



Stillness Junior School Newsletter October 2018



Value of the Month: Equality

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Keeping Happy and Safe at Stillness

Dear Parents and Carers

On 17 September 2018, I spoke to the children and staff during whole school assembly about how to recognise when they are at risk and how to get help when they need it.

The children were asked who keeps them safe. They had some great answers; friends, teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, lunchtime supervisors and coaches.

We talked about the different types of bullying that can exist. It might be a push or simply leaving someone out; this can hurt on the inside and the outside and often both. Bullying is not ok in any form.

We also talked about what constitutes neglect, physical or emotional abuse. When a parent or carer does not look after them properly, they are physically hurt or made to feel bad on the inside.

The children were attentive and proactive through the assembly. They were told that it was never their fault; someone might say it is, but none of the above is ok or acceptable.

It was important to talk to the children in an open forum so they are very clear of what is acceptable and what is not and, most important, who they can speak to so they feel safe.

We finished the assembly by reiterating they can talk to any member of staff if they have any worries or concerns including myself, Miss Polglaze or Mrs Brown.

The children can also write down any worries and put their letter into the "Worry Box" situated at the back of the main hall. This is a locked box and can only be opened by Ms Suleyman, our Learning Mentor who will then spend some time talking to them.

UNICEF: *Article 8: (preservation of identity)*

Governments must respect and protect a child's identity and prevent their name, nationality or family relationships from being changed unlawfully. If a child has been illegally denied part of their identity, governments must act quickly to protect and assist the child to re-establish their identity.

I appreciate these can be very difficult topics to talk about but, if we want to keep our children safe, we do need to have these conversations with them.

Keeping children of all ages safe and healthy is one of the most important tasks of a child care provider; children need to feel safe in order to learn.

I was extremely proud of the way the children listened and the questions they had.

I have now introduced a "Learning Mentor Lunchtime Drop-In" session every Monday from 12.30pm to 1pm with Ms Suleyman.

This will give the children another option if they feel sad, angry, confused or have something on their mind and would like to talk to an adult in a private.

I hope this will further improve the support on offer to the children and they will continue to feel safe in school. Please remind your child of all the ways to communicate; worry box, school planner and lunchtime drop-in.

I will also talk to them regularly to reinforce how important they are and who they should speak to if they have any concerns at all.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs M Nichol
Headteacher

Online Safety Tip of the Month

"Be Internet Safe"

We would like to remind parents/carers that although the internet is a wonderful resource it can also present dangers.

Please monitor your child's use of the internet and check the sites they are going on. Remind your child they must not divulge any personal information about them on line or agree to meet with anyone that may be communicating with them.





Cold Weather Clothing

Over the coming weeks, the cold weather will start to creep in. Please ensure that children do not leave home without a coat, hat and gloves on cold days. All clothing must be **labelled** clearly. On snowy days, children can wear wellingtons or boots, **as long as they have school shoes with them to change into**. The classrooms get very warm and children will be too hot in boots all day.

Please also remember that children are welcome to take advantage of free porridge every day of the week. This is served between **8.40am** and **8.50am**.

However, children will **not** be admitted in to school before this time for health and safety and insurance reasons. Your support is appreciated.

Y7 Students

It was lovely to see some of last year's Y6 girls pop into say hello in their new secondary school uniforms!



The girls looked so grown up and were at least 2 to 3 inches taller!

We wish them every success for the future.

Collection of Children



In the interest of safeguarding children, we would ask any parents/carers who wish another adult to collect their child at the end of the school to **please notify the school either in writing via the school office or in your child's school planner**. Your support is really appreciated.



Stillness Monthly Brain Teasers

Y3 and Y4 – Kieron's cats

Kieron has three cats. Each is a different weight.

The first and second weigh 7kg altogether.
The second and third weigh 8kg altogether.
The first and third weigh 11kg altogether.

What is the weight of each cat?



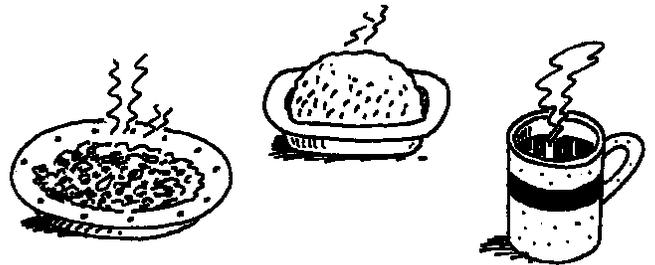
Y5 and Y6 – Franco's fastfood

This is what food costs at Franco's café.

- 1 curry and 1 tea cost £4
- 2 curries and 2 puddings cost £9
- 1 pudding and 2 teas cost £2

What do you have to pay in total for 1 curry, 1 pudding and 1 tea?

What does each item cost on its own?



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We need you!

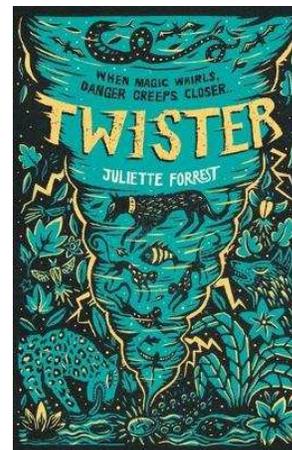
The Red Box Project

Stillness Junior School are delighted to be part of the Red Box Project, an initiative that quietly ensures that no young woman misses out on her education because of her period. They are 100% community driven and run by individuals across the UK. They place a stocked Red Box of sanitary wear in schools for young women to access, aiming to reach those who may not be able to afford these vital items.

We are collecting donations for our Red Box that will be situated in the main school office. We would be grateful if you could donate packets of sanitary towels and pants in a variety of sizes. Thank you for your support.

Book of the Month - Harriet Richmond – Y5

Twister by Juliette Forrest



The book is about a girl names Twister whose father has disappeared, and she goes on a magical quest to find him. I really enjoyed reading this book because it was so gripping! I would recommend it to anyone 8-16.

Lewisham Music

Lewisham Music are running two fantastic holiday courses during the half term break with the return of their **Rock & Pop School (children in school years 5-11)** and **Lewisham Junior Orchestra (children in school years 4-8)**. Both courses cost £40 (£15 concessions) and will run on **Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 October from 10am-3.30pm** at Prendergast Vale School, Lewisham.

For further information and to apply please visit www.lewishammusic.org/learn-with-us/holiday-courses

OUR BEST AT ALL TIMES

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A really big thank you to everyone who supported our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Last year the Macmillan nurses supported more than 650,000 people. £28 will pay for a Macmillan nurse for an hour, helping people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support.

Macmillan receive no government funding, so our donations however big or small really do make a difference.

Thank you to all those parents/carers and children of both the junior and infant school who baked the wonderful selection of cakes on display and to Chartwells for their kind donation.

Thank you to everyone who helped set up and on the day by serving tea and coffee and providing beautiful flowers for the tables.

Thank you to our Y6 children for delivering leaflets to our neighbours inviting them to join us and everyone who came to school wearing “green”.



A big thank you also to the lovely ladies of “team SCA” past and present for all their hard work and support.

The morning raised a whopping £782.00 that will be forwarded to Macmillan this week.

Thank you everyone.



October news from the Library

OUR
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TIMES



Hello and welcome back to everyone – we have been excited to meet all the lovely Year 3’s and looking forward to getting to know you all! We have loads happening in the library to tell you about:

Library Lunchtime Sessions and borrowing info

For those that don’t know, the library is open every lunchtime for borrowing books and quiet reading, the time table is as follows:

Year 3 and Year 5 – Mondays and Wednesdays
Year 4 and Year 6 – Tuesdays and Thursdays
All year groups – Fridays

Y3 classes have visited the library with their teacher, and have been shown around. Each pupil is allowed to borrow up to 2 books at a time, and these books are their responsibility.

They need to return them to the Book Return trolley in the main hall, or to the librarian so they can be scanned back in. If they don’t do this the book will still be shown as borrowed by them so it is important they remember this so they can borrow more.

There is at least one adult in the library every lunchtime, and we have a dedicated team of year 5 pupil librarians to help.

Stillness Reading Café

We are also opening the Stillness ‘Reading Café’ every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the library after school until 4pm (with parents/carers only – not an after school club) – please take this opportunity to visit with your child and spend time choosing books and reading together. And though we encourage our younger children, please do not leave them unattended.

We have a wonderfully diverse selection of books thanks to the continued support of SCA, and there is always someone around to help you with your next book choice. We are also inviting Stillness Infant Y2’s to visit the library on Mondays after school with their families.

Help needed!

We are currently looking for one or two parents to help on a Friday lunchtime as we would like to start a ‘comic book drawing’ masterclass and other creative lunchtime offerings but need more adults on hand to accommodate this. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering.

Year Group Book Lists/Reading Challenge

You should have received a list from your class teacher with a list of 30 must-read book suggestions. We’ve researched and come up with a mix of classics, modern titles, easy reads and some for those that like a challenge. These books can be read alone, in guided reading or with parents/carers. We have set a reading challenge for the year and hope to be handing out lots of award certificates in July!

Reading Buddies

We’ve just restarted a Reading Buddy scheme pairing up some of our Y6 with Year 2’s in the infants – photos and more info to follow. This was suggested by Naima in Y6.

Events

We’re planning fun bookish events and author visits throughout the year – watch this space!

Libraries Week 8-13 October

Libraries Week takes place between the 8–13 October to celebrate the nation’s much-loved libraries.

This year, with a focus on **wellbeing**, libraries across the country will showcase how they bring communities together, combat loneliness, provide a space for reading and creativity and support people with their mental health. Support your local community library by visiting during this week and seeing what they have to offer!

Ruth and the parent librarian team – Natasha, Vicky, Debs, Mel and Jo x



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Working together to safeguard children.

Stillness Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and parents/carers to share this commitment.

Safeguarding is a term which is broader than ‘child protection’ and relates to the action taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

We are fully committed to ensuring that consistent, effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, children and staff at school.

Safeguarding Leads:
Mrs M Nichol - Headteacher
Mrs A Polglaze – Acting Deputy Headteacher
Mrs P Brown – Interim Inclusion Manager

Birthday Book



Due to the number of children with food allergies, the School Council have asked if children could donate a “birthday book” to the school library when they have a birthday.

The book can be handed in to the class teacher or the school office, where a label will be placed inside the book cover with the name of the child donating the book and the date.

The School Council were very passionate about this. The benefits were two fold; the book could be enjoyed by lots of other children and they would be remembered long after they leave as their name would be inside the book cover.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club runs from 7.30am until the opening of school at 8.50am. Children will be fully supervised for the duration of this period.

Currently our breakfast club is full for the start of the autumn term. Due to number restrictions for health and safety reasons, please do not drop your child/ren off in the morning if you do not have a confirmed place.

If you wish to place your child on our waiting list, please complete the breakfast club form on the school website and return to Jenny Scutts in the main office.

Dinner Money

From the 1 May 2018 the cost of a school dinner has increased by £0.10 to £2.20 per day.

The dinner money from **29 October 2018 to 20 December 2018 will be £85.80.** Can parents/carers please make every effort to pay in advance.

To improve the service we provide, Stillness Junior School is a cashless school and does not accept cheques or cash as payment.

This can be done online using a very secure website called ParentPay. You all have your individual ID and Password to access this facility.

Please note: if you wish to change your child from packed lunch to school dinners or vice versa please inform the school office in writing to avoid being charged. Children can only change this option at half term break.

Please Note: Dinner accounts that are more than one week overdue or in arrears will result in your child having to bring in a packed lunch or going home for their lunch.

Stillness Junior School Website

We are pleased to inform parents/carers that we work extremely hard to ensure that our website is up to date. Please take a minute to have a look and catch up with the latest news and holiday dates. **If you do not wish photographs of your child/ren to be posted on this website, in the school newsletter or in articles that may be published in the press, please notify the school office in writing.**

Upcoming Diary Dates:

October

- 5.10.18 – Cezanne Class out (Riba Architect)
- 8.10.18 – Dali Class out (Riba Architect)
- 15.10.18 – Mahlangu Class out (HMS Belfast)
- 17.10.18 – Mahlangu Class out (Imperial War Museum)
- 17.10.18 – Dali Class out (HMS Belfast)
- 18.10.18 – Cezanne Class out (HMS Belfast)
- 19.10.18 – Halloween School Disco (SCA Event – 3.30pm to 5pm)
- 22.10.18 to 26.10.18 – HALF TERM
- 30.10.18 – Cezanne and Dali Class out (Imperial War Museum)