



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

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 6

7th June 2024

Dear Parents,

"Children have a superb start to their education at this vibrant and inclusive nursery."

"The school's curriculum is extremely ambitious and designed to ensure school readiness for all children..."
Ofsted - April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am thrilled to announce that St. Stephen's Nursery School has achieved an 'OUTSTANDING' rating in all areas of our recent OFSTED inspection, including Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, and Leadership and Management. This exceptional achievement underscores the dedication and commitment of our entire school community.

Additionally, it brings me immense pride to share that St. Stephen's Primary School has maintained its position in the Top 10 State Primary Schools in the Country, ranking at No. 3 according to the Sunday Times in April. Such recognition is a testament to the unwavering effort and collaboration within our school.

Furthermore, I am delighted to inform you that our school has been honoured with the prestigious Healthy Schools Gold Award. This recognition reflects our collective efforts in fostering a culture of health and well-being among our children, staff and wider community. Thank you for your continuous support in nurturing a healthy environment for our children.

As we reflect on the successes and challenges of the past year, I commend our children, teachers and staff for their dedication and hard work, which have contributed to the overall success of our school. As the academic year draws to a close, I extend my best wishes to our nursery children transitioning to reception classes and our Year 6 children moving on to secondary school. Remember the values instilled in you at St. Stephen's and embrace new challenges with confidence.

I would like to express my gratitude to our entire school community for your ongoing support and collaboration. As we approach the summer break, I encourage you to take time to rest and recharge, preparing to return in September refreshed and ready for another successful year of learning and growth.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Ms. Neena Lall OBE -Headteacher



ATTENDANCE

4th September-9th May 2024

Year	%	Well done to Year 5 for having the best attendance so far!
Nursery	85.1	
Reception	92.2	
Year 1	94.4	
Year 2	94.6	
Year 3	94.5	
Year 4	95.6	
Year 5	96	
Year 6	95.1	

Please note that all pupil's attendance is tracked daily and the school target for every pupil is 100% attendance.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to our Year 6 cohort of 2024. They have achieved so much during their time at St Stephen's Primary School and we wish them all the best for the future.

We would like to offer further congratulations to the following Year 6 pupils:

1. Nabeeha, our headgirl, is going to Bexley Grammar School.
2. Ahmad, is going to Ilford County High School, a grammar school.
3. Sasmitha, is going to Colchester County High School for Girls, a grammar school.
4. Nabeel, who is going to City of London, an independent school and has also been awarded a full scholarship.
5. Alishba, who is going to Chigwell School, an independent school.

Very well done to all!

FREE CHILDCARE FOR 2 YEAR OLDS

Do you have a 2 year old at home?

Why not check if you are eligible for 15 hours of free childcare?

St Stephen's Nursery will be increasing the number of two year old spaces from September 2024. There are many benefits of attending Nursery from the age of two: children learn how to talk and play, make friends and develop their physical skills to support them being independent and confident when they start school.



In order to access a place you will need to fulfil the eligibility criteria. From April 2024 this is expanding to include working parents.

To check if you are eligible for this free childcare and apply for a place please talk to staff at the Nursery front desk, or use the following link:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/03/15/how-to-claim-15-hours-free-childcare-code/>

TRANSITION

In this final stretch of the school year, teachers are working hard to prepare students for the transition to their next year group in September.

During this time, teachers will focus on strengthening basic skills like phonics, reading, and times tables, while also helping children improve their concentration and independence.

Your child will have the chance to meet their new teacher later this term during our transition morning. You'll receive information about their new teacher in the end-of-term report card.

You can support your child by ensuring they read every day and encouraging them to be independent whenever possible.

STAFFING

We are sad to be saying goodbye at the end of this term to some of our primary school staff.

Donna Treguer, Connie Cooper and Maria-Komissa Kalafati all trained at St. Stephen's and we are very grateful for their hard work, passion for education and dedication to our school.

We are very sad to see them go, however, we wish them the best of luck as they move forward with their careers and future endeavours.

I would like to thank all of them for their commitment to the children of St Stephen's and wish them all well.

SAFEGUARDING

Article 19: Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

It has been brought to our attention that several children are being left home alone for periods of time. Although there is no legal age a child can be left home alone, it is against the law to leave a child alone if it puts them at risk.

The NSPCC (National Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Children) advises the following:

- Babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone.
- Children under the age of 12 are rarely mature enough to cope in an emergency and should not be left at home alone for a long period of time.
- Children under the age of 16 should not be left alone overnight.

These guidelines are established to prioritise the safety and well-being of children, ensuring that they are adequately cared for and protected from potential harm.

NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE

As the summer weather progresses the Nursery children will be spending lots of time outdoors exploring the changes that take place in the garden. The sunshine is a valuable source of Vitamin D for all of us but it is crucial that we protect children from harmful UV rays by applying sunscreen and encouraging them to bring a sun hat to school every day.

Children's Centre will be having a 'Child Safety' week June 3rd to June 7th. Most accidents involving children happen in the home and it is important for us all to be aware of the potential dangers in the kitchen which could easily be prevented. We will also be sharing information on how to teach your child about road safety.

If you need any advice or support about how to keep your children safe please come along to the children's centre or contact a member of staff:

Marie Foley: 07904 663 072

Meral Sami: 07494 067 676

Wendy Campbell: 07946 708 602

CONTACT US

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Ms Georgia Dawson georgia.dawson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk

This newsletter is also available on the school website.



SUMMER TERM 2 DIARY DATES 2024

JUNE

Monday 3rd June	Term Starts
Monday 3rd June	Years 1 and 2 sports day in West Ham Park
Tuesday 4th June	Year 5 and 6 sports day in West Ham Park
Wednesday 5th June	Nursery and Reception Sports Day
Thursday 6th June	Year 3 and 4 sports day in West Ham Park
Week Beginning Monday 10th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Tests
Week Beginning Monday 10th June	Year 4 Times Tables Tests
Wednesday 12th June	Primary School Class Photographs
Friday 14th June	Dads and Male Carers Morning
Tuesday 18th June	Year 3 Educational visit to the Science Museum
Thursday 20th June	New Reception Parent Meeting at 8:45am
Tuesday 25th June	Year 2 Educational visit to Chalkwell
Thursday 27th June	Year 6 to Open Air Theatre: Secret Garden

JULY

Wednesday 3rd July	Reception educational visit to Snaresbrook Forest
Friday 5th July	Reception Annual Report to parents
Tuesday 9th July	Nursery and Reception Parents Consultation Day-Reception and Nursery closed
Thursday 11th July	Governor's Meeting @ 4pm
Thursday 11th July	Year 6 Production @ 7pm
Tuesday 16th July	Hub Performance and Celebration @ 10am
Wednesday 17th July	Nursery Performances 10.00am and 2.00pm
Monday 22nd July	Year 6 Graduation and leavers celebration visit
Monday 22nd July	Last day for Maintained Nursery
Tuesday 23rd July	Report Card to parents
Tuesday 23rd July	Summer Holiday - School closes at 12:45 pm (Yellow Room closes at 6pm)

Children's Centre closes on Friday 16th August and reopens on Monday 2nd September

Children's Centre reopens for stay and play activities Tuesday 3rd September

Tuesday 3rd September - Primary School

Monday 9th September-Nursery School reopens

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

SCHOOL TERM/HOLIDAY DATES

SUMMER TERM 2024

Last day of term	Tuesday 23rd July 12.45pm finish
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AUTUMN TERM 2024

First day of term Primary	Tuesday 3rd September
First day of term Nursery	Monday 9th September
Half term	Monday 21st October to Friday 1st November
Last day of term	Friday 20th December 12.45pm finish

SPRING TERM 2025

First day of term	Monday 6th January
Half term	Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
Last day of term	Friday 4th April 12.45pm finish

SUMMER TERM 2025

First day of term	Tuesday 22nd April
TT Day	Friday 2nd May
May Day	Monday 5th May
Half term	Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May
Last day of term	Thursday 24th July 12.45pm finish