



THE SOHO SCOOP

News and Views from Soho Parish



Welcome back

We hope that all of our families had a good holiday. It was lovely to see all the children rushing back into school today. They were so alert and ready to learn this morning, so it seems they are very well-rested. Over the summer holidays, we have had much of our lighting replaced, which will certainly impact positively on our learning. We also had a new alarm system installed. As always, I would like to thank Paul Yusuf, our wonderful Caretaker, for his hard work over the summer making sure the building is ready for the children and staff at the start of term.

Other staff members who have been busy over the holidays include our new Head Chef, Amy (see letter overleaf) and Krystina, who is now our 'Chef de Partie'. They have cleaned the kitchen to a shine and prepared some delicious menus. I was fortunate enough to have been treated to the 'test samples' of freshly baked focaccia and pitta bread over the holidays and I am looking forward to the next year of healthy, delicious food. Amy has come to us directly from working as a chef in restaurants, but her previous role was Assistant Headteacher in an east London secondary school. She is well-suited to both the cooking and teaching aspects of her role and we are very fortunate to have her on board.



The Year 6 classroom looks a little different this year, as Robyn has created a wonderful 'flexible learning' space, in which children can choose the type of 'work station' which best suits their learning style – standing, sitting, reclining, working in groups, pairs or solo. Pictures will follow shortly – please follow us on instagram, twitter and facebook for a first look.

As you will remember, we consulted children, parents, staff and governors last year to renew our **school vision and values**. I attach these to this letter and hope you feel as motivated by them as I do. We 'launched' the new vision in assembly this morning and the children gave some very thoughtful comments as to what 'life in all its fullness' means to them.

Louise

Term Dates

Term dates for 2019-20 are attached and can also be found on the website.

Start of term meeting

As usual we will hold an information meeting for parents. This will take place next **Monday, 9th September, at 9.15am** in the BB Hall. I look forward to seeing many of you there. Following this, each class teacher will hold a welcome meeting for new parents. Do please make every effort to attend, as the teacher will run through the curriculum for the term, key dates and share how they work with parents to best support the children's learning.

Chef's introduction

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Head Chef at Soho Parish Primary. The school has teamed up with the charity 'Chefs in Schools' (<https://www.chefsinschools.org.uk>), who launched in 2018 to transform meals in primary schools. Their philosophy and motto is "better is possible" and we certainly believe that this is the case at Soho Parish. We want your children to be eating the best school meals, with the freshest ingredients and for them to develop a better understanding of what it is to eat a good balanced diet. My full role is 'Head Chef and Food Educator' and I will be working with teachers inside and outside of the classroom to educate pupils about food and most importantly to instil in them a love of food, cooking and eating well. I am pleased to be working with Krystina and Hana who are looking forward to the bread baking, dessert making and exciting menu planning that we have in store this term and for the new school year - it's going to be an exciting (and tasty) one.

Attached you will find the menus for this half term; there are some familiar favourites as well as some new dishes to try out, but our main focus is on making sure that all of these meals are made from scratch using fresh and seasonal ingredients. As seasonality and sustainability are two of our key priorities, the menu is subject to change as we will be using suppliers who will ensure we have the freshest and best priced produce on a daily basis.

We have plans to continue with our Cart at the end of the day; this will not start immediately but will be back up and running soon and we will keep you informed of when this will start. Over the course of the half term we will be welcoming feedback from the pupils and from you regarding the school menu as we want every Soho Parish pupil to be eating homemade delicious food that they enjoy every day.

I will be available to meet with parents at the welcome meeting on Monday 9th September and will attend the PTA meetings on Fridays, as well as being contactable on the following email address: chef@sohoparish.co.uk

I look forward to the exciting times that lie ahead and to meeting you and your children.

Amy Taylor, Head Chef

Attendance

From this term we ask parents to ensure they notify us in writing of any absence. If you know in advance that your child will be absent you need to complete a form at the office. If your child is off school due to ill health please ensure we have the reason in writing on the first day back following your phone call on the first day of illness. You can do this through the parentmail app, via email or by sending a letter in with your child when they return to school. Further information on absence procedures will follow in the parent booklet, which should be available at the end of this week.

P.E. kits and water bottles

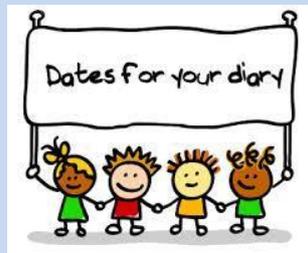
Please remember to provide your child with a P.E. kit and a water bottle. Both should be taken home on a Friday to be cleaned. P.E. kit may require more frequent washing for older children and it is recommended that water bottles are taken home each day, but weekly at the very least. Children who do not change for P.E. will not be able to take part in the lesson, as this is an important aspect of personal hygiene. Spare P.E. kits are kept for this reason, but should not be relied upon.

Club payments

If your child is taking part in any clubs this term, payments are due this week. You must make payment in full in order to reserve your child's place. Please see James if you have any queries. Play club and breakfast club start this week and extra-curricular clubs start on Monday 9th September. Remember if you wish to use play club this week, you will need to book in, as it is often over-subscribed in the first and last week of any long term. The clubs list is attached. The cost for breakfast club remains at £3.50 per day and all other clubs are £5.00 per hour. Choir is still free, but you must book in as though you are making a payment on parentmail. You will not be charged.

Lunch payments Year 3-6

Please make sure you pay for lunch for this term in advance. Y3 parents will need to pay for school lunches as these are only covered up to Year 2 by the Universal School Meals grant. The cost is still £2.20 per day. This can be paid in advance weekly, half-termly or termly in parentmail. Please go to 'payments' and click 'shop', then scroll down to the bottom, where you will find 'school meals'. You can make any payment to decrease your balance. We ask all children to try school lunch this term. We continue to run our catering service at a cost to the school, so that we can employ a chef and provide excellent, home-cooked food. If all children had school lunches, and paid for them, we would break even. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please see James in the office.



September

Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon 9 th	9.15	Start of year meeting (all parents welcome)	BB Hall
Tue 10 th	9.00	Year 5 'meet the teacher'	BB Hall
Wed 11 th	9.00	Year 4 'meet the teacher' 9.05 BB Hall	BB Hall
Thu 12 th	9.00	Year 6 'meet the teacher'	BB Hall
Mon 16 th	9.00	Year 1 'meet the teacher'	BB Hall
Tue 17 th	9.00	Year 3 'meet the teacher'	BB Hall
		First day for new reception pupils	
		Fitness testing Key Stage 1	
Wed 18 th		Fitness testing Key Stage 2	
Thu 19 th	9.00	Year 2 'meet the teacher'	BB Hall

October

Date	Time	Event	Location
Wed 1st		Year 6 Young Sports Leaders training	
Mon 7 th – Fri 11 th		Year 6 Residential (Hindleap Warren)	
Tue 15 th	14.15	Harvest Festival	St James' Piccadilly
Thu 31 st	17.00-19.00	School Disco	

November

Date	Time	Event	Location
Wed 20 th	13.30-18.30	Parent teacher meetings	BB Hall
Mon 25 th – Fri 30 th		Art Week	

December

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tue 10 th	11.30-14.30	Christmas lunch	BB Hall
Wed 11 th		Reception Christmas Show	BB Hall
Thu 12 th	14.00	Nativity (Year 1 and 2)	BB Hall
Mon 16 th	14.15	Christmas Service	St James' Piccadilly
Tue 17 th	13.30	End of term (school finishes at 13.30)	

Please check these dates every newsletter as they may change.