

20th October 2023

Dear Parents

It was wonderful to see a sea of red in school today in support of "Show racism the red card". Sadly it's a message that children in our school need to be educated about as there are too many casual comments about skin colour and facial features of children. Education is the only way to eradicate this. We are all part of one race, the human race.

The Literacy meeting for Reception parents last night and this morning was well attended, I hope you found it useful. If you weren't able to attend, all the handouts can be found on our website <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/learning/reception/phonics-and-reading/>

Assemblies – On Monday Mrs Roper spoke to the whole school about DLD (Developmental Language Disorder).

Today is actually DLD day, so if you are in Enfield today you will see the civic centre lit in purple to raise the awareness of DLD. There are 80 locations worldwide that will be lit up which you can access using the following link <https://radld.org/dld-awareness-day/light-up-events/> (Apologies we had already chosen to mark showing racism the red card today, so couldn't really do both without diluting the racism issue.)

Developmental Language Disorder is a hidden but common disability that affects 1 in 14 people (2 children in every class,) causing difficulties understanding and using language for no known reason. The 2023 DLD day theme is *DLD Around the World*, highlighting that DLD occurs in every language.

On Tuesday Miss Nolan read the story "All things are difficult, before they are easy" by Thomas Fuller. A few interesting quotes she also read were "You have only failed if you have given up. Until then, it is learning." Also, "There is a difference between not knowing and not knowing yet" written by Sheila Tobias.

On Wednesday Mrs Warrington shared with the Junior children the importance of scientists. They looked at breaking stereotypes such as the white haired old man and realised that everyone in the room could be a scientist – who knows what they may go on to discover.

Enfield Music Service (EMS) lessons – If you would like your child to learn an instrument with one of the EMS tutors, you need to apply by 3rd December. Look at the attached flier and follow the link.

Reception starting school September 2024 – If you have a child due to start school next September, the online portal to apply for a place can be found here www.eadmissions.org.uk. We have open afternoons when you can visit and find out more about the paperwork we need to apply for a place – check out our website and let your friends know too <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/admissions/>

The Friends' Quiz Night – An incredible amount of money was raised at last week's Quiz Night – around £4,000! A huge thank you to Mrs Tottle-Nugent and her husband for writing such an entertaining quiz and to one of our mums Bonnie and her team from The Yard who made such a generous contribution with the sharing platters. It was the final event of The Friends' committee before they step down from their respective roles. They have done an incredible job working so hard, even through the pandemic. You can hear how much they've raised in total and how it's been spent if you come to the AGM on Thursday 2nd November (via zoom).

Label uniform – There is a criminal amount of school uniform in lost property - with jumpers and cardigans left all over the place. **We cannot return the items to the children because they are not named!!** Over half term, please get a biro and write your child's name in the labels. Thank you

Request for white/grey socks and green tights – if you have any clean socks/tights that no longer fit, please would you donate them to the medical room. Many thanks

Diary Dates

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th School Closed

Monday 30th October – School opens as normal

Wednesday 1st – Mass in school for children for the Feast of All Saints

Thursday 2nd Nov 8pm – The Friends AGM via zoom

Friday 3rd – individual photos of children and sibling groups

Friday 3rd 1.30pm – open afternoon for prospective parents for Reception 2024. Telephone the office to book a place.

I hope you all have a lovely half term holiday.

Kind regards
Kate Baptiste
Headteacher