

St John's Upper Holloway Newsletter

January — February 2015

A very warm welcome to our January and February newsletter. As always it's been a busy time!

Playground update

After admirable fundraising from our playground project group, the work on the lower playground is due to start at half term and will transform our current space into somewhere much more appealing to the children with a larger play frame, climbing walls, slide and also some nice new covered seating for both children and adults. Much of the surface will also be replaced with a softer astro-turf so that there will be far fewer grazed knees. The works are due to take several weeks and will be completed a section at a time. Once we have more details we will let parents know how it will affect them in terms of access to the classrooms etc

Year 6 show off their computing skills at the Emirates Stadium

Our Year 6 children were invited to the Emirates Stadium earlier this month to share their programming work with other schools and people from industry. They were using a programme called scratch to develop their skills in this new aspect of the computing curriculum.



Year 4 at London Zoo



Year 4 had a wonderful trip to The London Zoo supporting their Rainforest topic. Has anyone seen Rafaela and Freddie?

Some other highlights included drama workshops with the infant classes and **Year 2** had a wonderful time exploring the Fire of London at the London Museum. Here is fireman Ivan in action!



Some of the up-coming trips include:

9th February—Year 2 visit St Paul's Cathedral and the Badke quartet come to perform to KS2.

10th February—Year 5 and Y6 visit the science museum to support their topic work.

Opening Sainsburys!

Our choir were invited to open the refurbished Sainsburys on Junction Road. They sang beautifully and cut the ribbon to officially open the store— who needs royalty!

The school were given £400 worth of PE and sports equipment for their efforts.



Attendance and punctuality

Last term our attendance figures were very low due to illness, including chicken pox, which seemed to spread between children and classes. This term we are hoping to get back on track and I would encourage you to only keep your child off school if they are genuinely ill. There are also a few children who are consistently late and this is obviously very disruptive to the start of their day (as well as the learning of the rest of their class). I thought it would be useful to publish our monthly attendance and punctuality results in each newsletter.

Class	Attendance (target 97%)	Lates (target 0!)	Number of children who were late
Reception	92.7	22	12
Year 1	91.5	34	14
Year 2	85.4	34	14
Year 3	98.3	24	6
Year 4	94.7	9	6
Year 5	95.0	14	8
Year 6	96.3	11	6

Maintenance payment



Your school needs YOU!

This is just a reminder that the school maintenance fund is due. This fund is payable each year and goes towards making sure we can safeguard many of the exciting trips, resources, furniture, books and warm classrooms. Your contributions really do make a difference to what we are able to provide for your children.

The amount due is:-

1 child = £30, 2 children = £50, 3 or more children = £60

Please note that the payment is for one whole year. A letter explaining the purpose of this payment will be sent out from the Chair of Governors shortly. In the meantime, please see Sue in the office regarding payment.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please make a time to speak with your child's teacher or see Sue in the office and she will make an appointment for you to see me.

Brian Welsh