



# THE SOHO SCOOP

News and Views from Soho Parish



## Headline

Welcome back to our new academic year. It has been a super start to the term, with familiar faces returning and many new pupils joining us (see below). Children and staff alike are enjoying a return to 'normality', with reduced restrictions. Despite that we maintain a cautious attitude, which is outlined in our 'covid news' section.

We can't wait for clubs to start next week. There is still space in play club and limited spaces in some of the specialist clubs, so it's not too late to sign up. Class teachers will be holding 'meet the teacher' zoom meetings this week (Wednesday and Thursday at 4pm) so please choose the most convenient day for you and do pop in to hear about the learning in your child's class this term.

*Louise*

## We're almost full again!



As you may know, the school roll dropped considerably as a result of the pandemic, with many families relocating outside of London.

We're delighted to announce that we have welcomed a number of new families this term. We are most grateful to those parents who recommended us to friends.

We have limited spaces left in some classes, as indicated below, so please do spread the word. Families are approaching us every day at the moment, so if you have friends looking for a place for their child, encourage them to book a meeting with Louise as soon as possible.

Class	Places available
Class 1 (reception and year 1)	FULL
Class 2	1
Class 3	3
Class 4	2
Class 5	3
Class 6	FULL

## Home time arrangements

Thank you for bearing with us as we carry out the new dismissal arrangements. We know it can become congested at both entrances and are keeping the situation under continuous review. Once clubs begin next week, the number of parents collecting at 3.20/3.25 will reduce, easing the congestion considerably.

## Rainy season

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for the changeable weather. If it rains a little we will still play outside so they must have a raincoat. Umbrellas are not permitted in the playground. In case of torrential downpour, we may dismiss children from the doors leading on to the playground. If this happens, we will notify you by text where to collect your child.



## After school clubs

We are delighted that clubs begin next week. Thank you to all parents who have signed up and paid in advance for their child's clubs. Please contact Tracey, School Business Manager ([tracey@sohoparish.co.uk](mailto:tracey@sohoparish.co.uk)) if you

have any questions or would like to enquire about availability. **The deadline for payments is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September**, after which your child's space may be offered to another child on the waiting list.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast club sign up is available – please let us know if you would like your child to attend. This club is free for pupils eligible for free school meals and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. We do have some spaces available.

## Music lessons

We have had a huge amount of interest in music lessons. These are now full, but we are looking into sourcing additional music teaching. If you missed out on a place, we have added you to the waiting list. Payments will be available today and you will receive a notification. **Please ensure these are paid by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September.**

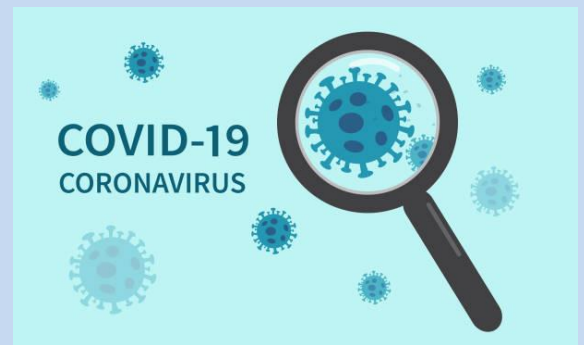


## School Lunches

Thank you for all those in KS2 (Years 3 to 6) who have already paid for their child's school lunch this term. Our on-site kitchen is run on a not for profit basis and we subsidise our chef-cooked, healthy meals through fundraising. For this reason, we kindly ask that payments are made promptly in advance. If you are in receipt of any benefits, your child may be entitled to a free school meal. Please contact James in the office for details.

## Covid news

As you know, the government has removed all restrictions. In schools, the same situation applies. As ever, the school has undertaken our own risk assessment which takes into account the small nature of our spaces and the local health situation. We have been advised by the local authority that cases are particularly high in Westminster at present.



Therefore, while we are no longer taking temperatures or requiring staff to wear masks, some things remain a little different from usual.

1. At present pupils are mixing within a maximum of two classes, including their own. This will be reviewed during the term. It means that assemblies are still held virtually, so that classes have the opportunity to be 'all together', at least on screen.
2. Staff maintain social distance where possible, although we do not expect pupils to do so.
3. Pair bubbles still have designated toilet facilities.
4. Lunch is back in the dining hall, with a maximum of two classes.
5. At present visitors essential to pupils' education are permitted in school, and small essential groups may meet on site. We hope to shortly begin hosting larger groups, for example so that we can invite parents in to watch a class performance.
6. Extra-curricular clubs will contain no more than 15 pupils, remaining consistent throughout the term.

Adults who have received a double vaccination and children under 18 no longer need to self-isolate if they have been in contact with a positive case. However, we ask parents to notify us if they have a positive case in the household, so that we can be as informed as possible about case numbers in our community. Household members of a positive case are expected to take a PCR test, but do not need to isolate while awaiting the result.

**If your child tests positive for Covid, they must self-isolate for ten days. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate and take a PCR test.** If the PCR test is negative, they may return to school when they are well enough. The symptoms of covid are as follows:

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

## **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 4pm – **Meet the teacher (zoom)**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am – **Secondary Transfer meeting for Y5/6 parents (zoom)**

<https://zoom.us/j/95268586035?pwd=NWtVSks1OEJiMFZlZjFhOjNNcm4xQT09>

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October – **Black History Month launch**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October – **Fitness testing (YMCA)**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – **Harvest Festival**

