



Stillness Junior School

Newsletter

September 2023

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Dear Stillness Families

Welcome back!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and, together with the staff, would like to extend the warmest of welcomes as we start a new academic year.

I would also like to welcome our new Y3 children and their parents/carers and look forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks.

Stillness is a unique place which believes truly that there are no barriers to success, just hurdles that can be got over with the right support, thinking, drive and determination.

We have a very experienced teaching staff and all the adults in school are caring and sensitive to the needs of our children. We look for the talent in every child and ensure that everyone is included and no one is left behind.

We believe here that team work, collaboration and community spirit are vital ingredients to any success. We believe strongly in the team around an individual child with parents/carers, the school and other organisations all working together.

I look forward to working with you all over this new academic year to ensure that Stillness Junior School remains as successful as ever.

Best wishes.

Mrs M Nichol
Headteacher

UNICEF: Article 1: (definition of the child)

Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

STILLNESS NEWSLETTER

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, the deadline to submit your articles for the next publication is the penultimate week of every month

Hire our Facilities

We are delighted to offer our facilities for hire during the School holidays and outside normal school hours (5.30pm - 10pm) and facilities within the school, including the sports hall.

Our lettings are open 7 days a week with closures only during bank holidays and extended opening hours during school holidays.

We also have a school mini bus available for hire that can seat up to 17 passengers.

If you are interested in the above, please contact

Kim Kennedy on kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk.



Walking Home Alone 2023-24 Academic Year

We realise that when children reach Y5 and Y6 you may want to encourage independence and allow your child to walk home alone, with friends or with older siblings. At Stillness Junior School we do not encourage children younger than this to walk home alone. If this is the case for your child, please complete the form attached at the end of this newsletter and return to the school office as soon as possible.

Without this completed paperwork, staff will not release the children at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your support.



School Uniform

As we are at the start of the academic year, we would like to remind everyone that children are expected to be in full school uniform in line with our school uniform policy.

Our school uniform consists of:

- grey skirts, culottes, trousers or shorts.
- royal blue or yellow polo shirt, sweatshirt or fleece with or without the school logo.
- children may wear blue or yellow check summer dresses.
- all pupils must wear black shoes or all black trainers.

We now have a new school blazer available, school coat and hat; these new items are completely optional and just an extension of the current uniform available to purchase.

Tracksuits and PE bags can be purchased through the school. All other uniform can be purchased via Marks and Spencers [Your School Uniform : Marks & Spencer](https://www.your-school-uniform.com) ([mandsyourschooluniform.com](https://www.mandsyourschooluniform.com)) or Gooddies Ltd <https://www.gooddies.co.uk/product-category/schools/stillness-junior-school/>

PE Kit

Navy blue or black shorts, white T-shirt, trainers or plimsolls and a navy blue/black tracksuit for outdoors PE.

On the days that children have P.E they may wear a **navy blue** tracksuit (with or without logo) with their school polo shirt (yellow or royal blue) and change into their white one for the lesson. Please note that children should wear non marking plimsolls for PE when using the sports hall otherwise they may go bare foot.

Can parents/carers please ensure that the children's skirts are **knee** length. Children should **not** be wearing knee high "pop" socks and no open toed sandals. Children can wear the school summer dress, available in blue or yellow and grey shorts.



Pre-Loved School Uniform Exchange

We know the cost-of-living crisis is affecting all households across the UK so we have in stock a selection of branded and unbranded pre-loved school uniform from Y3 to Y6. We cannot guarantee we will have the size you require as we rely on donations, however you are free to pop in and see what we have.

We will happily take in any of your unwanted pre-loved uniform to add to the pile for other parents to enjoy. We hope this uniform exchange will allow families whose children have outgrown uniforms to hand them in while accessing uniforms in larger sizes without having to buy new clothes and cut down on waste.

We look forward to seeing you all there.



Headteacher Awards

Edie (Devonshire Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Finn (Devonshire Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Oscar (Devonshire Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Paolo (Devonshire Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Sebi (Devonshire Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Dylan (Montague Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Ben (Montague Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Finn (Montague Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Kameron (Montague Class) for achieving Greater Depth in all three SATS assessments (Reading, Maths and GPS)

Nyla (Cypress class) for your hard work and success with high frequency spellings

Emilia (Cypress Class) for amazing progress with your times tables, showing determination to achieve your goals!

Personal Property

Please note that the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to any personal property that is brought into the school; this includes clothing, bicycles, scooters, games, balls, mobile phones, toys, jewellery, spectacles, money or any other item that is deemed as personal property.



Communication

You can email your child's class teacher direct via their year group email regarding anything class related; this will include homework, school trips, class assemblies and parents evenings. Teachers will then be able to respond to you directly.

You can email the teachers on:

Y3: y3@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Ms L West (Lead)

Mrs M Chisholm

Ms C Valcin

Y4: y4@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Miss M Rooney (Lead)

Mr C Sloan

Y5: y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Miss A Curtis (Lead)

Miss O Gayer

Y6: y6@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Mrs L Threadgold (Lead)

Mrs S Beeke

If you have a music query please email Mrs S McCartney on:

music@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Parents are still encouraged to email the school office for urgent messages or general enquiries

admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

If you have a concern or wish to email the headteacher/leadership team direct or have a safeguarding concern, please email the school's PA, Kim Kennedy on kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

Thank you.

After School Club - Teachsport

We are pleased to confirm that our new after school club provider is Teachsport. Teachsport will run a variety of activity clubs along with a general club until 4.30pm. Parents then have the option of extending the day until 6pm which includes the serving of a small, healthy snack. They will provide a range of activities to suit children who want to burn off some energy and for those who prefer some quiet downtime.

To book a place for your child, please go to:

<https://www.teachsport.org/TSc4k/lewisham>

Teachsport are Ofsted registered and were found to meet all standards in their recent inspection. They accept Childcare Vouchers, Tax Free Childcare Vouchers and card payments.

You will need to set up an account on Magic Booking before you make your first booking. Please email Teachsports at clubs@teachsport.org if you need any assistance at all.

Unfortunately Teachsport cannot accept children who are not booked for safeguarding reasons.



Pupils Returning to School on Crutches

Before accepting a pupil back into school on crutches, the school will require a letter from a medical professional (GP, Hospital, Clinic) outlining exactly what injury or suspected injury has been sustained.

The letter MUST provide the school with details of whether the pupil requires any reasonable adjustments to be made whilst in school and for how long they may be needed. The letter should also include information about whether the pupil is able to weight bear and any limitations.

Health & Safety: Without this clear medical information, the school is unable to assess the levels of risks involved and therefore unable to complete a suitable risk assessment. The risk assessment will cover all aspects of the pupil's day.

A risk assessment is a pre-requisite for any pupil returning to school after an injury.

A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan will also be completed and both documents will be prepared prior to the pupil returning to school.

The pupil must have received training in the use of crutches from a medical professional.

It is unacceptable for any pupil to arrive at school with crutches that they have obtained from means other than a medical/professional establishment. These pupils pose a risk to themselves and other pupils and employees and this could potentially put the school at risk.



Online Safety

Pupil Premium

Social media platforms let people connect and communicate with friends, family, colleagues. They even let people meet others who they have not met in the real world.

Popular platforms with children and young people include Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter and TikTok. According to Ofcom (2019), Snapchat is the most popular platform amongst 12-15-year olds (27%), with Instagram (24%) and Facebook (23%) following closely behind.

Social media platforms receive a lot of positive and negative coverage in the news. Some show stories about them bringing friends and family together or that channels are used to harm and target young and vulnerable people. It is important that young people know how to behave responsibly on these platforms, what to do if they are being harassed and where they can report harmful content.

Each platform is used for different things, either sharing images/videos, instant messaging, giving life updates or playing online games. However, some key features to be aware of are:

Top tips:

- ✓ If your child wants to use a social media platform, create the profile together and see how it is done.
- ✓ Explain about not posting personal details including addresses, mobile number and school name and that this information is private.
- ✓ Explain that whatever goes on the internet can live there forever. (Even if you remove a picture, it could be copied or saved by someone and posted elsewhere).
- ✓ Talk to your child about their username and password choice. Make sure their password cannot be easily guessed and they know to keep it a secret.

Safeguarding is everyone's business. No child or adult should be made to feel unsafe. Everyone has the right to be safe from harm and abuse. All of us have a role to play in safeguarding, never more so than during Covid-19

If a child has been in receipt of Free School Meals at any point in the last six years the school can claim Pupil Premium funding for them. Pupil premium is additional funding paid to the school by Central Government and can be used to provide children with further class support and enable the school to offer a variety of enrichment opportunities.

Our Pupil Premium Strategy, which details how we spend our funding, can be found on <https://www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk/curriculum-assessment/pupil-premium/>

Your child may be eligible for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less
- Universal credit

Please contact the school office if you need any help to register your child as eligible.

If your child qualifies for free school meals, it is important that you tell us – even if they take a packed lunch – as this enables the school to claim for the Pupil Premium funding.

If your child is adopted from Local Authority Care, and you have not told us, please could you ask to speak to a member of the Inclusion Team.

For a Love of Sport and Fitness

Our PE Lead, Mrs Curtis, is always looking for new ways to inspire all the children for a love of sporting and fitness. Do you coach a team or play for a team? Do you have any PE Awards or completed any achievements? We would love to hear from you so you can also inspire the Stillness Junior community. If yes, please contact Miss Curtis directly via the Y5 email address: Y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk.



Instagram



Thank you to everyone who has visited our Instagram site.

Our Instagram continues to go from strength to strength. We have had a large number of follow requests; however, to ensure we keep the account private and only accessible by the Stillness Community, we would be grateful if you would email the main office with your request on admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk. We are also receiving requests from children that will not be accepted as this platform is only for children over the age of 13.

Please keep popping in to have a look at what is going on in and around our wonderful school.

All “likes” welcomed!

School Streets



Reminder that Lewisham School Street Programme “School Streets” is in effect. Fines will be issued for those who enter Brockley Rise from the junction with Stillness Road, without an exemption permit from **Monday to Friday** between the set times of **8.30am to 9.30am** and **2.45pm to 3.45pm**. Please be aware that local residents are able to access during these hours so we should continue to observe road safety. Thank you.

Attendance

Our Local Authority Attendance Officer is Charmaine Holder who will be monitoring our pupils’ attendance.

Emergency Contact Information

Please make sure that we have your up to date contact details so we can contact you if your child needs you during the school day.

If you change your mobile phone, move house or want to change your child’s contact list please email the school office on admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING

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 Z Renner-Thomas – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs P Brown – Inclusion Lead



Mobile Phones

Stillness Junior School is a “mobile free” zone.

Please be reminded that mobile phones cannot be brought into school for any reason whatsoever. We strongly believe that children are more at risk when they carry and use a mobile phone than it being a deterrent. Our school policy reflects this and it is a rule that we enforce vigorously.

Any mobile phone brought into school will be taken and can only be collected by a parent/carer; repeat offenders will have their mobile phone held in the school office until the end of term.

Dinner Money

Following Government Guidelines, primary school children will now receive a school dinner free of charge for the academic year 2023/24.

Cashless School

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

Payment for school trips etc. 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 together with any allergies they may have.

Stillness Junior School Website

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, on Instagram, in the school newsletter or in articles that may be published in the press, please notify the school office in writing.

September Diary Dates

6.9.23 – Children return to school

11.9.23 – Y3 Welcome Meeting (3.45pm)

12.9.23 – Y4 Welcome Meeting (3.45pm)

13.9.23 – Y5 Welcome Meeting (3.45pm)

14.9.23 – Y6 Welcome Meeting (3.45pm)

27.9.23 – Y5 trip to British Museum

OUR BEST AT ALL TIMES



'Our Best at all Times'

Headteacher: Mrs Mitzi Nichol

Permission to Walk Home Alone

I give permission for my child to walk home on their own after school.

I have explained to my child the safety aspects of walking home on their own.

I understand that it is the responsibility of the parents/carers, and not the school, once my child has left the school premises.

My child can walk home on their own on:-

- ☐ Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday
- ☐ Every night of the week.

Child's name..... Class.....

Parent's name (please print).....

Signed.....Dated

