St John's Upper Holloway July Newsletter 2022

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year. Just a few items before we all break up for the summer.

Summer Fair

Our Queen's Jubilee Week celebrations were brought to a close with a wonderful Summer fair. It was great to see so many families enjoying all the stalls with the items that the children had created as well as the regular favourites such as tombola, BBQ, bouncy slide and raffle. It was also a real treat to have the choir performing some of their songs in the hall—they were amazing! It was also a chance to say thank you and goodbye to Mr Dato for 40 years as premises manager. He was really grateful for the card, gift and send-off. The event made a fantastic £970 profit to go towards school funds.

The Friends group and all the volunteers do a fantastic job at making these events such a success and I'd like to pass on my huge thanks to them for all the work they put in.



Lost property

We have a mountain of lost property in the foyer—everything from sweatshirts to T-shirts and shoes. Can we ask that you have a good look through it on Wednesday and Thursday as any unclaimed items will go to the clothes bank. Children will also be taking home lots of items from their drawers before the end of term so sending them in with a plastic bag inside their book bag may be a good idea.

Hot weather and the return to normal on Wednesday

Today and tomorrow we are expecting a much lower number of children in school as parents keep them at home during the extreme weather warning. However, the temperatures should return to normal by Wednesday and we look forward to having everyone back in school for the last two days of term. Breakfast club will also return on these days as well as Buzz on Wednesday (but not Thursday)

Holidays in term time

A number of families have requested time off during term time and I just wanted to clarify the circumstances and procedures for this.

Schools can only authorize absence during term time in exceptional circumstances such as family emergencies or a relative's funeral. In these circumstances you should complete a form from the school office outlining the dates you require your child to be absent and the reason for this. The school will respond within a day or so. If we are unable to authorize your child's absence but they are taken out of school anyway, this could be referred to the local authority who may issue a penalty notice or court warning letter and it is important you consider this when making your decision about whether to keep your child off school. If you are unsure whether your circumstances can be classed as 'exceptional', come and speak with a member of staff.

End of year pupil reports and rescheduled parent meeting

All parents should have collected their child's end of year report at the end of last week. If you haven't collected it already, can you pick it up this week. This should give you a clear picture of how well your child has progressed academically as well as socially and emotionally and sets out some next step targets.

Most parents will not need to meet their child's teacher as hopefully the reports will provide you with all the information you need. However, we had set aside time for parents to meet with teachers this evening if they wanted to ask further questions but this has been cancelled due to the extreme heat warning. If you urgently want to speak with your child's teacher, can you make a time with them when you see them at the start or end of the day or call the school office to arrange a time.

Leavers' service

We will be saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children at the leavers service on Thursday from 10-11am. It will also be a chance to say goodbye to those staff who are leaving as well as Sue Hallam who is stepping down as Chair of Governors after 14 years. It is always lovely to have parents join us for this end of year event so please do come along if you can.

This will be my last newsletter but I know Mr Turpin and Ms Ross Goobey will do a fantastic job continuing to lead the school next year. Thank you for all your kind words and best wishes and I hope to maybe catch up with many of you at future school events.

Mr Welsh