

— St —  
**WINIFRED'S**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Committed to Safeguarding**

**Newsletter No 21**

**Nursery through to Year 6**  
**Newstead Road,**  
**Lee,**  
**London**  
**SE12 0SJ**

**Tel: 0208 857 8792**

Headteacher: Ms Claire Gillespie

Deputy: Mrs Michelle Carey  
Assistant: Ms Annette Gordon

Email: [admin@swcps.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@swcps.lewisham.sch.uk)

Web site: <http://www.swcps.lewisham.sch.uk>

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

This week we welcomed all the children back to school after a well-deserved break. Year 6 and St Mary Class led class assemblies. Year 6 shared all their learning from the English topic on 'The Three Little Pigs', but not the traditional tale! St Mary re-enacted 'Hairy MacLary from Donaldson's Dairy'. All the children performed very well! Thank you as always to all the parents, who attended the assemblies.

Early Years were visited by the Police yesterday. Police Constables Nick and Karen Archer came to school with a police van and spoke to the children about their job. The children were allowed to try on the uniforms, turn the sirens on ask lots of questions.

**Farewells**



Today, we said farewell to two members of staff, Ms Lenita a Meal Time Supervisor and Jason, our Assistant Premises Manager and Teaching Assistant.

Ms Lenita after almost 12 years of service has decided to retire. We wish her all the very best for her retirement. We were very lucky to have had Lenita working at St Winifred's and we will very much miss her.

Jason is moving on to a new school. Jason first came to St Winifred's over ten years ago as Head

Chef in the school kitchen and then later became a TA and then assistant premises manager. Jason has been appointed as Premises Manager. We know his new school is incredibly lucky to have him. We will miss him tremendously. We thank Jason for everything he has done for the school.

We celebrated their contribution and service to the school by suprising them with a whole school rendition of 'Never going to give you up!' at the end of lunchtime play. We also presented them with cards and gifts from the staff and children. We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours. We were very lucky to have them work at St Winifred's and we will very much miss them next year. We hope that St Winifred's will hold special place in their hearts.

**STEM Newsletter**

Please find attached the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the STEM newsletter. The newsletter was produced by the STEM ambassadors.

**February:**

29<sup>th</sup>: Year 3 Trip to Maritime Museum

**March:**

1<sup>st</sup>: Drama Workshop EYs & Year 1

4<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>: St Kateri Swimming

5<sup>th</sup>: Year 2 trip to Hornimans Museum

7<sup>th</sup>: World Book Day

7<sup>th</sup>: Coffee Morning

8<sup>th</sup>: Early Years Mothers' Day

11<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>: STEM Week

15<sup>th</sup> : Spring Concert 4pm

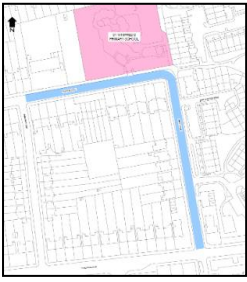
18<sup>th</sup> : Nursery trip to New Woodlands Farm

22<sup>nd</sup> : Year 4 Trip to Greenwich Park

28<sup>th</sup> : Last day of term



## Schools Street- Driving to School



As you all know, Newstead Road is a School Street. The School Street restricts vehicles without an exemption from entering Newstead Road from its junction with Parkcroft Road to Birch Grove and whole length of Birch Grove.

The timed restriction is in place from 8:15-9:15am and 2:45-3:45pm and restricts access to all vehicles, except those with an exemption permit, during the times of enforcement. Enforcement is carried out Monday to Friday, term time only.

Many parents/carers rely on parking in Kimbolton Close. Unfortunately, many of our parent/carers have been exceeding the speed limit on the estate, blocking residents' drives and parking dangerously. This has caused many of our neighbours to make complaints to the school and to their housing association.

I know that some families have long journeys and are under time pressures, however, safety of pedestrians, particularly our children is paramount. My understanding is that there has been some speeding, which has resulted in near misses. Additionally, the school needs to be a good neighbour. The school must have positive relationships with local residents. I know that this does not apply to everyone, but if it does, please be mindful at these times of the day.

## Spring Concert: 15<sup>th</sup> March

The first of our school concerts will be held on Friday 15th March at 4pm in the main hall. This will be for the following instrumentalists:

- Violins
- Clarinets and Flutes
- Trumpets
- The orchestra and the choir.



Children who are interested in taking part must speak to their instrumental teacher or Mr Howell to secure a place by the 8th March.

We will be holding a further concert in the summer term which will feature ukuleles, guitars, drums and piano.

## STEM Week: Leaders Award

If you have a background in engineering and could support the children, please contact Ms Gordon.

**IF YOU WERE AN  
ENGINEER  
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?®**

## Housing Issues / Skills

**citizensuk**

In our coffee morning before half term, I shared various situations some members of our school community were facing in regards to their housing. We discussed what support could be provided by the council but also what we could do to offer support and help. We thought about the impact this is having on the children's physical and mental health. What impact is it having on their education? Despite some awful living conditions, the children still come to school and try their best. It was suggested that I ask for the goodwill of parents / carers, who may be able to donate their time and skills to help members of our community.

As part of our work with Citizens UK, local schools and community we have been talking about housing issues that members of our communities are facing. As there is going to be a by-election on March 7th, we thought we could put pressure on the council to make housing a top priority. On Friday 1st of March, some children from St Winifred's and from other local schools will be holding an assembly at Rushey Green Primary. Brenda Dacres, the Labour candidate will be in attendance. The children will share housing issues known to school communities and will put questions to Ms Dacres, in the hope that she listens to the needs of the community she may be serving. The assembly will then march to Lewisham Town Hall in Catford.

If you would like to be involved in the campaign please also indicate it on the form.

## Coffee Mornings:




Yesterday, we spoke about SEND. Next week we will continue with this theme. We have been asked to have a focus on SEND, but in order to plan content, next week we will explore what areas within SEND parents would like. Do try to pop into the small hall once you have dropped you children to school and have a cup of tea / coffee. We look forward to seeing you there every Thursday.

## Wednesday Word

Please see the [link](#) to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend.

## Class Assemblies

As always, you are invited to attend your child's class assembly. If you are coming to a KS2 assembly, you may enter through the main gate and wait under the canopy after bringing your child to school in the morning. At 8:45am you will then be invited into the main hall for an 8:50am start. If you are attending an assembly in the afternoon, you will come through the main reception and be escorted to the hall for the 2:45pm start.

February		March	
Wednesday 8:50am	Thursday 2:45pm	Wednesday 8:50am	Thursday 2:45pm
28 <sup>th</sup> : St Josephine	29 <sup>th</sup> : St Elizabeth	6 <sup>th</sup> : St Paul Miki	7 <sup>th</sup> : St John the Baptist
		13 <sup>th</sup> : St Francis	14 <sup>th</sup> : St Joseph
		20 <sup>th</sup> : St Bernadette	

## Nursery Places for September 2024

If you have registered interest for a full-time or part-time Nursery place in September 2024, you will be receiving an application pack soon. This will be for children who were born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. If you have not received the application form pack, please contact the school office or find it on the [website](#).

We will be hosting a series of open days this term. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office. Please feel free to share this information with prospective parents you may know.

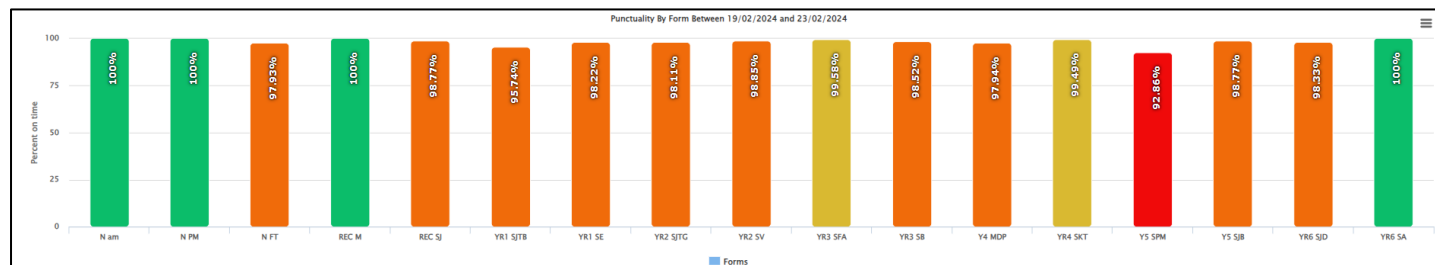
During the School Day		After School
9:30am – 10.15am	2pm – 2:45pm	4pm – 4:45pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March

All parents are entitled to 15 hours free nursery provision but some may qualify for the 30 hours free provision. If you think you may be entitled to the 30 hours provision you should apply for an eligibility code at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>.

## Punctuality and Attendance

School attendance this year so far: 95.04% (DfE expects 95%)

Punctuality is ever so important, the aim is for 97% or above. Please continue to support us by getting the children to school on time! What a fantastic start to the term!



This week's winner are Nursery a.m & pm, St Mary and St Alphonsa all with 100%, followed by St Francis and St Kateri on 99%! Most others are above 96%! St Paul Miki, I know you can do better! Let's keep trying for everyone above 97% after half term!

## School Ping

Thank you to everyone who has started using this app, 90% of parents have downloaded the app. If you haven't yet, you should have received an email regarding School Ping. SchoolPing is a free app which sends instant messages straight to your smartphone, wherever you are, please remember to turn on your notifications. If you do not have access to a smartphone, you can also receive messages via email or by logging in to your account on the web. Whether you're at work, at home or on the go, all you need is an internet connection to stay up to date with all of the school's news. Moving forward, all communication from the school will be via this app. From feedback, we could see that not all parents were receiving our emails and the current ScholarPack App does not have the same functionality. Please make sure the school has your current email address.



## Social Media:

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St\_winifreds\_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Claire Gillespie