

Friendly Reminders

Absence Procedure:

A reminder that, as per our Attendance Policy, if a child is absent for more than three days, parents/carers must provide the school with a GP note explaining the absence.

We will also request medical evidence eg. a GP letter, medical appointment card or label from prescription medication for each absence if a pupil has frequent absences, or where attendance is 90% or below.

As always, we will work with parents where their child has frequent absence, referring to the school nursing service as necessary.

The school will refer children whose attendance is 90% or below ('persistent absentees') to the Local Authority.

Covid Procedure

There are no changes to our procedure for children with covid symptoms. **Any adult or child showing symptoms of covid must take a PCR test (not a 'home' lateral flow / antigen test) and receive a negative result before returning to school.** Please see attached letter for full information regarding the symptoms of concern and advice for 'close contacts'.

School Lunches

A reminder that payment for school meals are required in advance and the cost for this term is

£87.50. We have a

number of outstanding payments that amount to £3,000 already. We pride ourselves on having our own 'in house' Chef Amy who provides our children with freshly made, nutritious meals every day. We need to pay for all the fresh food upfront and we need the payments from everyone to keep us afloat. The catering runs on a non-profit basis (in fact we need to fundraise to cover all the costs) but we feel it is a vital resource for all our children and something we are very proud of at Soho Parish.

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals and/or are experiencing any kind of financial difficulty please come and talk to us in the office and we will be happy to help.

You can make a payment on Parentmail or by cash, cheque or card in the office.



Diary Dates

Friday 22nd October – Last day of term

Sunday 31st October – St James' Church Triumph of Delights festival

<https://sjp.churchsuite.com/events/0llo1zos>

Monday 1st November – First day of term

Tuesday 2nd November – Harvest Festival

Children are welcome to bring in donations with them to St James' – please see the foodbank needs attached to the email

Monday 8th November, 5pm – Christmas light switch on event

Thursday 11th November, 10am – Behaviour workshop (Click the link to join)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85723342127>

W/C Monday 15th October – Friendship week

Wednesday 15th December – Christmas lunch

Friday 17th December – Last day of term

Alexander Haswell, Educational and Child psychologist (Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea Educational Psychology Consultation Service) and Mayowa will be hosting a Q+A for parents of children at Soho Parish over video on

Tuesday 23rd November at 9:30.

This is a chance for you to ask any questions or share any concerns you have about your child / children (sleep, behaviour, learning, etc). Please use the Zoom invite to virtually come along and join us at this workshop!



<https://zoom.us/j/94162575093?pwd=YU1wQVVvUDhrSG44UGowUFIZS2ZoQT09>

Meeting ID: 941 6257 5093

Passcode: wd3Ues



Westminster City Hall,
64 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6QP

October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

We are pleased to welcome back pupils after the summer and to return to a bit more normality.

We all know coronavirus hasn't gone away, and that we must learn to live alongside it as safely as possible.

We know that many of you will have questions about the latest COVID-19 advice, and testing and vaccination. As we head into the Autumn term, we hope the below provides some additional clarification and guidance.

Advice for close contacts

As of 16 August, you are no longer required to self-isolate if you are notified that you have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

NHS Test and Trace will instead advise you or your child to get a PCR test. There is no need to self-isolate whilst the PCR test is pending, unless you or your child develops symptoms.

Children aged 4 and under will *not* be advised to take a test unless the positive case was someone in their own household.

As well as getting a PCR test, close contacts may also consider:

- limiting close contact with people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
- wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces and where you are unable to maintain social distancing
- limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable

This advice applies until 10 full days after your most recent contact with the person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

DELTA variant symptoms

Last term, Public Health wrote to schools about the Delta variant displaying a wider symptoms picture, presenting often like "colds" and not always the three more common COVID-19



symptoms. This is especially important as the Delta Variant is now the dominant strain in the UK. We would like to ask for the continued approach to taking a low threshold to colds and winter illnesses. Accessing PCR tests is now easier: you can now answer "no" to the 3 key COVID-19 symptoms and still get a test.

The wider symptom picture is seen for both adults and children so please do continue to be cautious and get tested.

12-15 year olds vaccine

This autumn, all children aged 12 to 15 years are being offered one dose of the COVID-19 vaccination.

The vaccine programme for 12 to 15 year olds will take place primarily through schools. Children who are unable to receive the vaccination at school will be followed up with an offer via their GP. A consent form and information leaflet will be used to seek parental consent in the first instance.

Very few healthy children and young people with COVID-19 go on to have severe disease, but offering vaccination to 12 to 15 year olds should help to reduce the risk of complications, time out of education, and the spread of COVID-19 within schools.

Children will be offered the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, which is the vaccine approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) for children and young people over 12 years of age. This follows a thorough review of the safety, quality and effectiveness of the vaccine in this age group.

We are working closely with the NHS and local authority on vaccinations for our 12-15 year old pupils, and we will be in touch with more information shortly.

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing

Testing remains vital to catching cases quickly and limiting transmission of COVID-19.

If you are a member of a household of a primary school child, it is recommended to take a twice weekly lateral flow device test. Primary school children do not need to do regular LFD testing.

For secondary aged pupils twice a week testing is advised via a lateral flow device.

Please visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) to watch a video demonstrating how to do a lateral flow test at home.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Yours faithfully,

Anna Raleigh
Director of Public Health

From The PTA

- **Friday Coffee Morning**

- Please join us Every Friday just after drop-off at Hideaway Coffee, 7 Smiths Ct. (opposite the school's main gate) for a chance to meet other parents & carers and chat about school, raising children, and anything else that comes up.



There is no obligation to commit to anything and newcomers will be treated to a free coffee! We look forward to catching up with old friends and hope to make some new friends as well.

- **Christmas Cards**

- We are delighted to once again be offering personalised Christmas Cards and gifts to help raise funds for the PTA.
- Your child will already have created a unique design which will then be digitized and available to purchase as Christmas Cards, Gift Tags, Christmas Mugs, Tea Towels, Bags for Life and Wrapping Paper.
- Look out for your sample Christmas Card along with Parental Order Form shortly after the half term break.



MIND Parent's workshops

We are happy to announce a set of psychoeducational workshops for parents and carers from Soho Parish school which are going to be delivered by Mental Health Support Team from Westminster Mind.

The workshops are an opportunity to learn more about emotional wellbeing and understand how you can support your child's mental health and access further support.

The workshops will be delivered on ZOOM on the dates and times shown below:

1. Understanding child's behavior – 14th of October, 10 AM
2. Managing child's behavior – 11th of November, 10 AM
3. Understanding child's anxiety and techniques – 2nd of December at 10 AM

To join simply click on the link or use ZOOM Meeting ID: 857 2334 2127

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85723342127>

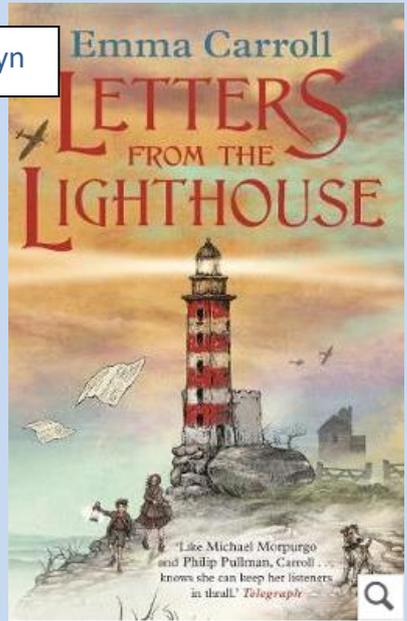
If you have any further questions or want more information please email:

louise@sohoparish.co.uk

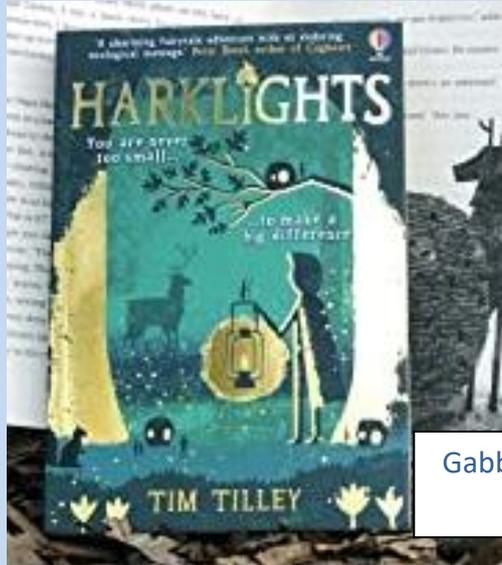
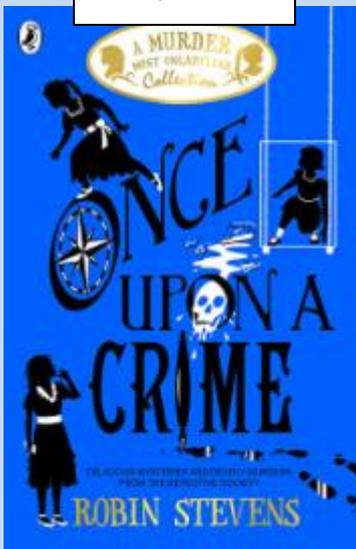
 **mind**
Brent, Wandsworth
and Westminster



Robyn

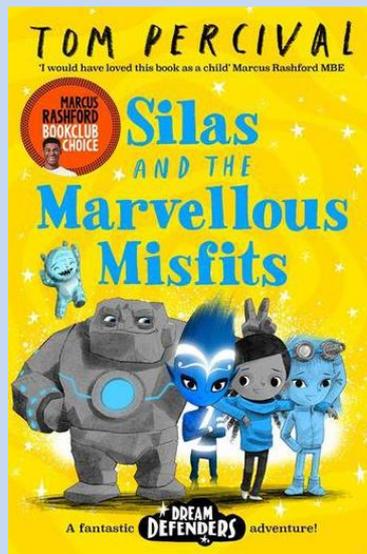
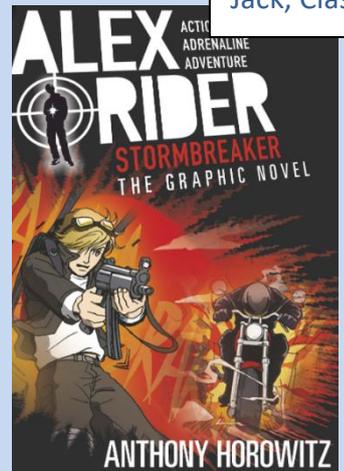


Coco, Class 6



Gabby, Class 6

Jack, Class 6



The Marcus Rashford Book Club is a reader-recommends programme created by England International footballer and child food poverty campaigner Marcus Rashford MBE and Macmillan Children's Books.

The book club aims to encourage and nurture a love of reading in children, and launched in June 2021 with its first title, *A Dinosaur Ate My Sister* by Pooja Puri, illustrated by Allen Fatimaharan.

The second title in the book club is *Silas and the Marvellous Misfits*, written and illustrated by Tom Percival, published on 14 October 2021. The book helps children to love their differences and discover the joy of being themselves.

in the Royal Parks this autumn



1. Get cultural at Frieze art fairs in The Regent's Park

Indulge in some of the best works from leading and emerging contemporary artists during [Frieze London](#).

The event will feature performance-based installations, debates, panel discussions and keynote lectures. And coinciding with Frieze London is Frieze Masters, bringing together 130 galleries specialising in pre-21st century art.

You can also visit the [Frieze Sculpture Park](#), set in the English Gardens in The Regent's Park, free until Sunday 31 October.

2. Spook it up with our bone-chilling Halloween events

Treat the family to a feast of FREE hair-raising activities this October Half-term from ghostly storytelling, creepy crafts, eerie nature trails, potent potions to fang-tastic bug hunting.

We have activities running every day during the school half-term week in a variety of locations:

- **Monday 25 October** [Mission: Invertebrate Roadshow, Brompton Cemetery](#)
- **Tuesday 26 to Thursday 28 October** [Discovery Days, Hyde Park](#)
- **Friday 29 October** [Mission: Invertebrate Roadshow, Brompton Cemetery](#)

For those who do not scare easily, join our *Dead After Dark: The Queen's Gardens ghost walk*.

5. Fire up the kids' imaginations in Greenwich and The Regent's Park

From dressing up to making up games, from constructing cardboard space-ships to knocking down towers of teddy bears – Our [Play in the Park](#) team will ensure that the possibilities are endless.

Our free play sessions run from April to October complimented by events and mini play projects inspired by the parks.

Bring your family along to one of our fun and creative play days in and around The Regent's Park, Gloucester Gate and Greenwich Park playgrounds.

6. Get Fit for Free with [Our Parks](#)

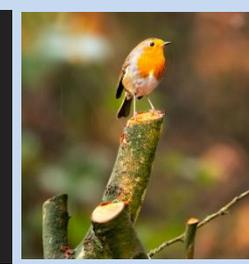
Have you ever heard of the phrase "Summer bodies are made in winter"? Although it may be colder and darker and you feel your motivation slipping, there are still plenty of perks for staying fit in autumn, for example how amazing does it feel to have the crisp autumn air cooling you down after an intense workout or run?

Another exciting bit of motivation for staying fit in autumn is 'Our Parks', a brand-new initiative allowing you to participate in quality group exercise classes, outdoors in one of your favourite parks all for free.

When: Free classes on various days of the week

Where: [Kensington Gardens](#), [The Regent's Park](#), [Richmond Park](#)

[Find out more](#)



8. Go bird spotting on a walking trail

Walking is a wonderful way to experience the changing seasons as well as the exotic and native birds on migration over autumn.

Our parks have miles of paths for you to explore as well as a wealth of different bird species. By watching them from a distance rather than seeking an up-close encounter, you can [help nature thrive](#) in the Royal Parks.

The seven-mile-long [Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Walk](#) passes through St James's Park, Green Park, Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens. And if you love insects and minibeasts, then [Mission: Invertebrate's self-guided walks](#) offer a way to discover the tiniest inhabitants of the city.

With help from our [bird spotter sheets](#), you can have a go at identifying some of the wonderful creatures in your favourite Royal Park on your next walk or join the [Friends of Greenwich Park](#) as they go for their [monthly bird watching ramble](#).

SOHO FOOD FEAST



supporting the Soho Parish School

After two years of pandemic cancellations, the planning for the 2022 Food Feast has begun! Please email sohofoodfeast@sohoparish.co.uk if you are able to help with any of the following:

- Making contact with local restaurants who are able to support
- Website updating
- Social media
- Arranging sponsorship packages
- Music and entertainment
- Marketing

Stelier - TAMMAM -

#STYLEYOURSTRIPES GALA

*An evening of sustainable opulence with Emeli Sande & Yoana Karamova,
organist Anna Lapwood and climate scientist professor Ed Hawkins
Plus behind the scenes tour of the iconic building designed by Christopher Wren
St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, W1J 9LL*

Red (and blue) carpet from 7.30pm

Performances at 8.30pm

RSVP for your complimentary ticket - gala@tammam.co.uk

*Dress code - Sustainable glamour
Wear something old, something eco-new, something borrowed or something red & blue*

An event for St James's pre-COP26 Festival 'A Triumph of Delights'

EVERY WEEKDAY
(throughout the school holidays)
9am to 5pm for ages 4 – 12

Children's Playscheme

We plan an exciting,
active and enjoyable school
holiday playscheme full
of fun activities that
children love.

We accept childcare vouchers!



- BOUNCY CASTLE
- SPORTS
- SWIMMING
- DAY TRIPS

Location
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112 Great Russell
Street,
WC1B 3NQ

For more information, please contact
CYP@ymca.co.uk or visit our website

Registered Charity no. 213121

YMCA

MUSEUM *of* BRANDS

New Charismatic Characters Discovery Trail at the Museum of Brands

Friday 22 October until Monday 1 November 2021



Families can discover the stories behind some of the nation's favourite brand mascots with the new **Charismatic Characters** discovery trail at the Museum of Brands during half term from Friday 22 October until Monday 1 November. **Kids go free** and adult tickets last a whole year.

Families are invited to spot exhibits from enduring old favourites including Mickey Mouse, Felix the Cat and Pip, Squeak & Wilfred, to more recent 'stars' of television such as Fred the Flour Grader and the beloved Minions. Using the interactive QR codes along the way, our discovery trail offers a new way of getting to know the characters that we often take for granted.

The popularity of brand mascot characters dates back to the early 19th century and have been created over the years to promote products by helping to improve brand recognition. Some stand out as remarkably iconic and, in many cases, left a lasting impression on consumers.

Who can forget the pink bunny first introduced in the 1970s that managed to bestow on Duracell batteries an emotional connection through a fluffy, lovable rabbit, or Kellogg's Tony the Tiger and his resounding catchphrase "They're Grrrrrrreat!"

And who would have thought that an anthropomorphic meerkat, created to promote an insurance company, would become part of our culture? This advertising phenomenon drove sales through collectibles and put Aleksandr's catchphrase 'simples' in the Oxford English Dictionary.

As well as the Charismatic Characters trail there will be children's make-and-take activities

with a small gift given to all those who complete the trail, and a chance to enter our raffle for an extra special prize. Visitors can also relax in our cafe or garden and take advantage of a £2 children's lunch with every adult meal or snack purchased.

The Museum is open daily and is the only one of its kind in the world, celebrating our past through our throwaway heritage with displays of hundreds of products full of memory and meaning. Together they offer us a fascinating insight into how our lives and society have evolved since Victorian times – from the changing roles of women, to the impact of war and technology; from the passing of the domestic servant to the evolving choice of food and toys, as well as the revolution in shopping habits over the last 200 years.

Kids go free up to the age of 16 and adult admission tickets allow unlimited daytime entry for a whole year and costs £9 adults / £7 concessions. The Museum can be contacted by email at info@museumofbrands.com or telephone 020 7243 9611.

The Museum of Brands is open 10:00 to 18:00 Monday to Saturday and 11:00 to 17:00 on Sundays and Bank Holidays. The Museum is located a short walk from Ladbroke Grove tube station at 111-117 Lancaster Road, W11 1QT.

www.museumofbrands.com

ENDS

For further information, photographs and media interviews please contact Anna Terry on anna@museumofbrands.com

For images please visit:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/buz5cjxqxnhequ5/AADkczOAwKpagkyHHMnMsfN_a?dl=0

Editor's Notes

About the Museum of Brands

- The Museum of Brands was established in 1984 and takes visitors on a nostalgic journey through 200 years of social change, consumer culture and lifestyle. It captures enough throwaway consumer material to give an insight into how society has arrived at where it is today and shed light on where it will be tomorrow.
- The Museum displays part of the Robert Opie Collection, which had begun in 1963 when Robert started to save contemporary packaging and advertising. By 1975, the Collection was large enough to have its own exhibition, 'The Pack Age', held at the V&A; following media and public acclaim, a permanent museum was established in Gloucester. Moving to London in 2005, it is now known as the Museum of Brands.
- The collection comprises over half a million items concentrating on those areas that have transformed daily life – entertainment, travel, leisure, music, fashion and children's toys, plus postcards, magazines, wartime ephemera and royal souvenirs. Over 12,000 items are on display.
- The Museum is an independent, educational charity and is funded by income generated through admissions, retail, catering, venue hire and charitable grants and donations.

Further information about some of the brand mascots

- **Alexander "Ally" Sloper:** one of the earliest comic strip characters, making his first appearance in August 1867 in an issue of a magazine called 'Judy', he was later given his own comic strip - *Ally Sloper's Half Holiday*, in 1884. His name derived from a slang term of the period which described a broke tenant who would slope off down the alleys to avoid rent collectors.

Although barely remembered today, this scruffy, lazy schemer dominated popular culture in Victorian and Edwardian Britain, giving rise to a merchandising phenomenon and inspiring the screen personae of Charlie Chaplin and, especially, W. C. Fields.

In 1896 it was claimed by one newspaper that Ally was the most famous fictional character in the country and his fame was exploited to make him into a 'brand'. To encourage readership, a fan club was created with members receiving a special 'diploma' and other promotional items. Various spin-offs, both official and bootleg, included mugs, games, toys, paperweights, puppets, cast-iron doorstops, and pocket watches.

His popularity and influence led to his being used on occasion as a propaganda tool by the British government.

- **Felix the Cat:** a children's comedy cartoon character created during the silent film era. An anthropomorphic black cat with white eyes, a black body, and a giant grin, Felix was the first animated character to attain a level of popularity sufficient to draw in movie audiences.

Felix starred in a comic strip from 1923, and his image soon adorned merchandise such as ceramics, toys and postcards. Several manufacturers made stuffed Felix toys. Jazz artists such as Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra even released a song titled 'Felix the Cat' in 1923.

Given the character's unprecedented popularity and the fact that his name was partially derived from the Latin word for "happy", some organizations adopted Felix as a mascot. These include a Los Angeles Chevrolet dealer, Winslow Felix, who first opened his showroom at 12th Street and Grand Avenue in 1921. The dealership adorned a giant three-sided neon sign of Felix Chevrolet, which quickly became one of LA's better-known landmarks. The U.S. Navy's Bombing Squadron Two (VB-2B) adopted a unit insignia consisting of Felix happily carrying a bomb with a burning fuse!

- **Mickey Mouse:** who typically wears red shorts, large yellow shoes, and white gloves, was created in 1928 by The Walt Disney Company and serves as the organisation's brand mascot. He was initially called Mortimer and the reason he always wears white gloves is that when he was created animation was black and white and gloves made hand movements stand out more.

Mickey is one of the world's most recognizable fictional characters. Since his early years, Mickey Mouse has been licensed by Disney to appear on many different kinds of merchandise. Mickey has been produced as plush toys and figurines, and his image has appeared on almost everything from T-shirts to lunchboxes. By the 1950s, Mickey had a theme park and a newspaper comic strip, which led to the establishment of Mickey Mouse Club. His ears are among the most famous cultural icons of the 20th and 21st centuries.

- **Tony the Tiger:** the iconic Kellogg's mascot came into being in 1952 following a competition featuring a number of characters to find out which one would be the most popular with the American public. Tony the Tiger won, and has been the mascot for Kellogg's Frosties ever since. But it could have been so different as Tony was up against Katy the Kangaroo, Elmo the Elephant, and Newt the Gnu.

Originally, the tiger was created with a football-shaped head, and he walked on all fours. This was replaced by a figure that walked upright and could sing songs and dance. As the nation became more health-conscious, Tony's physique became stronger and leaner, and he grew in stature from a small cereal box-sized cat to a 6-foot-tall figure showing kids how to better themselves through sports.