



St. Stephen's School
and Children's Centre
Learning for Life

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 5

15th April 2013

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term at St Stephen's.

We were very pleased to see your children return to school at the start of the Summer Term. I am sure, with your continued support, your child will continue to work hard and make good progress.

Last term was a busy one and I am sure that you will continue to support the school in its development of our children as confident articulate speakers through their poetry recitals and the 1 minute talk presentations.

The Year 6 children have been busy preparing for their SATs tests and will be taking them during the week beginning 13th May. I would like to thank the Year 6 parents especially for encouraging their children to attend the Year 6 after school booster classes, the mental maths sessions before school and Easter School. On behalf of the staff of the school may I take this opportunity to pass on our best wishes for the success they deserve. We will be running a breakfast club for the Year 6 children at 8:15 a.m. each morning that week.

Ms Neena Lall
Headteacher

SUMMER TERM DATES 2013

Monday 15th April -School restarts at 8:55 am

APRIL

Thursday 18th April- Class Photographs

Monday 22nd April-Thursday 25th April-Year 6 Mock SATS Week

MAY

Monday 6th May -**SCHOOL CLOSED-BANK HOLIDAY**

Monday 13th May-Thursday 16th May-Year 6 SATS Week

Wednesday 22nd May- Governors' Open Morning 9-11am

Friday 24th May -Timestableathon Final

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May-Half Term holiday - School closes at 3:15 pm

Children's Centre and Day care will remain open.

Monday 3rd June -School restarts at 8:55 am

I will inform you of any additional dates and events that may be set during the term.

STAFFING

Primary

- The reception team this term will be joined by Harish Mistry an experienced early years teacher.
- Sarah Raven will be taking her maternity leave this term. Her last day in school will be Friday 26th April 2013. Adam Bennett and Halama Khatun two outstanding teachers will be teaching 2S for the Summer Term.
- Amy Buchanan will be continuing to teach in 3A.
- Jo Mathias a long standing member of St Stephen's will be teaching 4D for the Summer term.

ST STEPHEN'S CHILDREN'S CENTRE

I would like to remind all parents of the work of our "outstanding" Children's Centre based in the Nursery. There is a range of adult learning classes, toddler groups, activities for under 2s, healthy lifestyle information and support for families. Please visit and ask for further information and the current activity calendar.

SCHOOL MEALS

A number of parents have some concerns about the school meals. Firstly I wish to assure parents that all meat in school is Halal meat. Certificates are displayed outside the dining hall along with the school menus. If you are still concerned please contact John Ledgley on 020 3373 3924 in the Local authority or Mark Little in the school office. John is responsible for the provision of school meals throughout the borough and would be very happy to help.

FUNDRAISING

Last term the children and the school community raised £1536.87 for Comic Relief. We thank you for your continued support for our school.

MUMS' MORNING

We had our first mums' morning on Tuesday 12th March which was very well attended by over 100 mums. The mums had a tour of the school, spent time in classes and experience playtimes. I would like to thank all the mums that attended for coming and hope that they enjoyed the morning, had a chance to meet other mums, share tips and advice and ask questions.

ADMISSION INTO SECONDARY SCHOOL

I am very pleased to announce that two of our Year 6 pupils have gained entry into Forest School, an outstanding independent school in Snaresbrook. Well done to Jeevan Jutla. Well done to Owais Siddique for gaining a part scholarship.

SPELLING BEE

The Spelling Bee Final was yet again a success, and this year, the parents and carers of the finalists were invited to watch with pride. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Nishat Basir (5K) on winning the Spelling Bee Shield. Well done to all the finalists! Maliha Uddin (3L), Sidharth Jana (3A), Wafa Feroze (4C), Ishrat Tahrin (6D) and Zaynab Mohomodally (6J).

JOY CUP

This year we have introduced 'THE JOY CUP'. This will be awarded to a member of each class each term. The joy cup is awarded to those children who have a joy for coming to school and embrace all that St Stephen's has to offer.

I would like to congratulate the joy cup winners for the Spring Term 2013.

RA Khadijah Bibi	1M Hasan Bhuta	2L Yusuf Alam	3A Sami Jeveth	4C Mustafa Tahir	5J Gerda Kirveleviciute	6D Tannia Begum
RS Mohammed Omar	1S Akif Ghany	2S Deepak Ramesh	3L Yasmin Sultana	4D Ahmad Jeeva	5K Shakhawat Khan	6J Shannon Manoj

LITTER

It has been noted that the roads and pavements around the school are becoming increasingly littered with dog/fox mess, empty bottles and cans and discarded items of furniture. The school has contacted the Local authority who has assured us that the roads will be cleaned regularly and as a school we are of high priority. Should you wish to raise this issue with your local councillors I have included their contact details below.

Councillor	email	Number
Rohima Rahman	rohima.rehman@newham.gov.uk	07985220667
Nirmal Kaur Chadha	nirmal.chadha@newham.gov.uk	02085520230
Sharaf Mahmood	sharaf.mahmood@newham.gov.uk	07939077519

COMPUTER SAFETY

We wish to remind you that it is illegal for children under the age of 13 to have social networking accounts. Please ensure you monitor the websites your children are using on a regular basis.

Do not allow your child to use social networking sites e.g. MSN, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube etc. to keep them safe from dangers such as cyber bullying.

Visit the CEOP website for advice and activities at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE

Studies show that as well as developing good speaking and listening skills, children who are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves and their learning make greater progress.

Here are some tips to help our children to become more independent:

- a) Dressing themselves
- b) Feeding themselves
- c) Remembering appropriate school equipment, such as P.E. Kit and pencil cases.
- d) Completing homework on their own, on time
- e) Tidying up after themselves
- f) Chores around the house such as washing up, making their own bed.
- g) Looking after their own belongings
- h) Greeting adults that they know and volunteer information in response to questions such as - How are you today?

By showing genuine enthusiasm and recognizing the many small tasks your child accomplishes, you are helping them prepare for a healthy, independent life.

As part of our ongoing policy to encourage independence, next term our focus will be on tying shoe laces.

St Stephen's Summer Term Challenge

Reception - Can you tie your laces?

Year 1 - How quickly can you tie your laces?

Year 2 - Can you tie your laces in a double knot?

Year 3 - How quickly can you tie your laces in a double knot?

Year 4 - Can you tie your laces without looking?

Year 5 - Can you thread your laces in your shoes?

Year 6 - How many different ways can you thread your laces in your shoes?

CONTACT US

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PRIMARY

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Nursery and Children's centre

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This newsletter is also available on the school website.