



# STRAND NEWS

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**NEWSLETTER – 19 Spring 2011**

**4<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

### **Welcome**

This week we welcome Aland (Green), Reda (Turquoise) and Nuredin (Nursery PM).

### **Turquoise Class Assembly**

Turquoise Class had a fantastic Great Fire of London themed assembly. All children put 100% into their performances – Well done!

### **Nursery/Reception Story Sacks Workshop**

If you are interested in helping your class build story sacks we will be holding a workshop for Nursery and Reception Classes on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February. A practitioner will brief parents on what they will need to do at home to help their child's class at school.

### **Scooting in the corridor**

Following a recent scooter accident, we must remind all children and parents that scooters and bikes must only be used outside. This rule is in place for everybody's health and safety so we would appreciate it if you could remind your children of this rule and insist that it is followed at all times.

### **Year 2 Violin Lessons**

There will be no Year 2 violin lessons this Wednesday. Violin lessons will resume the following Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Forthcoming Class Assemblies Reminder**

You are invited to join us for your class Assembly.

Lime Class	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	9.15 am
Blue Class	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9.15 am
<b>Yellow Class*</b>	<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March*</b>	<b>9.15 am*</b>
Purple Class	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.15 am

\* Please note change of date

### **Year 1 Gunnersbury Museum Trip**

Year 1 visited the Victorian kitchens at Gunnersbury Museum today and found out what it was like to be a Victorian servant. The children enjoyed dressing up as Victorian maids and footmen and finding out what homes were like in Victorian times.

### **Year 1 Places of Worship**

If you have not yet returned your permission slip for Year 1 Places of Worship trips which begin next Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, please do so by Monday morning at the latest. Without a permission slip your child will not be able to join their classes on the trips.

### **Year 2 Fire of London Workshop**

Please return your permission slips and payments as soon as possible. The Fire of London Workshop takes place next Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> February for Year 2. Although payments are optional, at the moment we have had so few donations that we may have to cancel the workshop. Please contribute if you can!

## **Chicken Pox**

Please be aware that we have had a few cases of chicken pox at school.

## **Parent Rep Meeting**

There will be a parent rep meeting with Mrs Moxam next Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> February at 9 am in the Staff Room. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

## **RNLI Fundraising**

Thank you for the donations which have continued to come in this week for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Due to low tides during school hours we have to wait until possibly next week to hand the donations over to the lifeboat men down at the riverside.

## **Car Parking**

We have been made aware of a number of cars that have been broken into in the area surrounding the school. Please be extra vigilant at drop off and pick up times and notify the police of any suspicious behaviour.

## **Absence from school**

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, we ask that you advise the school office on the first day of absence in order that the absence can be correctly recorded, please update the school office every 3-4 days or if the absence continues into a second week. Schools are expected to report certain illnesses at certain times of the year. If you know in advance that your child will be off we would ask you to please put this in writing. Even if you have mentioned the reasons to one of the teaching staff, please also advise the office as this will avoid the office having to make unnecessary phone calls. Unfortunately it is not always possible for the office staff to pass reasons on to Class staff as absence numbers can at times be high.

## **Late Register**

If you arrive at the school after 8.55 am please sign your child in to the Late Book next to the school office. Your child is considered late if they arrive after their class has left the playground for their classroom. Registers are taken first thing in the morning in class electronically and then cannot be amended by the class teacher. The Register and Late Book are the school's record of who is at school and needs to be accurate in case of emergency or evacuation.

## **School Drop Off in the mornings**

Please make sure that your child is accompanied at all times and handed over to the class teacher or teaching assistant after the bell each morning. Under no circumstances should children be left on the school premises unaccompanied by a parent or carer.

## **Second Hand Uniform Sale**

Please continue to bring in clean good quality second hand uniform for our next sale which will be after school on the first Friday after February half term.

## **Junior News -**

### **Junior Parents' Questionnaires responses**

After some delay we have finally crunched the numbers and the results are overwhelmingly positive with almost all responses being in the strongly agree or agree category. The full breakdown of the questionnaires is shown below:-

	% Agree or Strongly agree	1	2	3	4	5
Communication systems are effective (particularly Newsletter)	<b>99</b>	113	22	0	1	0
Transition to the new year group/ Juniors has been successful	<b>100</b>	117	19	0	0	0
My child is happy at school	<b>99</b>	121	14	1	0	0

My child is doing well	<b>98</b>	117	16	3	0	0
I am informed about my child's progress	<b>97</b>	120	12	1	1	0
I am informed about how my child needs to improve	<b>100</b>	115	12	0	0	0

It is great to know that so many of you are pleased with Strand Juniors, feel informed about the progress your child is making and feel confident about where they need to go next with their learning. There were some great comments in the 'What's going well' section with lots of parents mentioning the 'challenging but enjoyable learning' which their children enjoyed greatly and 'teachers who really know our children' being the most popular response. In terms of what we need to do better, there were lots of great suggestions many of which are already priorities for us, such as more things to do at lunchtimes and making sure that everyone gets enough time to eat their lunch, even if they have to dash off to a club. Look out for more details in the coming months.

### **Friends of Strand Bingo & Curry Night**

The first Friends event of 2011 will be a curry and bingo night next Friday 11 February at 7.30. This was a new event for the Friends last year and much fun was had by all. Tickets are on sale by the school offices now, priced at £7, which includes entry to the event, curry, and four games of bingo led by our in-house caller, Sue Harrison (aka the Junior head!). Additional bingo cards will be on sale on the night. There will also be a cash bar, a raffle, and a few special prizes up for auction.

Please book a baby sitter, buy a ticket, and come and join in the fun!

### **Friends of Strand Pantomime**

Friends of Strand have managed to secure sponsorship for this year's pantomime from one of the local estate agents. They will put boards up outside parents' houses to advertise the event, and to give themselves some publicity, and they will pay us for each board. It is a very easy way for us to earn money and to publicise our events around the local area. Boards will go up 2 weeks before pantomime week (week beginning 21 March) and will come down shortly thereafter. If you have not signed up already for a board or want more information please contact Eileen at [eileendunne@btconnect.com](mailto:eileendunne@btconnect.com) or ring 07930 372 941.

### **Friends Coffee Mornings**

Friends coffee mornings continue every Tuesday after drop off, in the Community Room in the Junior playground. These are not formal meetings, but a chance for a chat and a drink. You are very welcome to bring younger siblings with you.

### **Strand Toddler Playgroup**

Each Monday morning in term time (9am - 11am) parents can meet for a coffee and a chat (including a discussion on the possibility of setting up a crèche) whilst their toddlers play in the Community Room in the Junior Playground. The charge is £1 to cover the cost of refreshments.

## **\*\*\* KS1 STAR AWARDS\*\*\***

**This week everyone is a Star for their best effort and good work!**

**Remember 8.56 am is LATE for school!**