

# NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2017



### Welcome Back

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back after the summer break. I hope you had a lovely time and a good rest. On behalf of all the staff, myself and the governors, we look forward to working with you again this academic year.



### New for this Academic Year

As a school we are always reflecting on what's working well and areas for improvement in the quality of education we provide for pupils at Vicarage. As part of that work and to ensure there is greater consistency across the school, we have made some changes which we would like to make you aware of:

As the start of the school day is 8:55am for all pupils from Reception to Year 6, the bells outside will be rung at 8:50am to signal that pupils should be making their way to their classroom for the start of their learning time. Pupils can still go to class from 8:45am where they can be doing early morning work with their class teacher.

Starting this term:

Lunch times - Years R-Yr 4 12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Years 5/6 12:15pm - 1:15pm

Home time/End of school day for all year groups - 3:15pm

Nursery morning session - 8:45am - 11:45am  
Nursery afternoon session - 12:15pm - 3:15pm

There will be Parents Evenings in the Autumn and Spring Terms this academic year. We will continue to have an Achievement Evening in the Summer Term and you will also receive the end of year school report in the Summer Term.

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If you have any queries regarding your child, the first port of call is always the class teacher. Each year group also has an Assistant Head Teacher who you can make an appointment to speak to. They are as follows;

Nursery and Reception

Miss Porritt

Years 1 and 2

Mrs Mihdi-Din

Years 3 and 4

Mrs Kodi

Years 5 and 6

Mrs Ahmed

Information regarding specific roles and responsibilities of all the staff at Vicarage Primary School, as well as the whole staff list, can be found on our school website which has recently been updated. Please do take a look. The link is [www.vicarage.newham.sch.uk](http://www.vicarage.newham.sch.uk).

### MacMillan Cancer Support Non-Uniform Day



Vicarage will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 29th September to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support. Children & staff are invited to come to school in non-uniform for a 50p donation. We will also be holding a cake sale for the children if they would like to bring in an extra 20p. Thank you for your support.



### Parental Involvement

An effective working partnership between the school and parents is a key element in the success of a child's education. I am really keen to develop the work in this area and very excited to inform you that we will be offering a number of courses for parents which will be held here at the school.

Vicarage will be hosting the Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) classes for parents and carers starting 20<sup>th</sup> September. The sessions will run from 9:00am - 11:30am.

Triple P gives you an opportunity to learn and then practice new ways to develop positive relationships between you and your child. The programme includes methods to promote good behaviour and how to handle challenging behaviour effectively. If you are interested please contact Shahina Ali (Family Support Worker) as places are limited.

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This term, the sessions covered are as follows:

- 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Parent protect
- 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 - Developing good bedtime routines
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 - Managing fighting and aggression
- 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - Dealing with challenging behaviour

I will continue to hold my monthly parents coffee mornings. They are on the last Friday of each month. The first one this term is on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 9:15am.

Our PTA is now also set up. One of the first exciting projects the PTA will be organising this term is a Diverse City Fair to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October. More information to follow.



### Parents Curriculum Meetings

We will be holding our termly curriculum meetings next week. They are an opportunity for you to meet the class teacher and find out more about the topics your child will be taught this term. Please do attend if you are able to.

| Date and Time                       | Year Groups     | Held at    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> September - 9:00am | Year 1 & Year 4 | Ennis Hall |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> September - 9:00am | Year 3 & Year 6 | Ennis Hall |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> September - 9:00am | Year 2 & Year 5 | Ennis Hall |

### Dates for your Diary



- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Back to school for pupils from Years 1-6
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September - Back to school for pupils in Reception classes
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September - Back to school for pupils in Nursery
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September - After School Clubs start
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September - Parents Coffee Morning at 9:15am
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - Last day of Term 1
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Half term break
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October - Back to school for all pupils

Mrs S Khan  
Head Teacher

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### An A-Z of School Attendance – A Guide for Parents/Carers

- A. **Appointments** – Nearly all surgeries are open late and at weekends. Please try to arrange appointments after school. If in school time please bring your appointment card into school.
- B. **Being Bullied?** – Please don't keep your child off school. There are many people at school that are trained and want to help so please speak to someone.
- C. **Casual Absence** – This means that children are being kept off school when they don't need to be. For example: to go shopping for birthday presents or clothes. Non-attendance is monitored.
- D. **Discuss** – Discuss any problems you have with a member of staff who may be able to help.
- E. **Encourage** – Encourage your child to take part in out of school hours clubs, or come to Breakfast Club. It allows them to experience new activities and meet new friends.
- F. **Friendships** – Friendships at school can stay with your child for the rest of their life. Days off school make it harder for your child to fit back into friendship groups.
- G. **Good Attendance** – This is the secret to your child's success. Good attendance is anything above 96.1%.
- H. **Happy Times** – Schools days can be the best time of your child's life. Don't let them miss out.
- I. **INSET** – These are teacher training days. Your child is not at school these days so please find out when they are. Be aware that different schools have different INSET days so don't assume these will be the same for children at different schools.
- J. **Jump for Joy!** – Celebrate your child's achievements when they are rewarded for good attendance at school.
- K. **Keep Fit** – A healthy lifestyle means a healthy mind. A nutritious breakfast will give your child the energy they need for the rest of the day. Drinking plenty of water helps concentration too!
- L. **Lateness** – Being late disrupts teaching and learning. School starts at 8:55am. Arriving early to school will set them up for the day ready to learn!
- M. **Missed Minutes** – As little as 15 minutes late every day is equal to two weeks of lost learning per academic year.
- N. **New Starters** – It is important to get children into good patterns of attendance from an early age so these can be carried through into later life.
- O. **Opportunities** – It is not all Maths, English and Science. School is about learning how to be good citizens and treating others with respect.
- P. **Praise** – Always look for the 'positives' in testing situation rather than the 'negatives'. Have a system at home to reward and praise good behaviour.
- Q. **Question** – Ask your child about rewards they may have received for good school attendance and work.

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- R. **Ring!** - Ring the school as soon as you know your child is going to be absent or late. If we have not received this information we will contact you.
- S. **SATs** - These are very important tests. Absence leading up to or during this time puts your child at a significant disadvantage.
- T. **Term Time Holidays** - Children are out of school 175 days of the year, so there are plenty of days to take a holiday. Holidays during term time can cause your child to fall behind with their progress and attainment.
- U. **Unauthorised Absence** - This means that the school won't authorise the time your child has been away from school. For example: holidays taken during term time or absences with no reasonable explanation.
- V. **Volunteer** - Help parents you know if they are struggling to get their child into school on time.
- W. **Website** - Check our website for information on diary dates holidays, school opening and closing times and information on what is going on at school at [www.vicarage.newham.sch.uk](http://www.vicarage.newham.sch.uk).
- X. **Xxxx** - Show your child love and encouragement by asking them about their school day.
- Y. **You** - You are legally responsible for ensuring your child attends school. Your child will thank you one day for encouraging them to attend and achieve good results.
- Z. **Zzzz** - Early bedtimes make for early mornings and a better start to the school day.