause now to remember those stories that are all around us but so often passed over,

Those stories that when told are shared because Of what someone is, not who they are.

This month in our nation's character is Black History month.

Help us to realize that Black history is all our histories.

May the day come when these stories are so wildly taught that no month need be separately divided.

We know this day will not come until we as a people make different choices. We pray now for those new choices.

May we come to see a day where the prison system becomes redemptive, not punitive.

A day where the legal system learns to focus more squarely on the facts and the not colours of our skin.

A day where our schools are as well funded, as the needs demand.

May our role models be allowed to excel when they thrive, And not be taken down for their rich heritage.

We know this will require a shift in power and this can be scary for some. Give those full of fear - hope.

May we come to know grace, So that our hearts will not be hardened to the pain around us.

There are so many beautiful stories needing to be told. And we need to get the chance to hear them.

Widen our vision so that the history that is shared this month and every month come to be known as our history too.

We are most human when we see the humanity in others.

Pics of the week:

New signs for Year 1 and 2 parents in Culford Road at home time. Please wait on the correct side. New bike racks paid for by the Parents Association (PA). Many thanks.







School news ... next week

PA Christmas cards due back in Monday please

Monday - Thursday Parent consultation week via Google Meets.

Tuesday to Thursday Multi sports continues

Karate club - Monday Wednesday and Saturday all now on.

+ Art Club and Irish Dancing after school clubs begin again.

Parking outside school and safer streets

After many weeks Hackney Safer Streets got back in touch. There will be mobile cars operating in the area from next week and cameras going in soon. So please pay attention to traffic restrictions and signs if you do not want a hefty fine. + Please allow extra time you are driving. Two parents told me recently it has taken an hour to get from Mare Street to here and vice versa. Same on the A10 Kingsland High Road. I think the Safer Streets outside schools can only be a good idea but closing off every side road is causing massive jams and pollution.

and finally ... I woke up at 4.45am this morning to hear Hope Hicks had tested positive for Covid... an hour or so later I heard the President himself had tested positive, truly extraordinary times. Like all human beings I wish him well but I do hope it brings home to people that Covid is not fake news or some deep state plot it is a highly contagious Corona virus. I had written a couple of lines about the so called debate but would be unseemly now and have deleted them highly recommended Social Dilemma newly released on Netflix. No earth shattering revelations just a really well made thoughtful film on how toxic and addictive social media can be all told by the people who engineered and sold it. My hero of the week Tristan Harris founder of The Centre for Humane Technology and ex-Google a good guy for troubled times Silicon Valleys conscience .. well worth a watch. too many football and rugby games on just now and half the players will be injured by Christmas ... a cold and rainy start to October ...one day at a time until 2021. Be happy!!