

St John's Upper Holloway CE Primary School Newsletter

May 2019

Welcome to the May edition of our school newsletter. It really feels like summer is on its way!

Green wall

You will no doubt have noticed that we are working to install a 'green screen' around the perimeter of the school. There has been much in the news recently about the impact of road pollution on children's health and so we hope this will help absorb much of the polluting particles that are given off by vehicles in the area. We also want to keep much of the planting that we have already so we will truly be a green school!



If any parents have some spare time and would like to come and help us keep our gardens watered and weeded, we would love to hear from you. No skills needed– just enthusiasm.

Staying safe in the sun



As our Early Years children are outside for much of the day during the summer term, Miss Barbara has asked that we send out a reminder that they need to have sun cream applied in the morning before school. They will also need a hat with your child's name inside. Children in the rest of the school are out for quite a length of time during playtimes and PE lessons so providing all children with sun protection is advisable.

Weighing data for Rec and Y6

All schools have the height and weight of their Reception and Year 6 children measured as part of a national programme. The latest data shows that we have the most overweight children in Islington by the end of Year 6. Clearly, childhood obesity is an issue that can have a terrible impact on children's longer term health and we will be working with the Islington Healthy schools team to see what we can do as a school to help raise awareness amongst children and parents. As a starting point, it might be worth considering what snacks and treats children are given at home time as many children seem to be given sweets and cakes each day rather than healthier alternatives.

Provision for 2 Year olds

We are now considering taking 2 year olds into our nursery and would be interested to hear from any parents who think their children meet the criteria for admission. In order to be eligible, you will need to receive one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit - if you and your partner have a combined income from work of £15,400 or less a year, after tax
- Tax credits and you have an income of £16,190 or less a year, before tax
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Please do come and speak with Riyan in the school office or Miss Barbara if you are interested.

Attendance and punctuality so far this year

	Nur	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance %	93.4	95.1	95.1	95.9	96.1	96.2	94.8	96.4
Lates	10	87	34	107	78	131	104	122

A big well done to Years 3, 4 and 6 who have all exceeded our attendance target of 96%. Lateness has also improved recently so a big well done to those who are ensuring they arrive before the bell!

Recent highlights

Our classes make the most of what London has to offer by going on a wide range of visits and also taking part in some wonderful projects. Recently, Early Years visited the Postal Museum, Year 1 went to a local synagogue, Year 3 visited the Royal Naval Museum for an art workshop and Year 5 have been to Waterlow Park for an art and nature project. Their creations will be available for parents (and the public) to see next month (6th June). Year 4 have also begun an opera and drama project based on Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and will be performing to parents at Jackson's Lane Theatre on 5th July.



Uniform reminder - can parents make sure that their children have the correct footwear. Trainers or shoes need to be plain black, blue or brown. Trainers also need to be plain with no bright colours, patterns or logos. We also ask that children don't wear sandals as they don't provide enough protection when they are running and climbing. Children should also not be wearing jewellery, especially hoop earrings as they can easily catch on things when they are playing. Thanks.

Upcoming dates and events

Friday 17th May—class photos (please make sure they are in correct uniform!)

Monday 20th May—Year 3 visiting St Paul's and Year 6 are off to the London Metropolitan Archives.

Thursday 23rd May—school closed all day for polling

Friday 24th May—school finishes at 3:30 for half term and pupils return on Monday 3rd June

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.