

St John's Upper Holloway CE Primary School Newsletter

June 2018

A very warm welcome to our latest newsletter. There will be all sorts of things happening in school this half term, so read on for more information.

The chicks are back !



We were very excited to have a batch of eggs from the Happy Egg Company again. Within a couple of days, cracks appeared and we now have 10 beautiful chicks. It is a magical moment for the children (and adults!) to watch them pecking their way out of their shells. They will be with us for another week before returning to the farm. Miss Eden would love children from across the school to take part in a chick competition! She is inviting all budding scientists to create a fact file about chickens and they can include pictures as well as any fascinating facts they have found out. The deadline for entries is next Thursday 21st June and the winning entries will be displayed in the library and announced at next Friday's assembly.

Winning the prize for the best history project

You may remember the whole school project we did last term about the escape of Father John Gerrard. The children all visited the Tower of London and then did a range of work across the curriculum culminating in a pop-up museum in the hall. We were delighted to find out that our history week won the prize for the best history project from schools all across London. A huge well done to Miss Ward and all the staff and children who made it such a success.

Using the rear gate on St John's Grove

In recent years, all schools have become increasingly concerned with pupils safety and security. With this in mind, we have decided to no longer use the rear gate on St John's Grove as we are not able to have an adult on duty there at the start and end of the day. We do realise that for some parents and children, this will mean a slightly longer walk to our main entrance on Pemberton Garden's but we do hope everyone understands the need to do this to ensure the safety of all our children. We will introduce this from next Monday, 18th June.

Sports Day

We are fast approaching our Sports Day which will be taking place on **Friday 29th June**. This year, we have been unable to book Whittington Park due to refurbishment work so have arranged to use the playing fields at Tufnell Park instead. The children will walk down in their classes straight after registration and we hope to begin the event shortly after 9:30. We anticipate we will be finished by lunchtime and children will have a packed lunch there before returning back to school. It's always a fantastic day and we would love for as many parents to join us as possible.



Our new Vicar, Rev Alan Comfort, is starting soon

We are very excited that the new vicar of St John's will be welcomed with a service at the church from 7pm on Thursday 28th June. All parents are very welcome to attend. I'm sure you will be seeing him in and around school before we break for the summer and will make him feel very welcome.

Attendance and punctuality so far this year

	Nur	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance %	93.5	95.0	94.8	96.2	96.4	96.0	94.6	96.4
Lates	49	194	167	186	134	180	121	57

I'm really pleased to see that half the classes in school have now reached our attendance target of 96%. Well done to Years 2, 3, 4 and 6. Punctuality is still a problem with many children arriving a few minutes late almost every day, which can be very disruptive for the class and upsetting for your child. Please try to ensure your child is ready in school **before the bell goes at 9am**.

We have also had a few families who have requested that they are allowed to go on holiday during term time. As a school, we are unable to approve this and, in line with local authority guidance, you are likely to face a fine and possibly court action. Please come and see me if you want to discuss any exceptional circumstances for your child's absence.

Art week

From 9th—12th July we will be celebrating art from a range of countries taking part in the world cup. Children will be developing their art skills across a range of media and will be showing them off at an art exhibition in the hall on 12th July. On Wednesday 11th July we will be inviting parents to join us for an international food event. Miss St Louis will be sending out more details of this event shortly.

Mad science this summer

During the summer holidays, the "Mad science" people will be holding a summer camp in school from 23rd July to 3rd August. They will also be coming in to school to deliver an assembly about the sessions. Children have always loved these workshops in the past and we will be sending out more information shortly.

Upcoming dates and events

Friday 15th June – World Cup Mufti day. Dress up in something linked to the world cup and donate £1

Friday 15th June – Year 2 visit the science bus at St Mark's.

Friday 15th June – Year 6 cake and slime sale. Cakes include vegan and gluten free options!

Tuesday 19th June—Years 5 and 6 at the Tower of London.

Thursday 21st June— new Reception parents open afternoon.

Friday 22nd June—Macmillan dress up and dance day and author Robert Muchamore to visit Years 5 & 6.

Monday 25th June—Year 4 visiting St Paul's Cathedral for "Patterns of Faith" workshop.

Thursday 28th June—Open afternoon for parents whose children are moving from Nursery to Reception.

Friday 29th June—Sports Day!

Monday 2nd July—Year 6 head off to Dorset for school journey week.

Friday 6th July—the Friend's Summer Disco from 6:30-8:30. Get your dancing shoes on!

Monday 9th July—Years 3, 4 and 5 are visiting the Barbican to listen to the wonderful London Symphony Orchestra.

Friday 13th July—Early years children are heading off to Legoland.

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th July— Prayer days in the hall

Wednesday 18th July—Open classrooms from 1:30-5:30 for all parents. Parents are welcome to come and look through their child's books and chat with the teachers about their child's progress.

Wednesday 18th July—Year 6 perform *Oliver Twist* from 4:00—details to follow.

Thursday 19th July—Years 5 and 6 visit Southend

Friday 20th July—End of Year service at St John's Church. School closes at 2:00pm for the summer holidays.

As you can see, we have some very busy weeks ahead and look forward to seeing as many parents as possible.

As always, please do come and chat with me if you have any suggestions or concerns.

Mr Welsh and all the staff at St John's