

St John's Upper Holloway CE Primary School Newsletter

December 2017

Welcome to our final newsletter of the term. As always, December is a busy month!

Parent governor position

Following the ballot, Eleise Bull has been elected to the Parent Governor position. We look forward to working with her in the months ahead and would like to thank both her and Irene Charles for putting themselves forward for the position.

Welcome back to Miss Eden

Miss Eden is returning from maternity leave today and will be taking over from Miss Giles, who has been teaching the class since half term. A big thank you to Miss Giles for taking on the role and doing such a great job – I know the children have really enjoyed having her as their teacher this half term.

Dates for your diary

Friday 8th December—Christmas disco from 6:30-8:30pm. There will be music, festive food and of course Santa's grotto!

Tuesday 12th December—infant nativity from 10-10:45am and Junior nativity from 2:00-3:00

Wednesday 13th December—infant nativity from 10-10:45am and Junior nativity from 4:00-5:00

Tickets are available for both events from the school office.

Thursday and Friday 14th and 15th December - **Year 3** parents' evenings

Monday and Tuesday 18th and 19th December – Prayer day in the hall for all classes

Monday 18th December—Parents' Evening from 3:30-6:30pm

Tuesday 19th December—parents' evening from 3:30-5:30pm

Please sign up for a time on the sheets in each classroom.

Wednesday 20th December— Christmas service in Church with the whole school from 10-11am. All parents are very welcome to join us.

Wednesday 20th December—school finishes at 2pm. There is no Buzz club on this day so please ensure children are collected promptly.

School will re-open after the Christmas holiday on Thursday 4th January 2018.

A crossing for St John's?

A number of parents have expressed their concern at the dangers our children face when trying to cross the road outside the school gates at the start and end of the day. Lots of cars are now driving along Pemberton Gardens at speed as a cut through route between Holloway and Junction Roads and the bus traffic in and out of the bus garage only adds to the volume of vehicles. Quite a few parents have also begun to park their cars outside the school on the yellow zig-zag lines while they drop off their children, making the congestion worse.

We have asked Islington Council for a pedestrian crossing on several occasions but each time have been turned down as we don't meet their "criteria". We know the parents, staff and governors feel very strongly that it is only a matter of time before a serious accident happens. We are therefore planning to take our appeal further and will ask parents to support us with a petition early next term. In the meantime, if you can avoid parking



Attendance and punctuality

	Nur	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance	95.8%	95.5%	95.3%	96.8%	97.3%	95.5%	95.1%	96.1%
Lates	11	51	46	57	48	51	27	14

Our attendance has seen a slight improvement this term and is just about on target for the school as a whole (96%). Punctuality is less good! Please ensure your children are in school just before the bell goes at 9am to avoid disrupting the start of the school day.

Can you help raise funds for our school without it costing you anything?

Fund raising from the co-op!

As we mentioned last month, we are one of the chosen charities for the Co-op this year. If you'd like to help raise lots of money for school, without it costing you anything, please get yourself a Co-op membership card and then select St John's Friends group as your chosen charity. Every time you shop, money will be donated to our school. If you have any friends and family who shop at the Co-op, please ask them to do the same.

To find out more about co-op membership you can go to <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership>

And don't forget easyfundraising!

A couple of years ago we asked parents to sign up to easyfundraising (<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>). If you shop online, it's easy to raise funds for the school by doing your purchases through easyfundraising— just select St John's Upper Holloway as your chosen charity. So far we have 27 parents registered and they have raised over £650 for our school. Just like the Co-op fund, all money raised goes to our parent Friends group and is then used to subsidise all sorts of trips and events for our children. So, if you'd like to support, please do take the time to sign up.

Book sale

A great big thank you to Sheila (Henry's mum) and several other parents for organising the recent book fair. Demand was so high we sold out and raised over £230 for the Friends.

Rocket Fund update

As you will know, we recently tried to raise additional money to improve the IT in school. The Rocket Fund was launched last month and we are delighted to report that we exceeded our target of £1500. Our balance is currently just under £2400 so a massive thank you to the 61 people who helped us by generously donating some money. The deadline for any final donations is next Wednesday, 13th December and you can access the rocket fund webpage at <https://rocket.fund/p/stjohnscomputing/> Even though we have exceeded our initial target, extra money will be very well used for additional IT equipment in classes.

We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas break.

Mr Welsh and all the staff at St John's

