



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

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 2

2nd November 2020

Dear Parents,

The new school year has officially started and it has been truly wonderful to see all the children. The attendance for last week, at 95.3%, shows just how ready all families were to return to school.

School life is more than education and learning, we bring social interactions, stability and routine. Our aim is to continue to support our school community in keeping COVID safe therefore keeping the school open. Thank you for your part in adapting to the new routines and systems.

The new term has already started with lots of emails, text messages, communication and change. I will continue to keep you updated throughout the term on government guidance and the impact this may have on us as a school or you as a community. Thank you for your support, understanding and cooperation.

The specialist teaching team will continue to provide a broad range of learning experiences this year. As part of our enrichment programme, James Frecknall will continue Article 13 (the right to freedom of expression) groups where current affairs and topical issues are discussed. In addition, Chetan Patel is leading an exciting immersive writing programme to widen our children's experiences to support their writing. Laili Pervin is leading on Phonics catch up for KS1. Our specialist team is continuing to grow: Ray Bartlett (Sports and PE), Rupert Vincent (Spanish), Nagini Dabbara (Maths support), Penny Osmond (Early years music) and Shabana Zia (Computing). We have found that by sharing expertise the children are able to access higher quality learning.

I would like to say a huge thank you for your contributions and generosity to the Harvest collection. The Children's Centre has been busy delivering food packs to our most vulnerable families within the community. Some food was also donated to other local food banks.

Unfortunately we were unable to hold our Macmillan coffee morning for parents but I am delighted to inform you that the federation set up a Just Giving page and the staff raised £790 which was fantastic!

As always, if you have any other queries or questions, please contact the school who will direct your query to the appropriate member of staff. My door is always open so please feel free to contact me, Mark or my Deputies. We regularly update school news on the website so please look there for new information.

I would like to thank you for your continued support, look after your families and stay safe.

Ms. Neena Lall OBE- Headteacher

COVID 19 -Procedures for parents and carers

- Observe social distancing and the queuing etiquette in a respectful and rational manner.
- Adhere to the school's one way system.
- Please wear face masks on collection of children unless exempt.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the front entrance.
- Ensure only one adult collects at home time.
- There is a queuing system outside of classrooms and at the entrance of the school.
- Help us to keep the flow of parents through and around the school by moving on quickly.
- Please contact the school office if you need to speak to a member of staff.
- Please let the school know if there are any changes in your family circumstances.

Classrooms

- There is no restriction on the distance children must remain from one another
- Children are facing the front of the room.
- Room windows and doors are to be kept open.
- Staff and pupils regularly wash their hands at key times of the day.
- Pupils will be educated on proper hygiene such as wiping their learning space.
- Year group bubbles remain throughout the day.

Uniform

- It is important that your children wear clean uniforms every day.
- Encourage your children to remove their uniform when they get home and wash before greeting other family members.

Transport

- Please walk to and from school
- Please refrain from bringing buggies into school
- No bikes or scooters are allowed on site until further notice.
- Please do not park in front the school entrances on both Whitfield Road and Wyndham Road.

The school day

- We have staggered breaks, lunches and the end of the school day.
- Lunch tables are thoroughly sanitized in between year group sittings.
- We have increased cleaner hours to ensure toilets are regularly cleaned.
- In Key Stage 2, children can bring in one piece of fruit as a break time snack.
- Children can bring into school a book bag with reading and homework books, water bottle and PE kit.
- In Key Stage 2, pencil cases are permitted but these must not be shared.

PE

- Physical education continues as usual.
- Children need to bring in their PE kit on a Monday and must take it home on a Friday to be washed.

Illness

- If a child becomes ill, the staff will notify a school first aider.
- If a child is displaying COVID symptoms, they will be isolated in the first aid room and a member of staff will treat the child using PPE.
- The parent will then be contacted to take the child home.
- Advice will be given to arrange testing and any further actions that may need to be taken.

Behaviour and Attendance

- The schools positive WE CARE behaviour system will operate as normal.
- Children must attend school every day.
- No holidays in term time will be authorised.

Remote Learning

We are in the process of setting up our remote learning strategy and this will be published on our website later this month.

RSHE

In preparation for its launch in April 2021, our proposed Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum and policy will be shared with you for consultation this half term. There will be opportunities to attend consultation events, both virtual and in person, as well as an extended period of time allowed for any written feedback. We are wholly committed to producing a robust, age-appropriate and sensitive curriculum that supports the needs of all our children.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

I am pleased to announce the new JLT team for 2020 2021

Head Boy	Head Girl	Deputy Head Boy	Deputy Head Girl
Umar Rahumathullah	Sepo Ngenda	Rayyan Ali	Ayeshah Bariwala

PARENT GOVERNORS

**NOTICE OF RESULT OF ELECTION
FOR St Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre PARENT GOVERNOR**

CANDIDATES	NUMBER OF VOTES
FAZAL, Marium	33
HIXON, Lynelle	22
NOORANI, Nasima	43
RAHMAN, Mahbubur	34
SINGH, Rasime	37
No. Spoilt papers	14

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new Parent Governors to you. The Governors and staff are dedicated to ensuring that all our children are safe, well supported, achieve their potential and enjoy school. If you have any concerns, or something which you are pleased about then let us know. Your feedback is extremely important to us. Their photographs are displayed in the front entrances of both the School and Nursery.

Parent Governor	
Ms Nasima Noorani	Parent of Yahya in Year 5
Mrs Rasime Singh	Parent of Nyla in Year 4 and Kayan in Year 2

RRSA

St. Stephen's School is a gold award, rights respecting School (RRSA). We believe that all our pupils, staff and school community share the same rights and duties. Through the 'WE CARE' charters, which are displayed in every classroom, we continue to keep this at the heart of all that we do. We have aligned these rights to our school rules under the acronym WE CARE to ensure we can all enjoy our rights.

Rights	Duties
Wellbeing	To be safe, happy, healthy and Covid safe.
Expression	To share our views and listen to others.
Courtesy	To be polite and courteous at all times.
Aspiration	To aspire and achieve to our potential and beyond.
Respect	To be respected, respect others, ourselves and our environment.
Equity	To ensure all people receive the same treatment.

SECTION 1: PRIMARY/ NURSERY/ DAY CARE

a) Federated Target: To embed Speech and Language throughout the curriculum to develop future global citizens.

SECTION 2: OFSTED

DAYCARE OFSTED: To continue to support growing independence of the under 3's.

NURSERY: Leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that they: strengthen further the strong and purposeful partnerships with parents, particularly those who have most difficulty accessing education.

SECTION 3: BEST START IN LIFE (BSIL)

Federated Target: To embed Speech and Language throughout the curriculum to develop future global citizens.

Prime target group: To support parents of Bengali origin and white Eastern European children for school readiness and to be future global citizens.

Child Development and school readiness: To promote the role of rhyme and song in the acquisition of language

Parenting aspirations and parenting skills: To implement a programme of EPAtS

Child and family health and life chances: To increase active and outdoor sessions to improve overall physical and mental health for parents

SAFEGUARDING

Online Safety

Earlier in the term, we sent out a letter to all parents regarding social media as we became aware that many children are using apps that are inappropriate for them e.g. Tik Tok and YouTube. With an increase in children's online activity due to COVID-19, self isolation, lockdown and remote learning, please ensure you monitor what your children are viewing and accessing online. Unfortunately some people use these platforms to spread inappropriate messages and videos to our children. If you follow the following rules your children will be safer:

- Never leave young children alone with a device. If you do allow them to enjoy some online content, please watch with them.
- If you or your child do come across any content of this kind, report and flag immediately.
- Use available software to manage time online, apps being accessed and to also filter inappropriate websites.

Finally - and most importantly - talk to your children about the things they are doing online. Communication is by far the best defence against these sorts of trends. Create an environment of openness about technology and discuss it regularly.

Please monitor the amount of screen time your child is having and encourage them to play in other ways such as outdoors, with board games or other age appropriate toys.

CONTACT US

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Nursery School

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Federated Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Fozia Ramzan fozia.ramzan@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk	Federated School Business Manager Mr Mark Little mark.little@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk
Nursery Deputy Head Teacher Ms Janet Patterson janet.patterson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk Primary Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Jenna Chapman jenna.chapman@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk Primary Deputy Head Teacher Ms Georgia Dawson georgia.dawson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk	
This newsletter is also available on the school website.	

AUTUMN TERM DATES 2020	
NOVEMBER	
Monday 2nd November	School restarts at 8:45 am
Thursday 12 th November	Finance Committee Meeting @10am
Thursday 26 th November	Governor's Meeting @4 pm
DECEMBER	
Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Jumper Day-£1 to wear your Christmas jumper for Save the Children
Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 th December	Report Cards to Parents
Friday 18 th December	Christmas Holiday - School closes at 12:30 pm
Friday 18 th December	Daycare closes 6pm
Wednesday 23 rd December	Children's Centre closes 4pm
JANUARY 2021 SPRING TERM	
Monday 4 th January	Daycare Children return 8am
Monday 4 th January	Primary and Maintained Nursery Pupils return 8.55am
Thursday 14 th January	Nursery and Reception Class Consultation Day
Thursday 14 th January	Parents evening 2pm-7.30pm
Friday 15 th January	Nursery closed -training day
I will inform you of any additional dates and events that may be set during the term.	