

St John's Upper Holloway

September Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for the Autumn term.

There have been a few changes since last term and the retirement of Mr Welsh. Mr Turpin is the new Head, Miss Ross Goobey is the new Deputy and SENCO, Miss Hennessy is the new Nursery teacher and Miss Clearwater is the new Year 2 teacher. We also welcome Tara Kubilay as School Admin Officer—you will see her in the school reception and talk to her when you call. In Year 4 are Miss Maria and Miss Sandra, as teaching assistants.

Medicines and allergy info

If your child takes any medication or has any allergies, please let the office know. We are updating our records and procedures and want to make sure that we have fully up-to date information. Please check that inhaler and epi pens are still in date.

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.

Individual school photos

The school photographer is in on the 27th September for individual photos.

Dates for the diary

INSET day: **the school will be closed for staff training on Monday, 31st October**—the week after half term.

Harvest Festival at the Church is the 5th October at 10.00.

The Nativity will be on the 13th December.

Parents evenings will after school on the 13th and 14th December.

Christmas jumper day is the 15th December.

16th December—last day of term, 2pm finish, and church service at 10.00.

Attendance and holidays in term time

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.

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.

Clubs

The school provides Breakfast Club from 8.00 and Buzz Club after school. Buzz Club ends at 6 pm. Children must be signed in to the clubs in advance.

If you would like to book a place in one of the clubs please contact the office before the day you want to use the club.

Other clubs:

Monday: Homework clubs for the Early Years and Years 3,4, 5 and 6. These clubs are by invitation only and finish at 4.15pm.

Tuesday: Coach Johnny will be running a Multisports Club for Years 1 and 2 (KS1). Miss Donovan runs the choir at lunchtimes on a Tuesday.

Wednesday: Miss Davis runs Netball Club after school.

Thursday: ReachOut Mentoring (by invitation only) and Church Club (dates for both these clubs to be confirmed)

Friday: Multisports for KS2 with Coach Johnny

Miss Clark will be setting up an Eco Club and Miss Clearwater will be running Craft Club for KS1—details to follow.

Safeguarding

We take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously: if you have any safeguarding concerns then let us know—ask to speak to Mr Turpin or Miss Ross Goobey. One of the greatest areas of concern is children being exposed to harm when online. These links below will give you useful tips on how to keep your children safe.

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

If you would like to know more about internet safety please come and see me.

All the staff at St John's want your child's experience of school to be rewarding, safe and fun—and we are looking forward to the year.

Mr Turpin