

# St John's Upper Holloway Newsletter

## September 2014



Welcome back to all St John's children and parents! I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and that you and your children are refreshed and ready for a new school year.

We are delighted to welcome some new faces to the school (Ms Braithwaite in Year 6, Ms O'Regan in Year 5 and Ms Chantel in Nursery) and I'm sure you will make them feel very welcome. Some of you will have already had the opportunity to attend your "Meet the teacher" meeting, but Year 5 and Year 6 will be on Monday 8th (3.30-3.45pm). If you have any questions at any time, please do either speak to your child's teacher before school starts or make an appointment for after school—there is never a question or matter that is too small!

### School uniform

The majority of children have started their new school year looking very smart in the correct uniform. However, this is still something we need to improve further. Wearing the correct uniform is expected at all times. This includes wearing the correct PE kit.

We have displayed the correct uniform on mannequins in the school foyer.

You can purchase any part of our school uniform from 'Marks and Spencer'. *If you have any questions about this, please do speak to Sue in the office.* We do understand that buying a number of items of new uniform can be expensive, but we thank you for your support and co-operation with this.



### Gardening

Last term, Miss Elena started a gardening club with children in Year 4. They were involved in planting and weeding both the vegetable garden and the science garden—they all worked very hard!

We are very proud of our gardens, as the children get the opportunity to cook the produce they grow, with Miss Neneh in school.

We are always wanting volunteers to come in and help in our gardens, so if you feel you would like to join in (no matter how little or much time you can give) then please do speak to myself or Miss Hughes.

## Important dates coming up this half term

Monday 8th September—Meet the teacher for Year 5 and Year 6 (3.30-3.345pm)  
Monday 15th September—Year 4 trip to RAF Hendon  
Monday 22nd September/ Tuesday 23rd September —Cycle training for Year 4 and Year 5  
Wednesday 24th—Friday 26th September—Book Fair (in the hall before and after school)  
Tuesday 30th September—School photographs (smiles at the ready!)  
Tuesday 14th October—Year 2 trip to Pizza Express  
Monday 20th October—Year 2 trip to the Tower of London  
SCHOOL FINISHES FOR HALF TERM ON FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER AT 3.30pm

Our Harvest Service in church is on Wednesday 8th October at 10.00—please do come along and join us with singing! Miss Giles will be sending a note out nearer the time to kindly request any Harvest produce contributions that you can offer for this service.



## Playground meeting for all parents

As you know, we have been working hard to improve our playgrounds. We have a lovely Early Years and Top playground and now the work will be happening soon to develop our Lower playground. We would like to invite all parents to attend a meeting in the hall on Friday 12th September 9-9.20 where you can find out about where we are so far in this process and the next steps. Do come along (tea, coffee and biscuits will be available!).

## Archway Library

We are lucky to have such a fantastic resource on our doorstep and are working with them to ensure all our children are able to benefit from the services they offer. Our children will continue to visit the library on a rolling programme this year. The library has informed us that they will be continuing their FREE after school homework club for any pupils who wish to go. If you would like to find out more about this service, please contact:

*Archway Library, Hamlyn House, Highgate Hill London N19 5PH  
Tel: 020 7527 7826 Email: Stephen.thomas@islington.gov.uk*

## Money, money, money!

We are very lucky at St John's to have so many parents that are willing to put in their own time and effort in helping to raise money for the school. All this money goes directly to your children through improving school facilities, helping towards the cost of trips, buying specific resources etc. We are continuously grateful for their dedication and commitment. Two of our key groups are The Friends and The Playground Project Group.

The Friends meet every Tuesday 9-10 in the therapy room (next to Reception class) in school to discuss upcoming events, plan trips and share ideas—all parents are warmly welcome to attend and there is always a good supply of cake to help the meeting along!

The Playground Project Group specifically help to raise money for the development of the playgrounds and they are always looking for people who can help with their projects. If you would like to join in, please see Sheila or Francesca (Henry and Constantine's mums in Year 3) or Laura (Luca's mum in Year 1).

## Keeping us up to date

It's very important that we have up to date information for you and your children. Please can you let Sue in the office know if any of your contact information has changed recently or if your child has any medical needs that we may not be fully informed about.

I'm looking forward to a successful and happy year for all our pupils.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions I am available each morning in the playground or you can make an appointment with Sue in the office to see me.

Brian Welsh