



# THE SOHO SCOOP

News and Views from Soho Parish



## Headline

The new term has started well, with children, staff attendance high, and health good. Long may it last! As we head into lockdown, we are delighted that we are able to keep our doors open and maintain 'physical' schooling.

## Thank you Soho Parish Staff

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, who are all working so hard to keep the children learning and safe. Yesterday lunchtime I walked around the school, noting that teachers were busy spraying and wiping all desks and surfaces after a long morning of teaching. Support staff have been stepping up to cover teachers so that we do not bring in supply and increase potential contamination routes (we had our first supply teacher today since last March!).



All the staff have taken on additional responsibilities that are certainly not in their job description. Breaks are shorter, hours longer (with physical and virtual teaching to plan and prepare) and teams more isolated. And the 'pay-off' for all this hard work? Children are happy, healthy and learning.

If you would like to drop in a note of thanks or send an email, it would really help to maintain staff morale in this most challenging of times.

*Louise*

## Parent Teacher Meetings

We look forward to holding virtual parent teacher meetings this term via 'Google Meet'. You will receive more information on this shortly. It will be necessary for parents joining these meetings to do so using a google account. Don't worry if you don't have one: you can use your child's.



## Google classroom

We now have 85% of families signed up and using google classroom. If you are still experiencing difficulty accessing the platform, please contact your child's class teacher. While we fervently hope schools will not close, in this uncertain time we must prepare for all eventualities. Children should all be completing their homework using the platform so it is important we know if you are having any trouble.



## Keeping our community safe – please note changes to collection / drop off arrangements

Given the seriousness of the Covid situation nationally and locally, it is incumbent on us all to do all we can to keep ourselves and others safe.

We are now asking everyone to strictly adhere to the protective measures laid out by the school and to reduce transmission as much as possible to keep our families and staff safe.

Please note there are a number of vulnerable staff who come in each day to help meet the needs of your children. It is always our aim to keep classes open, but we cannot do so if there is any transmission in a class bubble.



Please ensure the following

- If your child is unwell in any way, please keep her or him at home until she or he is completely better. If she or he has been vomiting or has had diarrhoea, then she or he should remain at home for 48 hours after the symptoms have disappeared.
- If anyone in your family has any Covid-19 symptoms (fever, coughing, loss of taste or smell) then seek a test **ASAP** and inform the school **immediately**. Your child must isolate for the 14-day period *even if a test result comes back negative*.
- Dress children warmly as we have to keep windows and doors open to ventilate all classrooms.
- Ensure children wash their hands as soon as they arrive home each day and ideally wash clothes regularly too.
- Do not send your child in with any bags or equipment other than what is absolutely essential for school. Every item must be named or else, if lost, it will be disposed of.
- **Drop off and collection** - this is a crucial time when there are lots of people arriving at the school grounds. Face masks must be worn by all parents at drop off and collection, unless you are exempt for medical reasons. A 2 metre social distance must be maintained between all adults not in the same household, at all times. Please do not come within 2 metres of any staff member at these times and do not approach staff to discuss any matters no matter how small - all communication is via the school office.
- **Please use the markings to queue and queue on the side of the door indicated for your child's class.** If your child's class is the third class to enter by either gate, you should wait across the road until your appointed time to join the queue. If staff at the Great Windmill Street gate can get children who arrive early in earlier, they will, but this will be at their discretion, depending on whether the route is clear.

- It is essential that children are dropped off and collected at the correct times. Please ensure that you do not approach gates or block others' pathways until the correct time. Please disperse quickly at these times.

**Great Windmill Street**

QUEUE ON LEFT	QUEUE ON RIGHT
8.45 Year 6	8.50 Year 5
8.55 Reception	

**Archer Street (Red Door)**

QUEUE ON LEFT	QUEUE ON RIGHT
8.45 Year 3	8.50 Year 2
8.55 Year 1	

**Fire Exit**

QUEUE ON RIGHT
8.50 Year 4

We are very grateful for all your support in these challenging times. If we all work hard together to reduce transmission hopefully the school will be able to remain fully open and we will have no incidents of serious illness.



**Informing the school of covid symptoms / test / self-isolation**

Please report all cases of covid, symptoms or other information regarding health to [office@sohoparish.co.uk](mailto:office@sohoparish.co.uk) There is no need to copy in any other member of staff.

Upon receiving your email, James will inform the senior leadership team and class staff as appropriate. He will then respond to you.

**Are you a professional or enthusiastic amateur video editor?**

We are very fortunate to have two parents making a 'virtual tour' video for us, so that prospective parents can see the school without visiting in person. We need someone with video editing skills and software to put together the finished product. If you are interested in this, please contact Louise. Applications for new reception places have to be in by January 15th, so there is an element of urgency.



## Harvest Collection

Thank you to our families and friends for your generous donations for our Harvest collection for North Paddington Food Bank. And thank you to Storm Flowers London for all your help and providing us with the van!



## A Harvest Prayer

May we who are losing money in the tumult of the economic market,  
Remember those who have none to lose.

May we who settle in for self-isolation at home, Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose LOVE.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace

Of God to our neighbours.

Amen





## Lunch Payments

Please can you make sure to make prompt payments for lunch for this term and especially those that are outstanding for last term (there are still a few). Amy and the team continue to provide lovely nutritional meals each day and we still need to buy all the ingredients!

## Community Healthcare Trust

The CLCH oral health team are providing online advice sessions for parents/carers on children's oral health via MS Teams or telephone. If you are interested please book an appointment via [clcht.ohp@nhs.net](mailto:clcht.ohp@nhs.net)

## Parent's oral health workshop

Oral health workshops to support families who have children in schools and children centres are also available. Topics include; Toothbrushing, diet, visiting the dentist and dental emergency. Do click the links below to join the workshops.

- Friday 13th November 2020, 10am - 11am

[Click here to join](#)

Tuesday 17th November 2020, 10am - 11am

[Click here to join](#)

Monday 23rd November 2020, 10am - 11am

[Click here to join](#)



## Congratulations

Allow us to share with you two pieces of wonderful news that have brought a smile to the faces of all our staff. Despite great adversity, Ezgi Kaya teaching assistant in Y5 has tied the knot with her ~~partner~~-husband Huseyin during half term, with 4 close family members in attendance. A bigger celebration is planned when it is safe to do so.

We are delighted to announce that Hannah Peaty, senior leader became engaged to her partner Matthew from the top of Tintagel (King Arthurs fabled castle in Cornwall). Although the wedding will not be able to take place for some time we wish them joy in their engagement.



## Creative Collective Westminster 2020

Westminster Council want to share and celebrate creativity across the borough by hosting a series of events celebrating the art and creativity of Westminster's brilliant young people.

This project will acknowledge that while we have all been experiencing the global events of 2020, the impact upon each of us has been quite different.

The intention is to:

- give voice to children and young people's different experiences and emotions
- be an opportunity to share and express views from each individual's perspectives
- foster empathy and insight into the world of others
- nurture greater tolerance and understanding

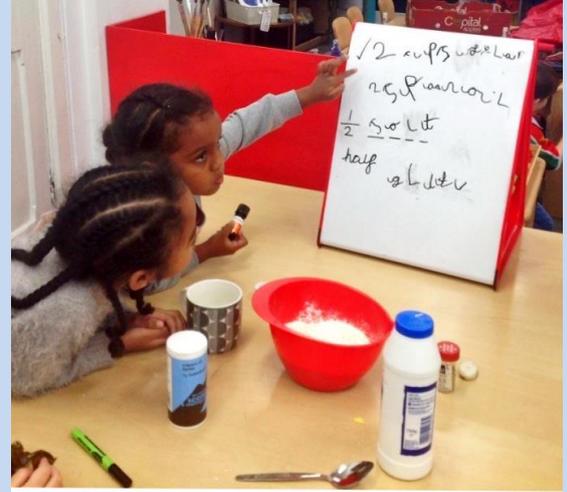
Westminster are looking for original works from young artists. This could include sound pieces, photographs, songs, short films, poems, paintings, drawings or digital work. They aim to create a digital gallery however selected work will also be displayed in library gallery spaces across Westminster.

Click [Here](#) for more information or to submit your entries by 27 November 2020.

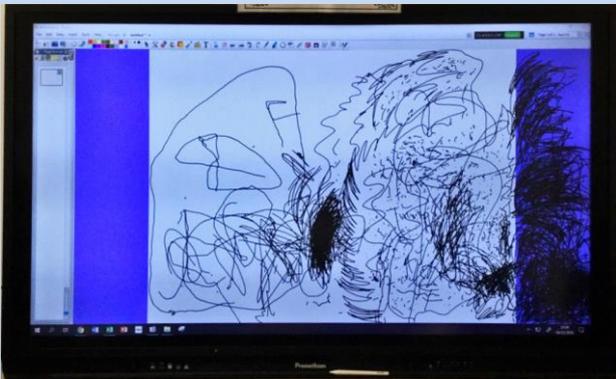


## Learning from Reception

This week, it's been another jam-packed, fun-filled adventure in Reception! We have enjoyed making different concoctions of glittery, scented playdoh and transforming it into cookies, cakes and creatures! We also applied our learning in maths to play a game comparing who had 'more', 'fewer' or 'equal' amounts using our playdoh creations and other objects.



Some children used a drawing they made of a monster in a storm as a stimulus for story telling. As a group, they invented an exciting tale of a monster awakening from the sea and causing a thundery storm, which they performed using musical instruments to imitate the sounds of the thunderstorm.



After demonstrating an interest in postal deliveries, some other children constructed a post box for our classroom, which even includes the day and time for collection. Full of enthusiasm, we have been drawing pictures or writing letters to our families and posting them through the postbox. We hope they are as proud of our writing as we are!

We are looking forward to learning more and Growing our brains this term, so watch this space!