

## Dear parents and carers

A very warm welcome back. It was lovely to see everyone this morning and I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

## New staff

You may know that we have a few new staff starting this term. Miss Rushworth is the new Year 3 class teacher and Mr Ventham is our Year 4 teacher. I'm sure you will join us in making them feel very welcome. Unfortunately, Mariola Reron, our home school support worker also left at the end of last term. We are delighted to welcome a new support worker, Gulseren Sonmez, who will be working with us each Wednesday. She will be out in the playground first thing in the morning so feel free to say hello to her.

## Results of the parent questionnaire

You may remember that we sent home a questionnaire last term to gather parents' views on the school. Your feedback is always very useful in helping us to identify areas that we need to work on to improve further. Although nearly all parents were very positive about the school, there were a few areas that parents suggested needed improvement. These were:

- Communication, particularly about upcoming events
- Developing the range of social events for pupils and parents
- Providing guidance and advice about how parents can support their child's learning at home
- Healthy eating

We have already taken action to address some of these.

- We have purchased a new system called Parent Mail that will send a range of information, including letters and diary reminders to parents phones via an app. It is very comprehensive and will enable parents to approve trips etc via the app so there is less chance of letters being 'lost' between the classroom and home. We are due to start using it in a few weeks and will send out all the information you will need shortly. Most importantly, you will need to ensure we have your correct phone number in order that you receive all the essential school information via the app. We have also bought a large screen that is outside the rear entrance to the hall and will be using it to display important information including dates for trips and events, as well as showing photos of the many things children are doing in class.
- Our parent 'Friends' group is still quite small and urgently require more parents to help organise and support events. We are trying to offer a greater range of events so that pupils and parents have opportunities to get to know each other while still raising funds for the school. This extra money is so important to enable us to pay for a lot of the additional activities that help make school and learning fun. **If you have any ideas on possible fundraising events, please fill in the slip at the end of this newsletter and return to the office.**
- We have subscribed to a number of websites and apps that can help your child with their learning at home. Teachers are going to talk about these as well as a

- range of other important information at a **'meet the teacher' session next week. These will take place straight after school at 3:30pm on Monday 9th for Years 5 and 6, Wednesday 11th for Years 1 and 2 and Thursday 12th for Years 3 and 4. Please do come along.**
- As you may know, our school was the most obese in Islington based on annual weighing data. We are looking to do a range of things to improve physical activity and diet but would like to request that **we no longer celebrate children's birthdays by bringing cake or sweets into school.** A possible alternative is to donate a book to your child's class that can be shared and enjoyed by all the children.

**Severe allergies**

A number of children in school have severe allergies to a range of foods. Can we remind parents that we are a nut free school so please do not bring in any type of nuts or products containing nuts. If your child has any allergies, can you make sure that the office has all the necessary information. Thank you.

**Book bags**

All children need to have a book bag or other bag with them each day so that a reading book and reading record book can go to and from school and home each day without getting lost. They are also needed to put letters and other things in. If you need to buy a book bag, or a PE bag, they can be purchased from the office.

**Using the correct entrance to school**

Can we ask parents to use the side entrance if your child is in Years 1 to 6. We understand the path is quite narrow and it can get busy at peak times but if people cut through the foyer it becomes very noisy and unsafe. We are looking in to widening the path later in the term.

It was great to see the children so happy to be back in school and getting to know their new teachers. I'm looking forward to a positive term ahead but if there is anything you want to discuss with me, no matter how small, please do come and speak with me in the playground or make an appointment through the school office.

Many thanks  
Mr Welsh

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My suggestions for possible fundraising/social events include \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Parent of \_\_\_\_\_