

# St John's Upper Holloway

## March Newsletter 2023

It is the end of term and summer is around the corner. We have had a busy and fun term; there are too many moments to mention them all here, but some of the highlights are below.

### The Easter Disco

The Friends of St John's put on a great disco last night, which took lots of planning, effort and generous gifts of time and money. A big thank you to all the parents who helped and made such a success — they made £550 profit — and thank you to all the families that came and made it such a fun occasion.



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### Reading Week and World Book Day

Nothing beats a good book and we had a wonderful week with the children enjoying some wonderful stories and texts. Many children dressed up as their favourite book character for World Book day.



## The Comfort Zone

Yesterday also saw the opening of The Comfort Zone—what was the School House has been renamed in honour of the Rev Alan Comfort, who ends his tenure as vicar at St John the Evangelist Church today. Alan has been a great friend to St John's Upper Holloway for the last few years and we will miss him greatly. The Comfort Zone gives us much-needed extra space that will be used for small group and SEN work, as well as meetings of every variety.



## Attendance and Punctuality

The school's attendance target is 96% - we got very close to that in the Autumn term but we have now dropped to 94% overall. Attendance in school is vital to a child's life chances; days lost are very hard to make up.

Schools can only authorize absence during term time in exceptional circumstances such as family emergencies or a relative's funeral. If that happens 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. One family have been fined this term. If you refuse to pay the fine you could get a criminal conviction. If you are unsure whether your circumstances can be classed as 'exceptional', come and speak with Mr Turpin or Miss Ross Goobey.

The target for all children's attendance is 96%. Joyce Udu, from School Home Support, will be working on Fridays in school to support families who have difficulties with attendance and punctuality. If she contacts you do respond. She is there to help, so please treat her respectfully. Below are the attendance figures for the year so far.

	Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Attendance	93%	94%	95%	91%	96%	93%	95%	93%

## Uniform

Children should be in the correct uniform (ask for a copy of the uniform policy from the office if you are not sure, or look on the website). Shoes need to be traditional school shoes with a low heel or trainers in plain black, brown or blue - no bright colours or patterns/logos. Pupils are not allowed to wear jewellery to school, with the exception of a watch and small stud earrings.

## Upcoming dates:

Tuesday 18th April—Children return to school for the summer term

Monday 1st May—Early May bank holiday

Monday 8th May—Bank holiday for the King's coronation

Half term is 29th May—2nd June

21st July is the last day of term—we finish at 2 pm.



Year 6 filming news reports



African cooking in Y4



Year 5 opening the Archway mural



Year 3 visiting the Petrie Museum

Tudor houses burning down!  
(under the close control of a Tudor fire marshall with her hose)





Year one making fruit kebabs



Making pancakes in Reception

**I hope you all have a great holiday and we look forward to seeing you all next term.**

**From Mr Turpin and all the staff at St John's Upper Holloway**