



5 September 2019

Dear Parents,

Our first day of term was full of happiness as we welcomed new and returning children into school. There was a sea of smiling faces and much excited sharing of holiday news. The children were eager to meet their new teachers and a joyful buzz permeated the school. It was also lovely to see so many parents joining us for our start of the year coffee morning.

Whole School

Staffing

I am delighted to welcome our new staff members: Miss Ting is teaching Year 4, Miss Smith is teaching Reception and our new Teaching Assistant in Reception is Miss Adekanmbi, who joins us from Noah's Ark.

It is a pleasure to tell you that Mrs Hall has had a baby girl, named Otilie. We wish her and her family every happiness, as she enjoys her maternity leave.

Acceptable Use Agreement for IT

In classes over the next week, teachers will be going through the Acceptable Use Policy for IT with all the children. This will then be sent home to you to sign. Please return it to school so that we know you are aware of and in agreement with this policy.

Clubs

Clubs begin on Monday. A helpful reminder for parents is that after school clubs for children in Reception to Year 2 finish at 16.30 and for Year 3 to Year 6 clubs finish at 16.45 with the exception of Dodgeball on Fridays which finishes at 16:30.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 27 September we will be holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. All parents are welcome to join us from 8:45 – 9:30, in the school hall.

Parental Log in

Please note from tomorrow the log in for the Parent Portal for this academic year on the website will be: **Story1920**

School Garden – Thank you

During the holiday, a team of dedicated parent and staff volunteers kept our school garden well-watered and loved, with phenomenal results.

We have an absolute forest of medium sized sunflowers, and our tallest giant sunflower reaches an amazing 3.25m in length! There are long runner beans, ripening tomatoes and flourishing herbs, with corn, courgettes and lemons yet to ripen.

What a lot of growth! We are indebted to our hard-working waterers for keeping our garden verdant and beautiful, so that we can continue to enjoy the fruit of spring and summer labours well into the autumn.

Dolphin Launch

All parents are invited to attend the Dolphin Launch on Monday 16 September from 18:00 -19:30 to learn more about the year ahead.

The evening runs as follows:

18.00-18.30	An opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet his/her teacher or an invitation to drinks in the Church.
18.30-19.00	Talk in the Church.
19.00-19.30	An opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet his/her teacher or an invitation to drinks in the Church.

You can choose to arrive at 18.00, proceeding first to meet your class teacher, and then heading to the church at 18.30 for the talk, or alternatively you can arrive at 18.30 for the talk in the church, and go on afterwards to the class teacher's talk at 19.00. If you have two children, you will need to arrive at 18.00 and see the first class teacher, then proceed to the church for the main talk, and then visit the next class teacher at 19.00. If you have three children or more, you will ideally need two representatives or you could pop into half of each! There will be drinks in the Church between 18.00-18.30, and 19.00-19.30, so do feel free to come and mingle if you have a spare slot. Whichever route you choose, the evening will end by 19.30. Please note, that the evening is for adults; unfortunately we are unable to offer any child care facilities.

Parents' Prayers

All parents are warmly invited to join Parents' Prayers every Friday at 08:50. This prayer meeting will take place in the Music Room. Please sign in, in the School Office.

Assembly tomorrow

Our Friday Assembly, to which parents are always warmly invited, will take place tomorrow at 11:15. We do invite any parents who would like to join us for Assembly to come each Friday at 11:15, but we ask parents of children in **Reception** to wait until after Half Term to attend Assembly. The Reception children do not attend the whole school assembly at the start of the academic year.

Upper School

Get Ready

All parents in Year 4, 5 and 6 are invited to a meeting in the school hall on Thursday 12 September from 9:00-10:20 to hear about the process of Secondary Transfer. This will help parents to prepare for the next phase of their children's academic journey as they move on to Secondary School. From 08:30 – 09:00 a range of different Secondary School prospectuses will be on display, for parents to peruse. The talk will start at 09:00. Please enter through the Staff Entrance.

Year 6 – Independent Secondary School Reference

As we look ahead to writing references for our Year 6 children for independent secondary schools, may we ask that you help us to gain the broadest picture of your child by completing the google form <https://goo.gl/forms/hAqCS9uP0xDxOKvH2> telling us about all interests, hobbies and sporting / cultural / creative / musical activities. Please include any grades / levels attained, if relevant.

Year 6 Parents' Secondary School Meetings

Please note the letter sent out to you today, alerting you to sign up for individual meetings with the Senior Team regarding your Secondary School choices.

Lower School

Reception Diamonds

Our new, sparkling Diamonds have settled in remarkably quickly. Mr Woodcraft and Miss Smith report that pupils are getting involved in all activities with confidence and enthusiasm.

Parents of children in Reception, please remember that next week your children will continue to have half days. From the following week starting on Monday 16 September, they will have full days on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and half days on Wednesday and Friday. This will continue for the Autumn term.

Friday mornings – Lower School

Parents of children in the Lower School are invited to pop down to their child's classroom between 08:30 and 08:45 on Friday mornings according to the following schedule:

Friday 13 September	Year 1
Friday 20 September	Year 2
Friday 27 September	Reception
Friday 4 October	Reception and Year 1CB
Friday 11 October	Reception and Year 1KH
Friday 18 October	Reception and Year 2EM
Friday 8 November	Reception and Year 2KV
Friday 15 November	Reception and Year 1CB
Friday 22 November	Reception and Year 1KH
Friday 29 November	Reception and Year 2EM
Friday 6 December	Reception and Year 2KV

We are all looking forward to another splendid year at Dolphin.

Wish best wishes

N. S. Baldwin

Mrs N. S. Baldwin
Principal

Upcoming Events and Sporting Fixtures

AUTUMN TERM 2019			
Summer or Winter uniform until half term			
Date	Event	Time	Venue
Friday 6 Sept	Parent Prayers	08.50	Music Room
Friday 6 Sept	Assembly	11.15	Church
Monday 9 Sept	Y6 Girls' Netball Tournament (A Team Only)	13.30 – 16.30	Streatham & Clapham Prep School, Wavertree Road, SW2 3SR
Thursday 12 Sept	'Get Ready' for parents of Year 4-6	09:00 - 10:20	Hall
Monday 16 Sept	Dolphin Launch	18:00 - 19:30	Church
Mon 16 - Fri 20 Sept	Year 6 Secondary School Meetings	Various	School
Friday 27 Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning	08:45 - 09:30	School
Friday 27 Sept	Harvest Celebration Assembly	11:15	Church
Friday 11 Oct	Reading Information Session (Lower School Parents)	08.45 - 10.00	Hall
HALF TERM 21 October – 1 November			