

Newsletter

We work together, we play together, we laugh together, we pray together.

Forthcoming dates

25th Jan: book sharing afternoon 3.45-5pm
28th Jan: Art exhibition 3-4.30pm, school hall
3rd Feb: handwriting parent workshop 9-10am
5th Feb: Year 4 class assembly 9.30am
9th Feb: Shrove Tuesday pancake sale 3.30pm (Yr 3 parents)
15-19th Feb: half term
22nd Feb: Back to school
23rd Feb: behaviour parent workshop 9-10am
4th March: Year 3 class assembly 9.30am
18th June: First Holy Communion 11am
 *Please note that class trip dates will not be included here

Well done to...

(R), Olivia (Yr1), Oscar (Yr2), Jessabelle (Yr3), Mustafa (Yr4), Teresa Yr5), Iago (Yr6), Sophia H Year 4, yellow & green houses for achieving certificates last week.
 (R), Cass (Yr1), Mary (Yr2), Alan (Yr3), Sophia (Yr4), Sofia Yr5), Genevieve (Yr6), Jaime Year 1 and green house for achieving certificates last week.

Congratulations everyone!

Dear Parents,

It has been a lovely week here, with everyone immersed in all things 'arty'. We look forward to seeing you at the exhibition next week. Don't forget too, that the classrooms are open on Monday evening for you and your children to look at their books together and celebrate their achievements. Enjoy the weekend!

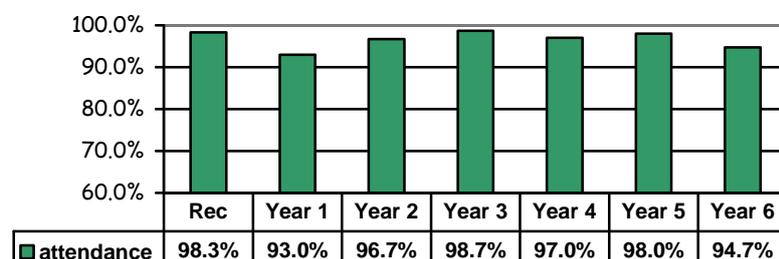
Best wishes, Mrs Griffiths, Headteacher

Art Week



Our thanks go to our Art coordinator Mr Challens for organising a very successful 'Art Week'. With a focus on art from around the world, the children have enjoyed exploring the joys of painting, sketching, printmaking and sculpture. Please join us after school next Thursday, anytime after 3pm, where the hall will be open to explore some of the children's finished work. Pupils will leave school from the side playground on that day and the exhibition will close promptly at 4.30pm. Chamber Choir will take place in a classroom that day.

Congratulations to Year 3 with 98.7% attendance last week!



Book Sharing Afternoon

25th January 3.45-5pm

On Monday after school, classrooms will be open for your children to show you their books, and to explain what they have learned about so far. Collect your children as usual at 3.30pm, then enter through the side playground. Please only look at your own children's work. We regret that we will be unable to admit anyone arriving after 5pm.

EAL library

Every Wednesday in the hall between 8.40 and 9am Mrs Nuttall is running an EAL library. If you speak another language at home you can borrow dual language books in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Polish, Slovakian and (just arrived!) Albanian. The library is growing slowly and we would welcome any ideas to improve it. The library is aimed at children in the Infant classes but everyone is welcome!

Tube Strikes

At the time of writing, strikes on the tube are being planned for the 26th and 27th of January. Should the strikes go ahead, the school will remain open, and we expect all pupils to make alternative travel arrangements on that day, allowing for heavy traffic.

Food in school

At morning break, please remember that we only allow fruit snacks or vegetable crudities in the juniors. Snacks are provided for the infants. Children attending clubs after school can bring a healthy snack to eat before the club begins, such as a small sandwich. Crisps, biscuits, cake and other junk foods should not be brought to after school clubs. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Governors' Fund

Contributions towards the Governors' Fund are now due. This is an annual request from the governors who invite parents to make a donation towards the upkeep of the school building. As a voluntary aided school, the governors pay for 10% of the cost of building works from the governors' fund. Recently, for example, a contribution was made towards the replacement of some windows, damp work in the basement and the refurbishment of the juniors toilets. The governors are suggesting a voluntary contribution of £30 per family per year. Contributions may be given to the school office and **cheques should be made payable to "The Oratory Primary School"**. The Governors' Fund is a registered charity with The Brompton Oratory Church and as such we have Gift Aid forms in the office which parents can sign. This is an easy way of making your contribution go further. You only need to sign the gift aid declaration once so if you have already completed one there is no need to sign a new form. We would be most grateful if Governors' Fund contributions could be received before the end of this half term.

Because the governors' fund is only spent on the school building, some families have asked us how they can make larger donations to the school to buy books, computers and other equipment. This can be done by donating to the Parent's Association. Some parents have asked us whether they can make a regular donation to the PA charity by direct debit. We are currently looking into this, and will send further information soon.

NSPCC Danceathon



Congratulations to everyone for boogying the day away yesterday. Children, staff (and even some parents!) joined in the fun every hour when the whole school stopped to dance, raising money for the NSPCC. **Please return your sponsorship forms on 26th January.** Thank you to Mrs Steinart and the school council for organising the day.

Everyday magic

We are pleased that our resident storytelling company is back with us again this term. They are currently working with Reception, Year 1 and Year 4 in helping the children to develop rich language and explore the oral tradition through story and song. Everyday Magic has developed their first audio story, available for download at:

<http://everydaymagic.bandcamp.com/track/the-ugly-duckling>

'The Ugly Duckling' as told by Anne Johnson; a charming and thoughtful version of the Hans Christian Andersen classic with original songs & music. To find out more about their work, visit:

www.everydaymagic.org.uk