



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

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 4

24th February 2014

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy first half of term. Many visits have taken place, Year 6 to the Museum of London, Year 3 to the Natural History Museum, some KS1 children to the V & A toy museum and Year 5 to the Barge. We have also had road safety assemblies and a successful friendship day where older children taught younger children a range of playground games.

I hope you found the parents evenings with longer timings early this term a useful starting point to helping your child reach their targets. At the end of this term you will receive your child's annual report on progress. We as a school and many parents felt that it would be of more use to have an overview of progress mid-year allowing targets set to be met this academic year. Therefore, you will be receiving your child's annual report on Thursday 3rd April with the opportunity to discuss this with the class teacher at the parent's evenings after the Easter break on Thursday 24th April 2014 and Tuesday 29th April 2014. The reception classes will receive their report at the end of the summer term as it is a report for the end of the 'Early Years Foundation Stage' as required by the Government.

Once again I would like to thank you for your continued support during the building works. As you can see lots of demolition has taken place over the past few weeks. The garden area is now nearly complete with just grass seeding to be planted, some climbing equipment to be installed and a new path through the trees. I am delighted that the children are excited and pleased with the look of their new play area. We are working with the contractors to try to keep any disruption to a minimum and keep our children safe but should you notice anything untoward please alert us immediately. Please remember to take care as you move around the site. There will be more work throughout the year, we post regular photographic updates on the website and will keep you up-to-date through newsletters.

All previous newsletters are archived on the website, so you can catch up on anything you may have missed. Key dates and the latest school news are also available to view on the school website. Please let me know if you can think of ways of further improving communication between school and home.

Please don't hesitate to come in and talk if you need to. Fozia Ramzan and Janet Mantey my deputies are also available before and after school.

Ms Neena Lall
Headteacher



SPRING TERM DATES 2014

FEBRUARY 2014

Monday 24 th February	School restarts at 8:55 am
Wednesday 26 th February	Primary Individual photographs
Thursday 27 th February	Children's Centre Committee meeting at 5pm

MARCH 2014

3 rd March-7 th March	Literature festival
Thursday 6 th March	World book day-Dress up as your favourite book character
Thursday 6 th March	Theatre Tots in the Nursery
Thursday 6 th March	Finance committee meeting at 10am
Thursday 6 th March	Curriculum evening 7pm
Friday 7 th March	Spelling Bee final
Tuesday 11 th March	Ocean maths 9-10.30am
Thursday 13 th March	Governor's Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 19 th March	Daycare parents' meeting 5pm
24 th March -28 th March	Archaeology Week
Friday 28 th March	Maintained Nursery CLOSED-Parent Consultation Day

APRIL 2014

Tuesday 1 st April	KS1 Parents assembly 9am
Tuesday 1 st April	KS2 Parents assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 3 rd April	EYFS Easter egg hunt
Friday 4 th April	Easter Holiday - <u>School closes at 12:30 pm</u>
7 th April- 11 th April	Easter School for invited Year 6 pupils
Tuesday 22 nd April	School restarts at 8:55 am
Thursday 24 th April	Reception Class CLOSED- Parent Consultation Day Primary Parents evening 4-6.30pm
Tuesday 29 th April	Primary Parents evening 5-7.30pm

Extended year Daycare and Children's Centre closes for the week of 14th April and Monday 21st April.

See Children's Centre for stay and play activities.

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

BEDTIMES

As a result of recent parent meetings, lack of bedtime routines came up time and time again as a key barrier to learning. If your child is tired they find it difficult to concentrate and participate in learning. Your child's development will benefit from a daily 11 to 12 hours of sleep.

We recommend that bedtime should be between 7pm and 7.30pm for children up to age of five, then range between 7.30pm and 9pm for children up to age 11.

Here is some advice about setting up a bedtime routine:

- Make sure you have checked through schoolbags so nothing important is left for the morning.
- Encourage calm time before bedtime, with activities like reading and quiet play rather than watching TV or competitive games.
- Remind your child that "in five minutes it's bedtime."
- Start off your child's routine with a wash/bath and brushing teeth.
- In bed, keep the lights low. Read a story and maybe chat over the day; try telling your child about something they did that pleased you.
- Put the lights out. If your child is scared of the dark, use a nightlight or leave a light on in the hall.

CONTACT US

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