

Stillness Junior School Newsletter September 2025



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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, including part time, and all the adults 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

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@stillnessis.lewisham.sch.uk.



Walking Home Alone (Y5/Y6)

We realise that when children reach Y5 and Y6, you may wish to encourage their independence and allow your child to walk home alone, with friends or with older siblings. If this is the case for your child, please complete this form and submit as soon as possible so we are aware of after school arrangements for the academic year 2025-26.



Administering Medication

Our School's 'Administering Medications' policy permits us to administer certain non-prescription medications - specifically paracetamol (Calpol brand) and antihistamine (Piriton brand), both in liquid form with parental consent. If you are happy for us to give the above, please submit your child's consent form by **Friday**, **12 September 2025.**



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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 new PE tops available with "house colour" badges on them, a school blazer, 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 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 plimsoles 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.

Welcome Back!

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Chisholm back from her maternity leave. Mrs Chisholm will be the class teacher for Sevenoaks in Y4.





Children with underlying health conditions are more at risk from flu

- Serious lung problems (including asthma needing steroids)
- Heart conditions
- Kidney or liver disease
- Diabetes
- Weakened immune systems due to disease or treatment
- Spleen problems (like sickle cell disease)
- Neurological conditions (like cerebral palsy)

Protect them this winter
Make sure they have their flu
vaccine



Scan the QR code to complete the consent form

September 2025



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
Miss A Curtis (Year Group Lead)
Mrs Z Renner-Thomas
Miss S Fatania

Y4: y4@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk
Miss M Rooney (Year Group Lead)
Mrs M Chisholm
Mr T Baxter

Y5: y5@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk
Ms O Gayer (Year Group Lead)
Mr C Sloan

Y6: y6@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk
Mrs L Threadgold (Year Group Lead)
Ms 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 on:
admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

If you have a concern or wish to email the headteacher/leadership team 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

Our breakfast and after school clubs are run by Teachsport. Teachsport 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 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 you first booking. Please email Teachsports at clubs@teachsport.org if you need any assistance at all.

<u>Unfortunately Teachsport cannot accept children</u> 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.



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Congratulations!



Congratulations to Emily Carter and her sister Alice (who will be in Y3 from September), along with their friend Ava, did a bake sale at the weekend to raise money for Lewisham Foodbank and to get their Brownie baking badge. They managed to raise £214 for the foodbank which they are very proud of.

Well done girls, we are proud of you too.



Before the summer break we held a special assembly so that the candidates for House Captain could present their manifestos. All candidates were absolutely outstanding with their arguments and ideas. Voting then took place across the week in classrooms.

All children and adults were issued with ballot papersand were able to make their vote and place it in the ballot box.

The votes have all now been counted and the House Captains for 2025-2026 will be:

Grace – Leon Nesbit – Connie Phoenix – Izzy Ross – Isiah

Congratulations!

Congratulations Gisèle

The St Dunstan's yearly inter-school art competition took place in June. This year saw many talented children taking part. Gisèle (Gabriel Class) won the Y5 entry and the judges said her "piece stood out for its creativity, originality, and artistic skill".

About Gisèle's Masterpiece: "The title of my art piece is Hula Hoop Acrobatica. I am the character in red and black, narrating the story of how I have created magic using hula hoops for acrobatics.

I did this using:

- A lampshade and my red skirt for the Big Top. I created extra magic by drawing an acrobat on a hula hoop. I also drew the rainbow colours to make it more colourful.
- Colourful party light at the top to brighten the mood.
- A big hula hoop to circle the show.
- *Egg carton filled with clay to create the benches.*
- An audience made out of white clay and toothpicks.
 Some are my family members and I have painted them in their favourite colours.
- My colourful bracelets for the hula hoops for the acrobats.
- Ropes to tie the Big Top.
- And my favourite acrylic paint and brushes to bring the magic to life.

And this is how I used my experience of going to the circus last year and brought it to life for the art competition. Magic filled with colour, energy, skill of the acrobats, good teamwork, and the importance of trusting each other to hold you."

Gisèle (Gabriel Class)

Congratlations Gisèle – we are really proud of you.





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!





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.

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

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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 2024/2025.

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

3.9.25 – Children return to school

8.9.25 - Y3 Welcome Meeting -3.40pm to 4.15pm

9.9.25 - Y4 Welcome Meeting – 3.40pm to 4.15pm

10.9.25 – Y5 Welcome Meeting – 3.40pm to 4.15pm

11.9.25 – Y6 Welcome Meeting – 3.40pm to 4.15pm