

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to start the new year. I have loved seeing the excited faces as children and staff have greeted each other. The enthusiasm and the smiles on each floor have been infectious. All classes have settled in quickly and the new routines have begun to be established for us all. I would like to welcome our new staff who have joined us this year. Matthew Smith in Year 5, Andre Boyce in Year 4 and Helen Stirling, our SENCo. It has been great working with them this week and getting to know them all. I am sure that you too will make them feel very welcome.

Our new Reception class have settled in well. Year 6 pupils will meet their new buddies next week. I am confident that they will develop a great relationship during the year.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Pupils,

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to welcome all our new starters, as well as those returning from the summer break.

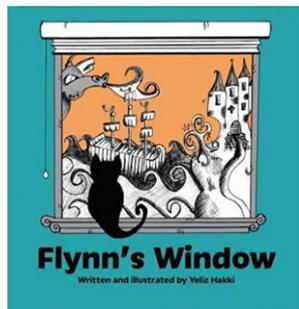
This is an exciting time for all of us at St Joseph's. Earlier this week I attended a staff inset day and was really encouraged by the enthusiasm, energy and commitment of all the staff at the school. It was great to hear about the plans for the year. Our ambition is simple: To give every child, the best possible educational experience - and this is something we strive to do every day.

At our last Governors meeting, we made it a priority to change the way we work as a Governing Body. It is important that we continuously review our own impact to ensure we maximise the success of the school. Over the next few months, we will be changing the way we operate, giving greater focus on pupil attainment and enjoyment; being a more open and inclusive governing body; and greater involvement in our local community. We will also be more visible across the school.

The Governing Body is really keen to involve parents in our school and we would very much welcome any ideas, suggestions or offers of help - no matter how big or small! Please feel free to contact me via the school reception, if you would like to meet with myself or any of the Governors or drop me an email at admin@stjps.lewisham.sch.uk

Best wishes,

George McNamara
Chair of Governors



This week, the whole school have been reading a book called Flynn's Window. We have been using this book as an inspiration for art work and our writing. The response has been great from each class and I am very much looking forward to seeing the work as the days progress.

Today, we had a very exciting visitor come in to school. Yeliz Hakki, the author and illustrator of Flynn's Window, joined us for our assembly. Yeliz shared her story, sharing with us all her original illustrations and her inspiration for writing. She is looking forward to seeing the children's work when they have completed the unit of work and our displays are up. An order form is being sent home this evening so that the children can purchase their own copy of the book signed by Yeliz.

Uniform

It has been wonderful to see so many families return to school wearing the correct uniform. Please remember that blue shirts are not part of the uniform and all pupils should be wearing the school polo-shirt. Black skirts are not school uniform and all skirts should be grey in colour.

Our new PE bags have arrived in school and it has been great to see so many families buying them so soon. The children can now bring in their PE kits on a Monday and leave them in school until Friday. Please remember that if your child (Y1-Y6) do not have their PE kit in school, they will be unable to take part in their PE lesson.

We have many new families who have joined our community this week, please do make an extra effort to speak to new parents and grandparents as they wait in the playground.

If you would like to have a paper copy of the newsletter each fortnight, please let the school office know. Thank you.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope that you have a lovely weekend and I will see you all on Monday.

What is happening next week:

Monday	Drama Club
Tuesday	Choir
Wednesday	AHOY Club (not at school site)
Thursday	Dance Club

Best Wishes

Miss Nicola Doherty (Headteacher)



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