



# Weekly Newsletter



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## Welcome Back!!

Looking at the weather today it feels like summer is truly over! I hope that you had a fantastic time with your children during the holiday period.

We are thrilled to have them back!

All children have settled well and are already hard at work with their learning.

Thank you to all parents who have sent their children into school dressed in the correct school uniform. They look smart and ready to learn. We will be checking children's **uniform** regularly, so please ensure this high standard is maintained throughout the year.

With your ongoing support, we would like to make this the most successful year yet!

## Meet the Teacher Afternoons

You are warmly invited to come and meet your children's new teachers and to find out what they will be learning about in class and how you can support them.

All sessions will run after school from 3:15- 4:15

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 parent's meeting is Wednesday  
13<sup>th</sup> September

Year 1 & 2 parent's meeting is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>  
September

We look forward to seeing you then.



## Welcome to new staff

We would like to warmly welcome a number of new members to the Rotherhithe team. It is going to be a great year!

### New Teachers

Nursery: Matthew Kenny

Reception: Suzie Malakhi and Leah Delahye

Starfish Class: Annalise Storey (Maths Lead)

Endeavour Class: Joanna Mortimer – ICT Lead)

Endurance Class : Phoebe Matthews – (Temporary Assistant Head)

Mayflower Class: Conor McTernan

Calypso Class: Alexander Montgomery

Belfast Class: Naomi Jameson

### New Support Staff:

Mayflower Class: Mary Fois

Jellyfish Class: Sharon Lodge

We are really excited to welcome back Jennifer O'Cofaigh who is our new **Deputy Head Teacher**. Jenni is a fantastic teacher and will be a great asset to our school.

## A message from the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the governors, I would like to welcome back all staff and pupils, with a special welcome to any new parents, children and staff. We are facing an exciting new year, with lots of new teachers including Jennifer (our Deputy Head Teacher), who has returned to us after 18 months at another school.

All the staff are looking forward to resuming their efforts at maintaining good academic standards. With a potential Ofsted inspection imminent we hope to and we are confident we will retain our good status.

My best wishes to you all, for a good educational outcome for your children in the forth coming year.

**Ray Piggott – Chair of Governors**

## Inset Day- Date for your diaries

We will be holding an additional inset day on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**. This is to enable new teachers to have 'Mind up' training. Children must not attend school on this day.

All children will return to school on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October. This will be invaluable training for our staff and will help support good mental health amongst all in school.

Last year we adopted the Mind Up curriculum in all our classrooms. This is a very effective program which teaches children social and emotional skills for learning.

Children are taught to understand the biology behind their emotions and are encouraged to develop strategies to self-regulate, enabling increased concentration and mental health.

Short periods of meditation are built into the school day, which our children tell us really help them to concentrate and focus on their learning.

MindUP nurtures optimism and happiness in the classroom, and our children have shared that they find strategies useful.



## Contact Details



### Have you moved? Changed your phone numbers?

If so please update your details at the school office. It is essential that we are able to contact you if there is an emergency.

## Proposed hard federation between Rotherhithe and Dog Kennel Hill schools

The Governing Body wrote to you in July with an update about the proposal to form a hard federation between Rotherhithe and DKH Primary Schools. The consultation documents are now being finalised. These will be distributed via bookbags to all parents/ carers on 18<sup>th</sup> September and be posted on the website. Two meetings to start the consultation process have been planned for all parents/ carers with the Governing Body and senior leadership team on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017**. One will be at **3:30 pm** and an additional meeting will be at **6 pm**.

A six-week consultation process will begin on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September and conclude on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 3:30 pm. The consultation documents will explain more fully the reasons for the proposal, what a hard federation is, the proposed leadership structure, the anticipated benefits and the risks, what changes people would see, and try to answer likely questions. During this process, all parents will have several opportunities to meet with and ask questions of the Governors and School Leadership Team and to receive formal and informal feedback to the Governing Body.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017



## Year 6 Secondary School Transition and Condover Hall Trip 2018

We have only just started back at school and already I am having to talk to you about when our year 6 children leave!

Applications for secondary school need to be completed by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2017**.

Secondary schools have set their open days for prospective students already. You will be able to find this information on each schools website. I would strongly advise you to visit schools with your son or daughter.

To provide more information about the process, I have arranged a parent workshop on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30 pm in the junior Hall.

### Condover Hall 2018

During the above meeting I will also talk to parents about the Year 6 trip to Condover Hall.

There will be a short presentation describing details relevant to the trip.

I hope you can attend.

### Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for this week

KS1: Seahorse Class 100%

KS2: Endeavour Class 100%

### Fantastic!

**Well done and keep up the good work everyone!!**

Please **do not** book holidays during term time. This negatively affects your children's education.

You are at risk of a fine if you do so.



## Arts Week

Time to be creative!

We will be holding an 'Arts Week' during the week starting 18<sup>th</sup> September. Children will be given a range of materials and allowed to let their imaginations run riot to create the most amazing structures possible. This will be an exciting week and the product of their hard work will be on display on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September in the Junior Hall in our very own Arts Week exhibition.

We are sure your children will want to share their creations with you and we are warmly invited to visit the exhibition.



## After School Clubs

We regret that we will no longer be offering Film Club or the performing arts 'Artis' clubs. We are pleased to announce we will be offering a Gardening club.

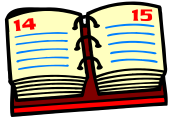
Most after School Club letters have been sent out this week and most clubs will start next week.

Please make sure your child has received a **green letter** to confirm that your child has been offered a place.

We are aware that sometimes children are disappointed if they have not been offered a place, so try to make sure you send in your permission slips as quickly as possible.

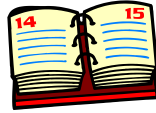
If you have any questions regarding clubs, please ask to speak to Kay Turner who is coordinating them.





## Dates for your

# DIARY!!!!



### Autumn TERM

Start	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
Inset Day	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October (No school)
Children Return	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Finish	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>(early closure at 2 pm)</b>

### Key Events this term

11th Sep	Year 5 swimming lessons start
Week beg 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Arts Week
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Secondary School transition parent workshop
21 <sup>st</sup> September	School council elections Year 5 Ukulele lessons start
26 <sup>th</sup> September 9:15 am	Year 1 Phonics workshops
27 <sup>th</sup> September 9:15 am	Speech and Language therapist coffee morning for parents in year 1
6 <sup>th</sup> October 9:15 am	Head of School coffee morning for parents
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School photos (smart full uniform only). Black History Month
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying week SEN parents meetings start

20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Parent's Evening
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu vaccinations for year 1,2,3, & 4
11 <sup>th</sup> December	100% attendance awards
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol concert Year 3-6 (children to wear Santa hats please.
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery and Reception Christmas performances
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas performances.  Christmas Jumper Day!
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 and Early Years Achievement Awards
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3-6 Achievement Awards  Christmas Parties.

### Safeguarding at Rotherhithe

Reminder: Safeguarding our children is of key importance. Please read the Safeguarding Policy on the schools website at:

<http://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/safeguarding/>

and peruse the '**Online Safety**' information.

### Snap Map

We would also like to make parents aware that a new feature was added to Snapchat that reveals the users location. This app is popular with teenagers and our children should not be using this app, however, we are aware that some of our children are using such apps.

Parents are advised to ensure that 'Snap Map' is turned off if they are permitting children to use this app.

We would however highly recommend that you remove this app altogether from your children's phones to ensure their safety.