



Issue no 12 Friday 28th November 2014

## Feedback from the Transition Steering Group – Summary of issues raised and responses from SLT

Taken from minutes of meetings on 17th and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 with the JPS Steering Group, Parent Carer Forum Organisers and the SLT

### Learning time

There was a concern from some parents and carers that learning time may be reduced but the SLT confirmed that commuting takes place out of school hours and therefore no learning time is lost. Also, children have a shorter lunch break and there is no assembly on some days to take into account the shorter school day.

Year 4 children walking to and from swimming soon after arriving at school - The children do have a full session (30mins) of real learning time in the morning before swimming – the routine is registration, guided reading and then walk to swimming.

### Siblings on separate sites

Questions were raised from some parents about what happens in the winter or wet weather in the period of waiting?

\*SLT confirmed that on very cold/wet days, the school will ensure that the hall is opened and that staff are there to supervise.

\*For parents/carers with children on separate sites/using the bus. The school has tried to accommodate parents/carers in this situation.

\*The school had to move the first buses to an earlier time due to a mechanical failure on one bus and problems with heavy traffic. It was decided that the earlier timings should continue as it was more efficient in terms of getting buses back for the second run which is at 8:30. If it is more convenient for parents to walk their children up to Dunraven, please let the school know.

### Breakfast club/afternoon childcare

\*The School is looking into breakfast/afternoon care on Streatham school premises; this might be possible from February 2015. The school is unfortunately not a Children's Centre (and in the past has been unable to secure funding for wrap-around care as the school does not meet the

thresholds) so there is not the space for permanent breakfast clubs at the West Norwood or Streatham site once they are full to capacity. Any after-school care on the sites will be temporary until the schools are full in a couple of years' time.

\*In terms of pricing, the school is not involved in setting the rates of independent companies but Nanny B's cost of £5 per morning is a good reflection of the likely cost.

**After-school clubs** – how many are there for children who take the bus to Dunraven to take part in?

\*There are 22 clubs over the two sites. There is no cookery or art due to staffing capacity beyond 3.30pm. Yoga classes will be at WN for 6 months, then at Streatham on the new site.

**School website** – can it be more regularly updated?

\*The website was updated at the end of September.

\*Regarding individual class sites, staff received training in October and should now be regularly updating pages.

**School dinners** – has the quality been affected since the wider introduction of free meals?

\*The quality of the new school meals has nothing to do with the free meals for all, it is about the South Lambeth School Partnership selecting a new supplier as Harrison's contract with the LA had come to an end and schools had to go out to tender for a new contract.

It went out to tender and five companies were short-listed – ISS were judged and rated by all the schools in the partnership as the highest scoring provider and consequently was awarded the contract.

\*SLT are working with ISS on the quality of the food/menus provided generally as part of the new contract. All partnership schools agreed to employ and work with a Head Chef to ensure the standard is higher as we move forward.

\*Please note that the school does **not** currently offer halal meat as an option. This also applies to all meals provided at Dunraven.

**Chance To Dance** – have these workshops been stopped?

\*The school applies for this every year but unfortunately did not get chosen this year – it went to another school. This has nothing to do with the Dunraven transition issue.

### Newsletters

\*SLT looking into why some parents/carers report that they are not receiving these. They are always given to the class teachers on Friday morning. Please let the office know if you do not receive one.

### Staff

Dunraven Parents/carers would like an opportunity to see where their children are taught and get to know their child's teacher better.

*\*The SLT will look into updating the website with more photographs of the individual classes and asking the children to make a film showing people around the school.*

*\*The school fully acknowledge this is not the ideal way of doing this but believe that under the circumstances this is the most effective way.*

*\*The school brought parents/carers' evening forward prior to half term to give them the chance to meet the teachers earlier on in the term.*

*\*A tour is not possible as it is not compatible with how Dunraven manage their site. We need to be mindful of the fact that it is not our building and that we are temporary guests. The school offered open reading sessions over two consecutive weeks to compensate for this.*

#### **Buses:**

*\*Despite a mechanical failure on one bus in September and road works in October, the bus arrangements are running smoothly. If the weather is bad, arrangements are made for the children to be kept dry in the hall.*

*Some parents/carers have asked for guidance on the use of the bus:*

*\*Guidance for the buses – SLT to provide  
Due to a substantial waiting list of children wanting to take the bus and the logistical challenge of co-ordinating the daily bus schedule the school has very little flexibility. If parents/carers wish collect their children on foot on a regular basis they should notify AM in advance, but it could only be the home collection and would need to be each week.*

*If it is very problematic, parents/carers can choose to take their children to and collect them from Dunraven each day.*

#### **Lost Property**

*Children keep losing their things and the question is asked, 'How do we get it back if we are never at Dunraven?'*

*\*If labelled, the items will be returned to the child. Otherwise it will be taken to the office. To avoid problems please label all clothes.*

#### **Communication:**

*\*The school will follow up on concerns that some children do not seem to be regularly taking home newsletters and ensure that it is in school bags irrespective of timetabling and will check that the website is up to date to improve communication.*

#### **Transferring to Streatham**

*\*The school will continue to update on the progress of the Streatham site via the website and the newsletter.*

*\*The move into the new building is on schedule, i.e. during February 2015. We shall be working on transition arrangements nearer the time and will ask parents/carers for their input on this.*



#### **4AW visit Hampton Court**

On Monday 23rd November 4AW travelled west for a visit to the beautiful Tudor palace which was formerly the home of Henry VIII - Hampton Court.



The children walked around this grand palace and after a dramatic workshop, where they used drama to try and understand Henry VIII as a living person, the class were able to explore the Court's kitchens complete with enormous meat skewers and a roaring winter open fire.



The children also managed to see two ladies-in-waiting talk about Henry, complaining of his cruel nature and greedy ways. Who were they?



Then just before the class left Hampton Court Palace they walked along the famous haunted gallery, where it is said the ghost of Catherine of Aragon is often seen. Do you think they saw her?

## Best Picture Competition



After weeks of waiting, the results are finally here. There are several categories and the winners are:



**Best group shot** - Christina, Class 1C



**Best classical creative picture**-Laura, Class RLC



**Best gruesome picture** - Abigail, Class 4AM



**Best holiday snapshot** - Nikki, Class 6N



**Best classroom shot** - Gen, Class RGM



**Best original symbolic headshot** - Margaret, 2ME

**Joint winners for best children's work display are:**



Claire, Class 3CC



and Emily, Class 3E

## Following on from E-Safety assembly on Monday Hints and Tips for Parents:

- Technology is constantly changing and young people are continually learning – keep up to date on latest developments so you know about the risks
- Online safety applies to all types of devices – PCs, laptops, tablets, smartphones, e-readers and online gaming
- As technology becomes more portable, set guidelines for where your child could/should use their device
- Treat online safety in the same way as you would offline safety such as stranger danger, crossing the road etc
- Set up internet security so children can't access website with adult and inappropriate content
- Don't write anything online that you wouldn't say in person. Comments made on social media and/or public web pages/forums could reflect badly on your child
- Check out the IT policies, particularly the online safety policy, issued by your child's school and adhere to them
- Cyber bullying should be treated in the same way as other forms of bullying; contact your child's school to agree a plan for dealing with it
- Be aware that 'sexting' increasingly involves younger children, some as young as 10

- Try to establish a system which allows your child to talk to you about anything they feel uncomfortable about online
- Have a look at the youtube site for CEOP <https://www.youtube.com/user/ceop>. It has videos for parents/carers to look at with online safety information and are a good focus for discussion. All videos state which age range they are appropriate for.

### Things to Discuss with Children

- Where is it acceptable to use your portable device? Bedroom? School?
- Who should you talk to if you feel uncomfortable about something you have seen online? e.g. parent/carer, teacher or other responsible adult
- Don't spend too long online: make sure you get some physical exercise every day
- Keep passwords safe – don't write them down and change them regularly
- What personal information is it appropriate to post online?
- How do you report cyber bullying? Take a screen grab of any posts so these can be seen at a later date if needed
- How do you know the people you are talking to online, are who you think they are?
- What is the difference between a 'real life' friend and an 'online friend'?
- When is it sensible to meet up with an online friend?

### Watch out! Watch out! There are bugs about!

#### Information for parents/Carers

A number of children and staff are suffering from a vomiting and diarrhoea bug commonly known as norovirus or "stomach flu". You may also have heard people refer to it as the winter vomiting virus. Like all viral infections, noroviruses are not affected by treatment with antibiotics, and cannot grow outside of a person's body. The amount of norovirus needed to become unwell with vomiting and diarrhoea is extremely small, making it very easy to transmit illness from person to person.

#### Symptoms

The symptoms are nausea, vomiting, which is often sudden and "projectile", diarrhoea and sometimes both. Some people may have a raised temperature, chills, stomach cramps, headaches and aching limbs. The illness often begins suddenly, and the infected person may feel very sick. Norovirus affects people of all ages. In general, children experience more vomiting than adults. Symptoms of norovirus illness usually begin about 24 to 48 hours after contact with the virus, but they can appear as early as 12 hours after exposure.

#### Are noroviruses contagious?

Noroviruses are very contagious and can spread easily from person to person. Please ensure that you reinforce the importance of hand washing with your child!

#### How do people become infected with noroviruses?

Noroviruses are found in the stool or vomit of infected people. Anyone can become infected with these viruses. There are many different strains of norovirus, which makes it difficult for a person's body to develop long-lasting immunity. Therefore, norovirus illness can recur throughout a person's lifetime. People can become infected with the virus in several ways:

- \*eating food or drinking liquids that are contaminated with norovirus
- \*touching surfaces or objects contaminated with norovirus (e.g. toilets, taps, flush handles, door handles, furniture) and then placing their hand in their mouth
- \*having direct contact with another person who is infected and showing symptoms (for example, when caring for someone with illness, or sharing foods or eating utensils with someone who is ill)

#### How long will my child be contagious for?

48 hours after symptoms have gone away.

#### How serious is norovirus disease?

People may feel very sick and vomit many times a day, but most people get better within 1 or 2 days, and they have no long-term health effects related to their illness.

### Important dates for your diary!

#### Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Christmas lunch For the **Streatham** site and.....***It will be Christmas jumper day!!!!***  
*Make the world better with a sweater*  
*Wear a woolly and spread the jumper joy!*  
*Bring a donation for **Save the Children!***

and it will be.... *Festive Friday* organised by the PTFA at West Norwood from 3.30pm onwards...

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Christmas lunch for the **West Norwood** site

And finally...

**Could all Nursery parents/carers please use the side entrance for all drop off and pick-ups from the Nursery as of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December?**

Have a lovely weekend!

Alison Moller