



# ST MARY MAGDALENE SCHOOL WOOLWICH CAMPUS Summer 2 2021 Newsletter



## Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to school. I hope you were able to make the best of the great weather we had over the half term.

### THIS HALF TERM WE ARE THINKING ABOUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT – SELF CONTROL

*"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a love of power and of love and of self-discipline.*

**2 Timothy 1:7**

## FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are really happy to be back in school again. Thank you all so much for bringing your children to school every day and fully supporting all the rules and regulations that have been in place. You have been incredibly kind and patient with all the constant changes. Please continue to adhere to the social distancing rules until the Government says otherwise. In the meantime, we are planning events and meetings to enable you as Parents and Carers to be on site again, safely. We are starting off by inviting Reception Parents/Carers for the Early Bird reading in the mornings. These will be held outdoors whilst the weather is nice. Please look out for a letter about this. We will be in touch over the coming weeks about other events.

## STAFFING CHANGES

We welcomed back Sue Rao and Issabella Osei last term who returned from maternity leave. Opeyemi Akinwaleola is also returning next week from maternity leave. We look forward to welcoming her back. At the end of last half term, we said a farewell to our Premises Assistant Matthew Bagnell. We wish him well on his new ventures.

## SPORTS

**Swimming** -We are delighted that swimming pools are open for schools again. Before the half term break, some of our Year 6 children took part in intensive swimming lessons over the course of a week to improve their water skills and this half term, Year 5 will also have their lessons.

**PE Kits** - pupils should come into school wearing their PE kits on the days that they have PE. **The Federation PE kit is as follows:**

- Dark shorts/tracksuit bottoms
- Plimsolls (indoor)/trainers (outdoor)
- White t-shirt for PE use only

(Jeans are not appropriate as they are not flexible enough. Also hooped earrings should not be worn at any time in school, due to health & safety reasons).

## Sports Day

Sports Day will take place on the **9th of July in school**. Children will be given the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities throughout the day. We ask that children wear their PE bottoms (please see PE kit above), trainers and a top in the colour of their house colour. Please ensure that each child comes to school with a water bottle as they will be active during the day. Unfortunately, Parents and Carers will not be invited to attend Sports Day this year, but we will make sure that the excitement of the day is captured in pictures and uploaded onto the school blog. Further information about Sports Day will be sent home closer to the date.

## MENTAL HEALTH

From the 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of May, the Koinonia Federation took part in Mental Health Awareness Week, a national event that works toward raising awareness of what mental health is and the importance of taking care of our mental health. This year's theme is about connecting with nature.



Watch this video to find out more.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

We shared ways in which the children could interact with nature. The Mental Health Foundation has some top tips here: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week/tips> Connecting with nature can't solve all our problems but taking the time to see, hear and feel nature can help improve our state of mind. The Mental Health Foundation website provides lots of useful information about mental health so please take a look. Here is a link to one such guide from the website.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/how-to-mental-health>

In the federation, we are teaching our children that mental health is something we all have and just like physical health we must learn to understand it, to be able to look after it. Take care of yours!

## TIME TO TALK

If you would like to speak with your child's class teacher, please telephone the school office to ask for a call back. You can also write a note for your child to give to the teacher or send an email to the office at [Woolwichadmin@koinoniafederation.com](mailto:Woolwichadmin@koinoniafederation.com) for the attention of the class teacher. Please aim to do this in the first instance if you require information, have a concern or wish to ask questions about your child. If you need to talk to a member of the leadership team, we are always happy to help. We are available in the mornings and afternoons when we are on the gate. If this is not a good time for you then please telephone the school office to make a convenient appointment time so we can speak on the telephone. Please ask in the office if you would like to speak to a specific person and Mrs. Turner or Mrs. Etherington can always let them know.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

We would like to encourage 100% attendance and welcome your support with this. Children, who are not in school by 9.00 am, miss out on the essential information that class teachers give their children, as well as the settling down time each morning. We are also looking to ensure that **ALL** pupils are collected promptly at the end of the school day.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Please see Miss Thomas if your child requires a place.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

After school club is completely staffed and managed by Simply Play. Payments need to be made directly to the after-school staff – **NOT** the school office. Parents/Carers will need to contact Simply Play directly for questions relating to spaces.

Contact: **Matthew Johnson**

Telephone: **020 3478 8567**



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### SNACKS

Children in year groups Reception, 1 and 2 are provided with a piece of fruit each day. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in fruit for a snack at break time – no other food is allowed.

### SCHOOL GATEWAY

We are **now** a cashless school. Download the School Gateway app or visit the website: [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) and click on 'new user'. You can pay for dinner money, Capitation as well as Breakfast club through this link.

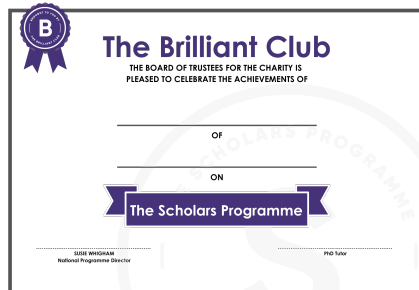
### ST MARY MAGDALENE FOODBANK

At the beginning of lockdown last year, we started our own Foodbank to help some of our families during this difficult time. It was warmly received and greatly appreciated. We continue to distribute food parcels every two weeks. Some families have only needed a parcel for a few weeks and others longer term. We receive donations from our local Church, occasionally from the supermarket but mostly from our very generous staff. We thank everyone for their contributions. On 28<sup>th</sup> May, we held an 'own clothes day' and asked for a donation of £1. I am proud to say that we raised an incredible £360.66! All proceeds will go towards our Foodbank. We aim to hold an event at the end of each half term to raise much needed funds for this good cause. I would also like to thank Miss Thomas (our Home School Link Worker), Mrs. Amapo and Mrs. Ringmo (our Senior Assistant Headteachers) for coordinating this project.



### BRILLIANT CLUB

Eight of our Year 6 pupils have just completed Brilliant Club. They took part in virtual seminars with a university lecturer for 6 weeks and submitted Science-based essays about the heart, which had to be a thousand words. We are very proud of their achievements; they achieved excellent results. Most pupils were awarded 2:2/2:1 for their essays and one of our pupils received a first-class grade! Our children received certificates, which were recently presented during Collective Worship.



We would like to congratulate the following children on this achievement: **Tamilore, Daniel A, Rayhan, Ezekiel Aj, Temitope, Chizaram, Maricel and Daniel EU.**

### NUMBER DAY

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May everyone came to school wearing a digit or two, to celebrate the NSPCC's national number day.

Pupils took part in a variety of number-based activities such as Buddy's key challenge, and a maths treasure hunt around the school. Thanks to all the generous contributions, we raised £180 for the NSPCC. Thanks to everyone involved!

### HOMEWORK

Homework is very important to consolidate any learning that has been happening in the class. The homework menu is uploaded on Satchel One. Expectations of how many pieces need to be completed is mentioned on the homework menu. Pupils get house points for completed pieces which can be uploaded on to Satchel. Please read with your child regularly and talk to them about the book they are reading, then sign their reading record each time. Asking them questions about what they are reading will help develop their comprehension.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Last term our Federation looked at Faithfulness and Gentleness. I shared with the school some thoughts on being Faithful – to God, to ourselves and to each other.

St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians saying 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances for this is the will of God' (1 Theses 5:16-18). As we give thanks for the day ahead, we are faithful to God. As we try our best, remain genuine and make our own good choices, we are faithful to ourselves. And as we act with love, speak with gentleness and encourage each other, we are faithful to those around us.

As we start a new half term, give thanks for the half term that has passed and for the next 7 weeks ahead, for the growing freedoms we have to meet again and the way God's Holy Spirit supports and encourages us through our faith and the fellowship we have around us.

May God bless you and your family at this time. Amen!

**Rev. Dominic Hubuck**

**School Chaplain**

**Koinonia Federation Schools**

**Assistant Priest with East Greenwich Team Ministry**

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Please note additional **INSET** Days for the Summer Term:

**CLASS PHOTOS** – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

**NURSERY INDUCTION AFTERNOONS** – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June (for new Parents/Carers)

**RECEPTION INDUCTION DAY** – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July (for new Parents/Carers)

**INSET DAY** - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

**HEALTHY LIVING WEEK** – w/c 5<sup>th</sup> July

**SPORTS DAY** – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July – more details to follow depending on Government roadmap

**YEAR 6 PRODUCTION & LEAVERS** – more details to be shared with Year 6 Parents/Carers

**LAST DAY OF TERM** – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - school finishes at 2pm. There will be no After School Club.

**INSET DAY**- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS** - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021