Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, staff, governors, friends & colleagues

We are sure that you will agree that this half term has flown by. The children have had a wonderful start to the year and are demonstrating being outstanding learners. Many classes have enhanced their learning in school with educational visits to Forest School and Horton Kirby and through visiting famous landmarks in Central London.

Please remember that school is closed on Friday 21st October for staff training (INSET day). We look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 31st October.

We wish you all a safe and restful half term.

Naheeda Maharasingam         Julia Lannary
Executive Head               Head of School

20th October 2016

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are pleased to announce that Wearabouts on Sydenham High St will be the school supplier for our uniform. Available from Monday 24th October

SCHOOL TRIPS CONTRIBUTIONS

Please can we remind parents that an annual contribution of £30 is required as soon as possible. Children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM’s) are exempt from this charge. You may pay by ParentPay, cash or cheque.

It is important to note that parents with children on FSM’s do not have to pay, as every child who qualifies for FMS’s attracts £1,320 funding to the school. This money is used to target support and resources. Our school received £255,520 Pupil Premium Grant last year.

Opening Times

We would like to remind all parents of the opening and closing times for the school.

School Office Opening:
Morning: 8.15am-9.30am
Afternoon: 3.15pm – 4.00pm.

If you would like to see the office staff out of these hours please feel free to call or email and arrange an appointment.

NURSERY
For the safety and security of the children in the playground.

Gates will not be opened before
- 11.45 for morning pick up and
- 12.45 for Afternoon drop off.
OUTSTANDING LEARNERS

- Victoria AM (Nursery) – Stephanie Okoes & Kayhan Kumander
- Victoria PM (Nursery) – Lily McLean & Axel Frolich
- Sloane Square (Reception) – Markiyan Tertletskiy & Olivia McLaren
- South Kensington (Reception) – Jevaughn Andrew & Nasra Codlin
- Camden (Year 1) – Temani Wilks Hamid & Andrew Radu
- Angel (Year 1) – Moseray Fadika & Isabella Hulbert
- Marble Arch (Year 2) – Deborah Ijaopo & Eshe Hibbert
- Tottenham Court Rd (Year 2) – Zharaya Stephenson & Amari Jackman-Kallo
- St James’s Park (Year 3) – Emohitae Olufemi & Sudenaz Gecsoyler
- Wimbledon Park (Year 3) – Melissa Clayton – Bainbridge & Artyom Eero
- Oxford Circus (Year 4) - Hawa During & Jessie Gambling
- Baker Street (Year 4) – Bobby Rose & Jaida Benjamin
- Regents Park (Year 4) – Karla Ogbeifun & Harisana Kantheepan
- Shoreditch High St (Year 5) – Joshua John & McKaylah Wright
- Hoxton (Year 5) – Jing Wen Wang & Ethan Fagan
- Whitechapel (Year 5) – Robert Singh Riley & Raudhat Saleh
- Knightsbridge (Year 6) – Shanay Gordon – Peterkin & Shamar Murphy
- Piccadilly Circus (Year 6) – Brooke Miller & Ayman Chowdhury

LEADING CITIZENS

- Victoria (Nursery) – Kaiden-Jerimiah Ebie & Louie Domala
- Victoria PM (Nursery) – Shakira Owolabi & David Obayagbona
- Sloane Square (Reception) - Angel James & Khaleed Owolabi
- South Kensington (Reception) – Noah Coward & Talyn Monteith
- Camden (Year 1) - Princess Okameme & Dejon Owusu-Ansah
- Angel (Year 1) – Siradjo Diallo & Tiffany Huang
- Marble Arch (Year 2) - Davina Afful & David Perta
- Tottenham Court Rd (Year 2) – Yanni Sabir & Kejsi Salkurti
- St James’s Park (Year 3) – Fadwa Mohamud & Kacper Borkowski
- Wimbledon Park (Year 3) – Samara Benjamin – Thompson & Micah Coward
- Oxford Circus (Year 4) – Sophia DePantaleone & Tufan Turkoglu
- Baker Street (Year 4) – Akia Stewart Hinds & Elsie Arno
- Regents Park (Year 4) – Harley Jackman & David Isreal
- Shoreditch High St (Year 5) – Rebekkahah Lee Charles & Khiel Thompson Goode
- Hoxton (Year 5) – Sami Shabazz & Naomi McLaren
- Whitechapel (Year 5) – Jumana Rakik & Sipho Khumalo
- Knightsbridge (Year 6) – Raghavhan Sethilkumaran & Chloe Ajala
- Piccadilly Circus (Year 6) – Precious Anku & Jhalen Braithwaite
Year 2 went on a school trip to Wide Horizons Environment Centre.

First we sat down on the red, rough carpet and Amy read the Gruffalo story. Next we looked at the compass, the names of the directions are North, South, East and West, this was so we could find the Gruffalo and his scared friends. Then it was time for the dangerous adventure! We splished and splashed through brown, slippery mud, our wellington boots were covered in sticky mud. Finally we found the Gruffalo hiding in the dark and scary wood.

After our wonderful lunch we went out to find delicate, rainbow coloured leaves to stick on the Gruffalo’s tummy. We painted the leaves with watercolour paints. The Gruffalo looked as colourful as a rainbow.

My favourite part of the day was when we went in the crazy maze full of long and also wavy grass to find the Gruffalo’s friend, Snake. It made a swishing sound from the breezy wind. – Yasmin

Conference

Year 2 went to the London Fairtrade Conference to learn about Fairtrade chocolate. We also found out about tea, how to make a football out of recycled materials and had a workshop with two children from Ghana who spoke about why Fairtrade is important to them and their families.

“I really enjoyed making the football out of recycled newspaper. When you’re wasting rubbish you can upcycle by creating something new.” - Jeremih

“I liked touching and smelling the cocoa pod as it smelt like hot chocolate. When I shook it, it sounded like someone knocking the door” – Vehbi

Year 1 Childrens DT workshop

Year 1 children had a very exciting day last Friday when Paul the toy maker visited our classes. We met his friends Flip and a Flop and were set the challenge of making them a slide and swing to play on. We used plastic and paper straws, pipe cleaners, cardboard and paper to create the special playground equipment. It was very fiddly but was great in helping us develop our fine motor skills. We had a great day and look forward to developing more of our skills in DT!

Broadway Theatre

On Monday 10th of October, Shoreditch class had the opportunity to attend a workshop at Catford Broadway Theatre, in preparation for the Shakespeare’s Schools Festival. Whilst there, the children benefitted from learning techniques that they can use as actors in their play. The children then came back to school and have been adopting these skills in their rehearsals.

Shoreditch class will perform "The Winter's Tale" at Catford Broadway on Tuesday 22nd November from 7pm. Tickets are available from the box office @ 020 8690 1000

Shoreditch class at the workshop
**Pavement Safety !!**

Please can we remind you to wait safely at the gates in the mornings. Please walk with your child on the pavement, not into the road, and, if you’re waiting, please make sure that you leave space for others to pass.

As you know, it’s really busy out there in the mornings, and we do want to keep everyone safe.

Thanks

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**Athlete Visit**

On Tuesday the 11th October we were very excited to welcome GB 100m hurdler Serita Solomon to Rathfern. Serita and the sportivator challenged children to complete a fun and vigorous exercise circuit. It was wonderful to see everyone encouraging each other not to give up, and complete as many exercises as possible. Serita really inspired us with her personal story and motivational words in her assembly. We wish her the best of luck with her goal of competing in the Olympics.

A huge thank you for all the sponsorship money raised so far. We will publish a grand total once all donations have been collected.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

- **Head Boy** – Patrick Ladd
- **Deputy Head Boy** – Vithun Gnaneswaran
- **Head Girl** – Tiara Swaby
- **Deputy Head Girl** – Lillian Terletska

**PREFECTS:**

- Sindy Cupi, Precious Anku, Rihanna Clarke-Harvey, Jhalen Braithwaite, Zohra Darwishi & Haja Konie,

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**Secondary Transfer**

Thank you to those parents who have come and discussed their final choices for schools next year. If you have not yet submitted your application form online please ensure you do before the closing date.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 31st October 2016**

(Lewisham recommend that applications are submitted ONLINE by **Friday 21st October 2016**)

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Attendance Figures from 3rd Oct – 18th Oct 2016
Whole school attendance for 2015/16 = 97.45%

Congratulations to Marble Arch Year 2
for achieving the highest attendance.

FINES FOR LATE PICK UP
After 3.45pm there will be a fine of £5.00 for every 15 mins you are late to pick up your child/children. This will include Boosters & Activity Clubs.

DINNER MONEY DEBTS
Please note that your child will be unable to attend any club activities or the Wraparound Service until the dinner debt is cleared.

PE KITS
Please ensure your child brings in their P.E kit every Monday so your child can participate in all P.E lessons. P.E kits should go home on a Friday to be washed.
FRIENDS OF RATHFERN

The Friends of Rathfern welcomed our new reception parents with open arms and a tasty breakfast. It was a great opportunity to build relationships with parents and staff. The children really enjoyed sharing their breakfast at school with their grown-ups and friends.

The staff would like to thank Friends of Rathfern for their continued support.

Message from the Friends:

A big thank you to all those who donated cakes to sell at our end of half-term cake sale. And to the lovely Friends volunteers who made it happen. Have a great week off!

We have many events planned for next term and the more parents and carers that get involved the better the events will be! Please let us know if you can spare some time to help out. The first event will be Friday 18th November!!

Easyfundraising: Raise money for the school just by shopping online - we've raised more than £400 this way. Shop online via easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofrathfern

Find out more:
- Online at friendsofrathfern.com
- On Facebook at: facebook.com/Friendsofrathfern
- On Twitter @FriendsRathfern
- Email us at: forathfern@gmail.com Check our notice boards at school.

Music Lessons: Year 3 – 6

Violin: Trumpet: Trombone: Cello:

We have a few spaces left to learn the following instruments.

Violin: Trumpet: Trombone: Cello:

Costs for next half term are £46.00 - including instrumental hire.

There is a further concessionary rate for children eligible for FSM.

If you would like your child to take up one of these instruments please pay via parent pay.

Alternatively please request further details from Sally McPherson- Music Teacher.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2016

Thursday 20th Oct – Last day of term
Friday 21st Oct - INSET DAY – no school

Half Term 24th October – 28th October
Monday 31st October – Children return to School
Friday 4th November - Debate Club
Monday 14th November - Oxford Circus to visit HMS Belfast
Tuesday 15th November - Regent’s Park to visit HMS Belfast
Wednesday 16th November – Baker St to visit HMS Belfast
Thursday 17th November - Year 6 visit the British Museum
Friday 18th November – Year 3 visit to the British Museum
Monday 21st November – Year 6 visit to the Horniman Museum
Friday 25th November – Year 5 visit the British Museum
Tuesday 29th November – Year 1, 2 & 3 Flu Immunisations

TARGET SETTINGS - 3.45pm – 6.00pm

ALL OF SCHOOL: Tuesday 1st & Thursday 3rd November
REGENTS PARK CLASS: Wednesday 2nd November & Thursday 3rd November
NURSERY: Tuesday 1st, Thursday 3rd, Monday 7th, & Tuesday 8th November.

OPEN MORNINGS – For prospective Reception parents.

Thursdays: 3rd Nov, 17th Nov, 1st Dec.at 9.10am

CLASS ASSEMBLIES:

10th November 9.10- 9.40am South Kensington
2.45 – 3.10pm Hoxton Class
11th November 9.10 – 9.40 am Sloane Square
2.45 – 3.10pm Whitechapel Class
8th December: 2.50-3.10pm Wimbledon Park Class
9th December: 2.50- 3.10pm St James’s Park Class

CLUBS

Sunday Sport has now stopped and will resume on Sunday 6th November.
There are no after school clubs on the first week back.
They will re-start on the week beginning Monday 7th November