

Parent Newsletter



15th November 2016.

Second half of the autumn term.

Happy Diwali and New Year to all our families who celebrated this festival recently. This half term is already proving to be a busy one as we will be preparing for the run up to Christmas but, even before that, during the week beginning 14th November we will be going spotty for Children in Need, holding a second hand toy sale as part of our Sewa Day – Toys for Great Ormond Street Hospital and supporting OutRight 2016.

OutRight empowers children and young people to speak out on the importance of children's rights, and celebrates the anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on 20 November. The focused of Outright this year is acknowledging the rights of unaccompanied Refugee children to reunification (Article 20: United Conventions of the Rights of the Child). The right to be reunited with family members.

On Friday 18th November we will be holding a non-uniform day in support of Children in Need & Outright 2016. The children will be asked donate £1 to dress in something with spots, they will also be baking and selling spotty cakes/biscuits at the end of the school day in the canteen.

Sewa Day

Sewa means doing something without wanting something in return.

Following the successful Sewa Day school projects last year and becoming winners of a Sewa Pioneer award, this year we have decided to support Great Ormond Street by encouraging the children to give away their old toys. The used toys will be sold on Friday 18th November in the school canteen. The money raised will be used to buy new toys to be given to the sick children cared for at Great Ormond Street Hospital during Christmas. So please come along and support us.



The staff and children have started preparing for the Christmas production which aims to involve every child in the school. There will be 4 performances held over two days with the capacity to accommodate 100 people per performance. 2 tickets per family will be allowed and there will be a day set aside for parents with young children to attend and then a day of performances for adults only, so make sure you book the right performance. Details will be sent out at the beginning of December.

Christmas Fair

The PTA are busy preparing for the Christmas Fair which is planned for the afternoon of Saturday 3rd December, so make sure you put the date in your diary it should be a great way to get into the festive spirit. There will be lots of stalls, activities and Santa is planned to make an early appearance if you're lucky!



Attendance

Please note the timings of the school day:

It is important to ensure that children attend school regularly and equally importantly on time – NOT LATE!!!!



Nursery a.m. session: 8.45 – 11.45 a.m.

Nursery p.m. session: 12.45 – 3.45 p.m.

Reception: 8.50 a.m. – 3.15 p.m. (From 8.45 a.m. soft start once children full time)

Years 1 & 2 (KS1): 8.50 a.m. – 3.20 p.m.

Please acknowledge that we do not authorise leave taken during term time unless it is an exceptional circumstance and evidence to support the application is provided. We will also phone to check on any travel arrangements made without prior authorisation in exceptional circumstances.

Where an absence warrants it a penalty notice may be issued and parents fined. Home visits will also be conducted if there are concerns about a pupils' absence as a safeguarding measure!

After only half a term analysis of attendance data has indicated that there are already **227** children with attendance below the required 98%!

During the month of **October** the following classes have received certificates for the best class attendance each week and then for the overall month: **Clownfish Class.**

Week	Class	% attendance
03 – 07 October	Clownfish	99.0%
10 – 14 October	Clownfish	99.3%
17 – 21 October	Dragonfly	100%
	Brazil	100%
October	Clownfish	99.3%

School term dates.



AUTUMN TERM 2016

Last day Of Term

- Wednesday 21st December

SPRING TERM 2017

First Day of Term for pupils
Half Term
Last day Of Term

- Thursday 5th January
- Monday 13th – Friday 17th Feb
- Friday 31st March

SUMMER TERM 2017

First Day of Term for pupils
May Day bank holiday
Half Term
Last day Of Term

- Tuesday 18th April
- Monday 1st May
- Monday 29th - Friday 2nd June
- Friday 21st July

INSET (staff training days)

Friday 24th February 2017

***Friday 21st April 2017**

***Please note of you have children in the Junior School this year one of the INSET days is different.**

Remember each school term ends at 2.15 p.m.

(Wednesday 21st December 2016 / Friday 31st March 2017 and Friday 21st July 2017).

Other diary dates for the autumn term:

Monday 14th November 2016 – Ladybird Class 9 -10 a.m. Ocean maths session for parents.

Tuesday 15th November 2016 – Caterpillar Class 9 -10 a.m. Ocean maths session for parents.

Wednesday 16th November 2016 – Dragonfly Class 9 -10 a.m. Ocean maths session for parents.

Thursday 17th November 2016 – Bumblebee Class 9 -10 a.m. Ocean maths session for parents.

Tuesday 15th November – Literacy workshop for parents of pupils in Years 1 & 2 at 2.45 p.m.

Friday 18th November -

Monday 5th December – All Year 2 going to Watford Palace Theatre to watch the Pantomime.

Tuesday 13th December –. (time to be confirmed) Christmas production for parents with children under 4yrs accompanying (a morning and afternoon performance).

Thursday 15th December – A morning and afternoon performance of the school Christmas production.

Monday 19th December – School Community Christmas Carol concert in the afternoon

Tuesday 20th December – Children's Christmas parties.

Wednesday 21st December – Non-uniform day - Wear your Christmas jumper day & donate £1.

Autumn term 2016 Class Assemblies.

This term each year group will present a Year group assembly. Parents/guardians will be invited to attend their child's year group assembly. The autumn term dates are as follows:

Year Group	Date
Year 1 - Turtle & Seahorse	Monday 21 st November 2016
Year 1 - Starfish & Clownfish	Friday 25 th November 2016

Please note the change of date for Turtle & Seahorse Class assembly

School Travel Plan

As an accredited **GOLD** travel plan school we continue to promote WOW – Walk on Wednesday encouraging every child/family to walk or park away from the school and walk to school at least every Wednesday.

Each month we will celebrate by announcing the class with the most pupils walking to school on Wednesdays during that specific month.

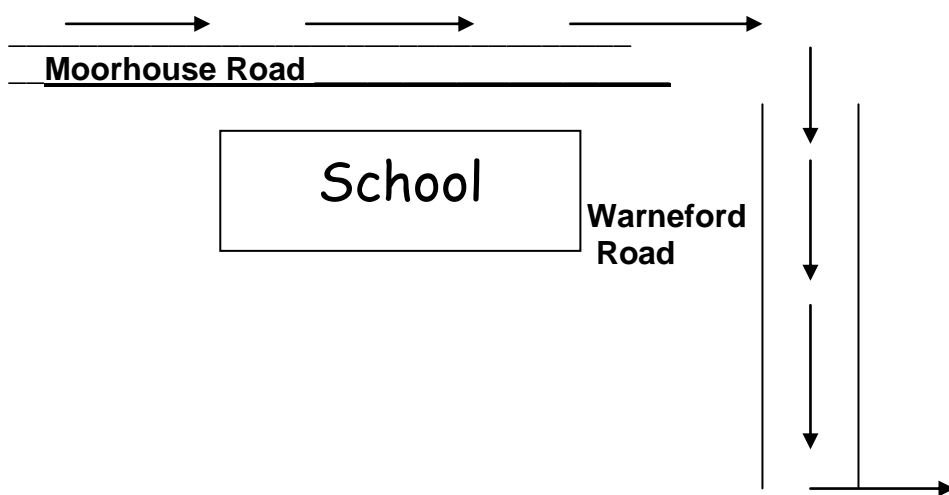
During **October** the winning class was **Brazil class**.

Later in the year we will host events to support walking, scooter or cycling and we will invite parents/careers to join us for those events too.

In September we launched our family health and well-being **local community walks**. Our two trained and certified parent walk leaders Dipti Bhatt and Shailee Sachania lead the walk every Thursday morning at 9.15 a.m. registration takes place on Wednesday morning between 8.45 – 9.15 am. So come along and support your own well being.

We aspire to campaign for safer roads around the school. Following a successful campaign by the Infant School children last year we now have in operation a “One Direction” a one way system around the school.

Please support “One Direction”!



Following in one direction will reduce the unnecessary disputes amongst parents that are reported to the school regularly! Most importantly they will help to keep our children safer.

PLEASE DO YOUR BIT TO HELP US TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD YOUR CHILDREN!!!

Article 19: All children have a right to enjoy being safe.



REMINDER - School Admissions for September 2017

Refer to attached guidance on applying for schools

Closing and offer dates for all three applications phases are in the table below with the relevant Admission Officer's contact details:

Transfer Phase	Closing Date	Offer Date
Secondary	31 October 2016*	March 2017
Infant to Junior	15 January 2017	April 2017
Reception	15 January 2017	April 2017

* We strongly recommend that applications are submitted to the Civic Centre, online by **FRIDAY 15th January 2016** and all forms received by this date will be accepted as on time.

New Workshop for parents starting in the New Year.

In January we will be running the following workshops for parents in collaboration with the Junior School.

Home-Start MoneySmart

Based on the Made of Money programme

making your money go further

Relaxed group workshops, or one-on-one support

✚ ... using taste tests, games and activities

Gain confidence

✚ ... with credit, debt, bills and budgets

Save, the fun way!

✚ ... share top tips to beat the big brands

Improve communication

✚ ... with your family and others, around finances

Give your kids a head start

✚ ... learning for the future about money



Parent who attended the course: *"The impact this is having on me and my life, and how I am looking and learning about personal finances and planning for our future, feels so good . . . I appreciate the money we have much more now and what we do with it . . . Life feels so much more balanced and the negative feelings of being ashamed, fearful, stressed, of never having enough and being out of control have now gone. I really appreciate having been on this life changing course and feel everyone would benefit from this fresh, new look at managing their money whatever their stage in life."*

To book your place, please contact

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