



# STRAND NEWS

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**NEWSLETTER – 3 Autumn Term 2010**

**24<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

### **Reception stay to Lunch**

Congratulations to Reception children who have stayed to lunch this week and enjoyed their first lunchtimes. Classteachers and support staff have worked closely with midday teachers to make this such a positive experience and we look forward to children attending full time from next week.

### **Nursery Playday**

We were delighted to welcome many new and familiar faces to our Nursery playday this week. Children are making a graduated start (in small groups) and we look forward to getting to know them all.

### **Harvest**

We have introduced our Harvest campaign to the children this week. We are asking Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children to collect tins/ non perishable food in the brown paper bags that have been distributed. The donations will be taken to The Upper Room, a shelter that provides up to 500 meals a day for homeless people in West London. Suitable food could include tins of tomatoes, baked beans, tuna, soup or other canned goods.

### **Year 1 and Red Class Entrance**

Thank you for your support and patience in our new entrance arrangements when Purple, Yellow, Blue and Red all enter through the new 'toilet' entrance. This is working really well and we appreciate parents and carers saying Goodbye in the line. This keeps the corridor and stairwell uncongested and safe for children arriving in the morning.

### **Healthy Week**

Next week is healthy week and children should have brought home information about this. They have a healthy passport to fill in every time they do something healthy. The sponsorship money will go towards 'Healthy School' initiatives throughout the year. Please remember to pay for the ALife workshop.

### **Dietary Requirements**

We would like to remind parents that our school meal providers do not serve Pork or Beef at lunchtimes. However, we would also like to remind you that the meat they do serve is not Halal meat. Therefore if your child only eats Halal meat we would ask that you confirm this in writing as soon as possible so that their school records can be updated and they will be offered the Vegetarian or Fish meal option.

We would also like to remind parents who send in packed lunches that we operate a strict **NO NUTS** policy. (This includes Peanut Butter and Nutella.)

### **KS1 African Drama Workshop**

If you have not yet done so, please return your African Drama Workshop slips and donations to the school office in a sealed marked envelope. If we do not receive sufficient contributions to cover the cost of this event, we may not be able to go ahead with it.

## Expectations and Curriculum Information Meetings for Parent/Carers

Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to attend the Year 1 and Year 2 Curriculum meetings this week. We hope they were helpful.

We are extremely keen for Year 1 and Year 2 parents/ carers to attend the expectations meetings next week. These meetings will be led by Miss Bradburn, Miss Purser and Mrs Bevan/Mrs Dwyer. We will be sharing examples of work and the types of task that your child should be able to do in Reading, Writing and Maths by the end of the year.

Year 1 Expectations Meeting	Weds 29 <sup>th</sup> September 9.10am
Year 2 Expectations Meeting	Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> September 9.10am

We are also looking forward to welcoming Reception parents next week to the following meeting:

Reception Speaking and Listening , Reading & Writing Meeting	9.10am – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October
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## Punctuality and Wake Up Shake Up

We will continue to monitor punctuality closely in the mornings. Miss Bradburn and Miss Purser will be resuming checks on arrival times in the morning. The start of the day is essential as it settles your child well for the day ahead. Also please remember that every class will start their day with whole class teacher led sessions and if your child misses this they will find it much more difficult to understand and access the rest of the following lesson. Wake Up Shake Up exercise sessions continue every Friday at 8.45am just before the start of school. Please come early and join in with the children.

## Contact Details

Can parents and carers please make sure they update the office if any of their contact details have changed over the Summer. We have run into a few problems when a child has become sick and the contact details that we have on file have been wrong because the parents or carers have forgotten to inform the school of any changes.

## Payments to the School Office

When you are making payments to the school office for dinner money, school trips, milk money, clubs or for any other reason **please ensure that the correct money is placed in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and what the money is for. Please place it in the black post box inside the main entrance.** With the wide variety of payments being taken it is increasingly difficult when money is handed in loose and parents are asking for change.

## Junior News - Celebrating ex Strandites Achievements

Yesterday Mrs Harrison attended a prize giving at Laytmer where four ex pupils received prizes for excellence. Congratulations go to Carina Eynaud, Antony Lam Marsden and Ethan Verrall (who is off to Cambridge to read English) and to Eleanor Holderness who won a prize for maths.

It is always good to hear of ex Strandites who have gone on to great things and this year we have lots to celebrate. Lin Chi Nuygen is spending the next three years at the Conservatoire de Paris studying music. We wish her well and are sure that the sound grounding they received at Strand will stand them in good stead.

Another Strandite will hopefully be achieving success of a different nature in the coming weeks as the X Factor competition heats up. Paije Richardson has made it through the auditions and so we will all be rooting for him.

### 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.

### Water Bottles

We do encourage children to bring their own water bottle to school every day. Classteachers ask children to pick up their water bottle at the end of each day (to refill at home). Please check your child has their water bottle on exiting the class.

### Friends of Strand – An Urgent Plea for Help

As yet no one has come forward to take on the role of the Chair of the Friends of Strand. The Friends play an invaluable role in the life of Strand with over £24k raised last year; the Christmas Fair made £10.5k alone. The passing of the school year is marked by the annual events the Friends organise and families plan their diaries around them. No one as yet has come forward to take on the role of Chair and without a chair in place these events are in jeopardy. Currently only the Fireworks Night will go ahead and probably the panto. **It will not be possible to run the other events including the Christmas and Summer Fairs both big fund-raisers for Strand.** If anyone is thinking of taking on the role as an individual, or if a group of you have talked about it, please come forward. A group of people sharing out the role of Chair would make it more manageable, or the role could be split between the two fairs with one person taking responsibility for each fair. If you are interested then please approach the Heads. The role is very rewarding and requires no special skills – just a little time. All our children have benefited from the funds the Friends raise – if you feel you could give something back now is the time.

### Shoe Boxes

Please save your shoe boxes (from your new school shoes) for a special charity project starting soon. Watch this space!

### 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.

### Grove Park Playgroup 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

25<sup>th</sup> September 2010 **TOMORROW**

12-3pm at Isis rooms, St Paul's Church, Grove Park Road

Admission £1 for adults, children free

[www.groveparkplaygroup.org](http://www.groveparkplaygroup.org)

Calling all parents, staff and children that have helped make Grove Park playgroup special for 40 years ... We are commemorating our lengthy and fascinating history with a 70's themed anniversary event – all welcome. The event will be opened by last year's mayor Cllr Paul Lynch. There will be a raffle, children's entertainment (including The Little Gym and Talking Tots), light refreshments and cakes. Come along, meet old friends, bring your memories and photos.

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

**Lime:** Nicholas, Juliette, Charlie

**Pink:** Lily, Bobby, Tara

**Turquoise:** Cleo, Selene, Ella, Flora

**Purple:** Zaid, Alveena, Dominic

**Yellow:** Jasmine, Olivia, Oscar

**Blue:** Seth, Oliver, Saffron

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