

Tetherdown News!

No.8

26th January 2018



admin@tetherdownschool.org

School Notices
<https://twitter.com/tetherdown>

www.tetherdownschool.org



All Newsletters are available on the school website at: www.tetherdownschool.org

Dates for your diary – [click here](#).

These are available on the website front page.

Years 2,3 and 4 – Cake Sale Fri 2nd February

Dear Parents and Carers

Many of you will be familiar with the issues we have been facing lately with our Hall Projector. This has been an ongoing issue in the last few years and we have done everything possible to extend its life with small steps: cleaning filters, replacing bulbs, cleaning and rewiring. Unfortunately, our projector has taken its final breath... However, I am delighted to say that the PSA have agreed to fund a new projector which we hope to have installed in the next few weeks. I am very grateful, as are the children and staff, for the very generous contribution of £5,000 which we know will have an immense impact on the quality of presentations, class assemblies, learning opportunities and more over the coming years. A big thank you to the PSA Committee and to all our parent community for raising funds which are becoming increasingly valuable to the school.

Furthermore, committee members also agreed to donate £7,000 for the purchase of replacement laptops and a new laptop trolley. Sixteen laptops are to be purchased immediately and a further set of sixteen once the school's IT strategy has been finalised. I should like to thank Mr Hearn, Mrs Schubart and Ms Ashraf for their continuing work on our strategy document – we are very lucky to have expert knowledge and experience in taking our vision for IT provision forward for our children. Our IT working group, including Carl Spitzer (co-opted governor) is looking at future proofing the school's resources offer and are also researching safe and secure systems for storing data. The school's current Microsoft server is stretched to capacity and we are confident that, in time, we will reach a decision and know how we will manage all of our data needs, whether these be pupil curricular needs, storing staff planning information or office administration. Of course we are conscious of the impending changes due to be brought in to play through the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and this will be a guiding factor in our decision making. I look forward to being able to provide updates on our progress in future Newsletters.

For further details on PSA events and organisation, please read the PSA page below.

Ms McMeakin our SENCo is currently off sick and will return at the end of this half term, joining us for the Tetherdown SEN Support Group Coffee Morning on Friday 9th February at 9.00am in the Music Room. Please see below for details on this event.

Ms Benjamin remains on sick leave and we wish her well for a speedy recovery. Ms Ali will begin her maternity leave immediately after half term. At the moment she has been rather unwell and we hope that she rests enough to return before the half term break.

Please also read our important message from the Admin Team below on changes to handling telephone enquiries.

I look forward to seeing you all over the coming weeks.

Tony Woodward
Headteacher

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Telephone calls to the office

As you will be aware, our administrative team are currently under extreme pressure due to staff sickness and the ongoing development of staff expertise. Ms Barber, School Business Manager continues to provide support and professional development under the current circumstances. In order to enable focused working time during quieter periods in the day the school office phones will be set to answerphone between 10.00 – 11.30am each morning starting Monday 29th January for a trial period of two weeks.



The answerphones will be checked immediately following this “down time”. If you need to make urgent contact please do so via email admin@tetherdownschool.org. We will review these arrangements at the end of this period and will advise of any changes. Thank you in anticipation of your continuing support.

School Meal Preferences



If your child would like to change their school dinner preference for the next half term, please complete a ‘change of meal preference’ form, available from outside the office, I will forward this form to every family **Monday 29th January**. The deadline for you to change your preferences is Friday 9th of February. If you do not inform the office of any changes by this date you will be unable to change until the next half term.

School Meals and Dietary Requirements

For those parents whose children have a school meal, please keep the office informed of any changes to your child’s dietary requirements. We will liaise with our providers Pabulum and the kitchen staff to support your requests.

Class Assemblies

Class Assembly dates for Y3 Parrots, Y2 Eagles, Y4 Jaguars and Y2 Owls are available on the school website – [click here](#) for details.

Attendance – autumn term

As a caring school we appreciate the fact there will be days when children are absent due to illness. Indeed, we noticed high numbers of absence in the run up to the Christmas break and hope any child affected by illness is feeling much better. Currently our school’s overall attendance figure is at 96.68% (September to December). This figure will improve over the course of the next few months but you can help us by booking dental appointments (regular check-ups) outside of school hours and booking holiday times during school holiday periods ([click here](#) for full details of term dates). Thank you for your continuing support.

ATTENDANCE

| Attendance during one school year | equals this number of days absent | which is approximately this many weeks absent | which means this number of lessons missed |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 90% | 19 days | 4 weeks | 100 lessons |
| 80% | 38 days | 8 weeks | 200 lessons |
| 70% | 57 days | 11.5 weeks | 290 lessons |

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Parents E-safety Meeting

This was a really valuable and informative meeting which covered how to talk to your child about personal safety and how to keep abreast with the constantly changing apps and trends. Thank you to all parents who attended the meeting. As soon as the power point is made available we will email this to all parents.

In the meantime please refer to our [E-safety tab](#) on the Tetherdown Website:

Rainbow Week – w/c 5th February

As an ongoing part of our work we focus on developing strong relationships across the community based on respectful, trusting and caring attitudes to one another and our environment. We pride ourselves as staff that we encourage an inclusive approach to every child's education and address important topical issues relevant to our society. Rainbow Week will build on themes of acceptance and difference and how we can provide a safe environment for children, staff, governors and parents to thrive and achieve, enabling everyone to be themselves without fear of discrimination.

In line with recent changes in government legislation recent training and guidance has provided staff with a range of appropriate resources which will focus on LGBT+ issues. Books, stories, short films, songs, arts and craft activities will be used to support children's understanding of relationships and families enabling us to grow as a community of informed children and adults who accept difference without prejudice.

You will hear of activities through home learning tasks but we particularly wanted to ask children to dress in colours according to the LGBT+ flag – the rainbow flag:



Rainbow Day
On Friday 9th
February

We look forward to your continuing support and being able to provide feedback on our learning.

SEN Information - Tetherdown SEND Support Group

You may already be familiar with this group which was set up by parents as a Facebook Group. Eszter Szabo is the lead contact for the TSS Group. In partnership with the school Eszter and Ms McMeakin (SENCo) are holding a coffee morning on Friday 9th February at 10.30am in the Music Room to provide parents with information on how staff support the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities ("SEND") of children at Tetherdown. Ms McMeakin will demonstrate, through a case study, the processes Tetherdown School uses to identify and support learning for pupils with SEND, what interventions are put into place and how pupils' progress is monitored. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity for questions.

If you wish to join us, please email Eszter on: szabo.eszter.agnes@gmail.com

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World Book Day 2018

This year, World Book Day takes place on Friday 2nd March and we would like to invite you to help your child to make the most of this special occasion.



World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. To help them in their reading journey, every child will receive a £1 World Book Day Book Token that can either be exchanged for one of the TEN special £1 World Book Day books, or be used to get £1 off any book costing £2.99 or more. Your child will receive their token on the Day itself. You can find out more about the books on the World Book Day website as shown – [click here](#).

To really make the most of this exciting day, we would like all children to dress up as their favourite character from any book that has inspired them. Infants and Juniors will have their own fashion catwalk for the children to show off their wonderful costumes. There will be a prize for the most creative and authentic outfit. We look forward to an inspiring and exciting day!

Mrs Banks
(English Coordinator)



COMMUNITY AND SPORTING NEWS

On Thursday 18th January a team of 11 children from Years 5 and 6 competed in the Haringey Sports Hall Athletics trials against 11 other schools from across the borough. The children competed extremely well across all track and field events, including standing long jump, standing triple jump, speed bounce and seated chest push. Against some very strong competition across the board, the children put in their all for the team and achieved some high scores in the field events. The children did particularly well in the track events with Caroline and Ellie C. WINNING the girls PARLAUF 6 Lap AND the girls 2x2 race, and Evan and Alex finishing 2nd in the boys PARLAUF (PARLAUF is a multi lap race for 2 or more people) and Marcus and Hartley finishing 2nd in the boys 2x2. Big congratulations go to all the children who took part, with the team finishing 8th overall, and a big thank you to all parents and carers who assisted in the transport arrangements; we appreciate your continued support.

Mr. Reynolds
Higher Level Teaching Assistant for Sport

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

“Coughs and sneezes
spread diseases!”

As we are in the throes of winter and
managing illnesses, any kind donations of
boxes of tissues will be very much
appreciated -

Please send in via your
child's class teacher
Thank you.

JUNIOR School Meals for Spring Term 2018

Spring 1
Thursday 4th January 2018 to
Friday 9th February 2018 - £70.20

Spring 2
Monday 19th February 2018 to Thursday 29th
March 2018 - £75.40

Whole term - £145.60

Cake Sale Dates for 2018

Year 2, 3 and 4 on Friday 2nd February
Year 5 and 6 on Friday 8th June

Held on the junior playground at 3.30

A letter was recently sent out asking families
to identify languages spoken within the home.
Please return to your child's class teacher by
Monday 29th January.

Thank you



PARKING

Please remember to park considerately when
dropping off and picking up your children. Our
neighbours' dropped kerbs and driveways
should be avoided at all times.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Pancake Dessert

With Shrove Tuesday falling during half term Pabulum will be serving Pancakes on Thursday 8th February as a dessert option.



Film Competition for children:



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PSA NEWS

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PSA NEWS - Please [click here](#) for a link to the PSA page on our school website.

Dates for your diary – [click here to see the front page of the school website dates.](#)

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Committee members agreed to £4,000 of funding to provide Junior children with additional practical construction equipment for playtimes. "Snug Play" items used by Infant children are very popular with our younger Juniors and are great for all sorts of construction activities. These new items will also be complimented with a set of "Quadro"; rather similar to large Meccano.

Thanks again to the PSA for all their hard work!

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Remember we are a 'NO NUTS' School

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Out of Hours Provision

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Breakfast Club

Tetherdown After School Club

Breakfast club Co-ordinator:

Dianne Geen-Moore

Monday – Friday 07:40-08:50

Phone: 07580 576 147 or

Email: breakfastclub@tetherdownschool.org

for more information.

ASC Manager: Glen Billey (contact weekdays after 2.00pm)

Monday – Friday 15:30-18:00

Phone: 07580 576 147 or

Email: afterschoolclub@tetherdownschool.org

Our staff team for 2017-18 consists of:

Glen Billey, Nadine McBean, Tanya Fenton, Althea Skeete and Lara Davies.

Click [here](#) for a list of the Lunchtime and Afterschool Clubs taking place at Tetherdown

If you have any concerns with payments of either club please contact the Diane Geen-Moore on breakfastclub@tetherdownschool.org



London Academy of
Gymnastics and Dance

HALF TERM CAMP AT TETHERDOWN PRIMARY

LAGAD are running their fabulous February Half Term Camp at Tetherdown Primary School on Monday 12th – Friday 16th February.

The camp is run by LAGAD's amazing coaches (including 2 former World Champions). Our sessions will incorporate Gymnastics, Circus, Juggling, Dance, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Aerial Spins and fun for all. Suitable for ages 5 – 11 yrs. Times: 09:30 – 12:30 / 13:15 – 16:15.

LAGAD will also be running a separate Youngsters Camp for Children aged 3 + 4 years old at the Muswell Hill Centre, Hillfield Park, London N10 3QJ. This camp will run during the mornings and will have themed days which include 'Circus Skills', 'Ninja Gym', 'In the Jungle' and 'Pirates'. Time: 09:00 – 12:00.

You can book online at www.lagad.co.uk or phone us at 02088834675.