




# Primary Newsletter

21 June 2019

**Summer term diary dates**  
**June**  
Wed 26—Deadline for collection Operation Orphan  
Thur 27 – Summer Fair  
Fri 28 – Yr 2 class assembly  
**July**  
Mon 1 – Transition day for Year 6 pupils going to SMMA Senior school.  
Mon 1 – Transition morning for all other year groups. TBC  
**Wed 3—Sport's Day**  
Wed 3 – New Reception class parent meeting 5pm  
Thur 4 – Reception cake sale  
Mon 8—Yr 6 Summer Sports Festival  
Tues 9—Piano assembly with Mr Mills  
Tues 9— Yr 5 & 6 Track & Field event  
Thur 11 – New Reception transition day  
Fri 12 – Yr 6 leavers' party  
Mon 15 – End of year reports to parents  
Tue 16 – Yr 6 Exhibition evening 4.30 – 6pm  
Fri 19—End of year service at St Mary Magdalene Church Time TBC

**Planet Protectors**  
A few weeks ago the Planet Protectors Club wrote a letter to the school catering team (AiP) with ideas to make the school lunches better for the planet – the ideas were to compost food waste, use less single use plastic and eat less meat. Tracey Mays and Jacky from the AiP were delighted to receive the letter and came in person to discuss their ideas during Wednesday's club.



The Planet Protectors learnt:

- that the school were already sorting out food waste and that the council collected it to make compost that would be used in Islington parks.
- There were only 3 days in the week when children were served meat as the school has meat-free Mondays and serve fish on Fridays. Also there are vegetarian options available each day for pupils to choose.
- The catering team would use 50% less single use plastic containers from now on.

It's great when pupils learn the power of making change happen by positive lobbying.

It was unfortunate that we had to postpone **Sport's Day** due to the unseasonal weather we have been having and the flooding of Paradise Park. We now have Wednesday 3 July in the diary. Fingers crossed that the sun will be shining on that date.



**In this week's assemblies, Mr Standing** read the story of The Day War Came. This is a beautiful picture book about the experiences of a child refugee and how the action of simply offering a chair made them feel welcome. During Refugee Week we pray for all who have needed to leave their homes due to conflict. **Ms Luzmore** talked about how and why we feel embarrassed and strategies to handle those situations. Mr Standing spoke about the Women's Football World Cup which is taking place this month in France.

This week's HEROs:  
**Reception - Blen**  
**Year 1 - Alban**  
**Year 2—Alexa**  
**Year 3 - Lee**  
**Year 4 - Esma**  
**Year 5 - Leo**



Year 4 are still collecting for **Keep A Child Warm**—please bring in items for donation by **Wednesday 26 June.**

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle"  
Ian Maclaren  
Scottish minister & author

Thank you all who have given feedback about the **trial arrangement** for coming in during the morning. We have had some helpful feedback from parents and staff about the trial.

Positive responses are around:

- how much calmer it is without the very large numbers of people for children to walk across and for those with younger children with bikes and buggies everywhere;
- how much easier it is for parents who find it challenging to wait with their child and get to work or to appointments on time;
- some parents no longer need to use breakfast club services saving them money;
- staff noticing that it is considerably calmer and quicker for both children entering the building and classes and begin learning; and
- conversations or messages with staff happen in a more confidential and appropriate way without other pupils or parents nearby overhearing.

We have also had some useful feedback and suggestions related to:

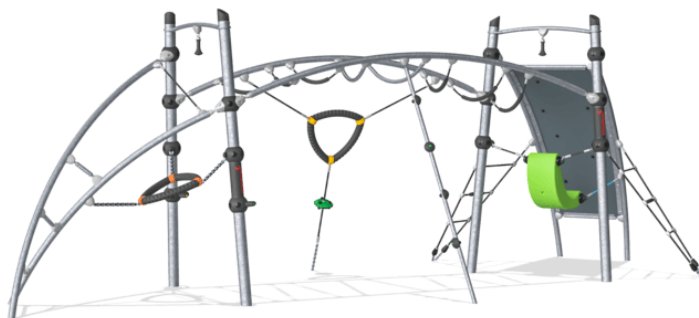
- how would the school arrange the period of settling in new Reception pupils;
- a perception that children were losing out on playtime;
- parents having less informal access to staff;
- how to manage the transition from home to school for pupils;
- whether the hall is the best place for the younger pupils to gather or whether they could go straight to class;
- whether opportunities for parents to come into class with their children could be put in place to still maintain regular contact with classroom; and
- parents not having same opportunities to talk to other parents in the morning and how those networks can be supported.

These are insightful points and welcome points which we will be consider and think through.

As part of this work, we are also planning to move the entrance used by parents and pupils at the beginning and end of the day to the double gates located by the school office by movement of a wall. This will be a much wider area and will address some of the bottleneck issues of using the other gate. As with all changes we make, it is about finding a very delicate balance for the different members of our community, so we will continue through trial, error and learning. I, as always, appreciate your ongoing support. **Ms Luzmore**

## Playground Update

Yesterday an order for installation of playground equipment and surface replacement. Work should be taking place in the middle of August for completion by the start of September 2019. There will also be a resurfacing of the wooden area and some new seating and climbing pods installed here. The total cost of the work is over £50,000. Images of the intended



equipment we are installing are pictured here and will be up in the playground by the time of the summer fair. We are very grateful for the £10,000 that the PTSA raised from the community towards this. It has been a longer process than expected, due to a number of attempts to secure planning permission and funding for larger scale projects and the need to raise additional

income/make savings to secure adequate funding in a time when finances are tight, and finding the right company to do the work, but we are pleased that the next stage is around the corner. We will continue to pursue financial support to develop the area under the trees and to astroturf the 'caged' area in future years. **Ms Luzmore**

