



THE SOHO SCOOP

News and Views from Soho Parish



Headline

Happy new year and welcome back to all our families. The children seem so happy and motivated to be back, it's been a delightful start to the term. This week we have been thinking about our new year's resolutions... and how easy they are to break! We've been talking about how a broken resolution doesn't mean a permanent failure, it's just a new opportunity to try again. After all, making mistakes is how we learn.

Last term we said goodbye to one of our parent governors, Michael Babb, whose term of office has ended. Michael has been an invaluable member of the team, through his input into IT learning, fundraising and through the many other unseen ways in which our governors support the school. A full letter will follow shortly, but please take this as a 'head's up' that we will be looking for a new parent governor this term. If you would like to know more about what this important role entails, Dave Holmes (our serving parent governor), Michael himself or I will be very happy to meet with you.

On a less happy note, this week our attendance has fallen below 95% for the first time this year. It is important that children attend school every day they are well enough to do so. Please help us to give your child the education they deserve by keeping your holidays constrained to the school holidays.

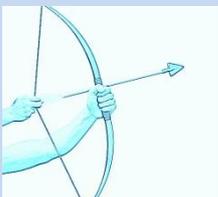
Louise

Spring term projects



Last term we were incredibly impressed by the high calibre of projects we received based on the topics being taught. The finished results reflected the individuality and creativity of each child (and their family!) By the end of this week your child should have a project planning sheet to fill in, which they will explain what and how they are going to research their topic over the next 4 weeks. All teachers have given guidelines or suggestions to help you. Please return these next week at the latest.

House Winners Autumn 2017



We are pleased to announce that Archer won overall in house points last term. Archer house will be treated to a trip to a local coffee shop for a hot chocolate and then a visit to Waterstones to choose a book to keep. Well done! Archer.

Physical Education at Soho Parish (P.E)

I am sure you agree with us by valuing the importance of your child's physical health. At Soho Parish in order to try and counteract the rise in child obesity (40% of children in Westminster are considered overweight or obese by Year 6 -age11) we ensure that alongside free play at break and lunch times; we have 2 hours of directed physical lessons.



We enjoy being active in school and our staff make this time fun by teaching team games, aerobics, circuits, and parachute games- not to mention taking part in new sports like hockey or basketball. If your child is in Year 3 or 4 they are fortunate to be able to access swimming at the YMCA weekly which will begin again next Friday (12th)



As you can imagine with all the physical activity taking place, the children are getting sweaty and therefore it is incredibly important for them to have a change of kit on their peg. This is not only good for their hygiene but also promotes independent changing skills.

The kit should include a t-shirt and shorts/leggings. This should remain on the peg and be returned termly.

We are aware that at times kits are left at home so we will be purchasing spare P.E and Swimming kits to ensure your child can join in with all physical activity provided.

If there is a reason why your child can't join in with physical activities or attend swimming then please let your class teacher know in advance. Our school policy states that if a child is well enough to be in school then they should be taking part in all learning, including P.E and swimming.

Workshops for Parents:

The Importance of Play and Sleep in Child Development

In this one hour workshop on the 11th January at 9.15 in the BBHall we will discuss the importance of play and sleep in child development. Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination and is essential to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children. It is through play that children at a very early age engage and interact in the world around them. We will also look at the importance of sleep, as evidence shows that night time sleep is just as important as healthy eating and exercise for children to develop. This session will be led by Alex Haswell, an educational psychologist who works closely with the school.



Phonic and Writing workshop

Steven and Rosie will be running a phonic and handwriting workshop on Wednesday 24th January at 9am upstairs in the white hall. This is aimed at our Reception parents and any parents in Year 1 who would like a refresher. They will demonstrate how phonics is taught at Soho Parish and how through this your child will become a happy and successful reader and writer.





January

3 rd January 2018	<i>School Re-opens</i>
10 th January 2018	<i>Diversity workshops</i>
10 th January 2018	Year 6 Westminster Junior Citizenship Scheme
11 th January 2018	'Importance of play & sleep' workshop 9.15 a.m.
12 th January 2018	Yr 4 Cake Sale
18 th January 2018	Yr 3 Trip to the Transport Museum
18 th January 2018	Yr 4 Trip to Mandir
21 st January 2018	Phonic Workshop – 9.00 a.m.
25 th January 2018	Yr 3 Class Assembly
31 st January 2018	Reception Trip to Natural History Museum

February

1 st February 2018	Yr 4 Class Assembly
2 nd February 2018	Yr 4 Trip to British Museum
2 nd February 2018	Yr 3 <i>Cake Sale</i>
9 th February 2018	School Music Concert 2p.m
9 th February 2018	<i>School closes for half term</i>
26 th February 2018	<i>Book Week</i>

Additional Dates

Feb/March 2018	PSA AGM - TBC
5 th - 9 th March 2018	Yr 5 & 6 Magdalen Residential Trip
15 th March 2018	Yr 5 & 6 Class Assembly
16 th March 2018	Yr 2 Cake Sale
20 th March 2018	Yr 1&2 Class Assembly
22 nd March 2018	Parent-Teacher Meetings
4 th May 2018	Yr 1 Cake Sale
18 th May 2018	Reception Cake Sale
29 th June 2018	Yr 6 Cake Sale

Please check these dates every newsletter as they may change.