

Headteacher message

Thank you all for attending the Meet The teacher event this week. I hope that you found the information shared useful and your queries answered. Please see below for responses to a couple of queries from the Meet The Teacher event.

Can I withdraw my child from religious education lessons?

Parents can request to withdraw their child, wholly or partly, from receiving religious education (RE). However as a fully inclusive school with a community representing many faith and cultural backgrounds, we feel that our agreed syllabus reflects this diversity found within our community and across the UK. We use the Merton Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education's agreed syllabus. This syllabus has been developed through collaboration with faith groups included in the syllabus. The RE syllabus serves to educate children to make them aware of the different faiths in the community and in no way serves to convert children or impose a religious belief on children. In this instance, it is very similar to our approach to teaching children about appreciating each other's cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The more we learn about each other the greater community cohesions will be.

I have a child in KS1 and another in KS2. I drop off my KS1 child first but when I drop off my KS2 child, the doors are closed and my child has to go through the office. Will my child receive a late code?

If your child has to come through the office, at the beginning of the day, it is unlikely that your child will receive a late code unless your child arrives after the close of register. Your child will be given a yellow card to indicate to their class teacher that the child has been registered by the office staff to avoid registering the child twice.

Please use your class dojo to communicate with your child's class teacher to answer any class related concerns or queries.

Recent suspicious behaviour outside a local school

I would like to thank all parents who approached me to let me know about this incident at a nearby school. I want to reassure you all that I had been made aware and very quickly alerted staff to be extra vigilant at the beginning and end of the school day.



Dates for diary

Autumn term class assemblies

Wednesday 28th September	Carnation
Wednesday 12th October	Rose
Wednesday 9th November	Protea
Wednesday 16th November	Lotus

Monday 19th September

School closed—National Bank Holiday

Tuesday 20th September

School open to pupils

Year 3 Meet the Teacher event

Thursday 29th September

Meet the teacher meetings Nursery and Reception

Half term

Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

Inset day

Monday 31st October

Children return to school

Tuesday 1st November

Parents evening

Week commencing Monday 21st November

Attendance Stars

KS1—Iris 98.1%

KS2—Lotus and Orchid 100%

Well done!

Our school target is 96%

These classes can wear own clothes on

Thursday



Health Updates

Polio Booster Vaccination Programme

Following the detection of polio virus in sewage samples taken from North and East London, the NHS is offering all 1-9 year olds in London a polio booster vaccination. For some children this may be an extra dose of polio vaccine, on top of their routine vaccinations. In other children it may just bring them up to date.

Polio is an infection caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system – it can cause permanent paralysis of muscles. Because of the success of the polio vaccination programme, there have been no cases of natural polio infection in the UK since 1984. By giving an extra polio vaccine dose, this will boost each child's protection.

Find more information about polio, its symptoms, and vaccinations by visiting

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/polio/>

You can read the information leaflet by visiting

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1097153/UKHSA_12440_polio_leaflet_for_parents_and_carers.pdf

Getting Vaccinated

The polio vaccine is safe and effective. The best way to prevent polio is to make sure parents/carers and children are up to date with their vaccinations. The vaccine is given as part of a combined jab to babies, toddlers, and teenagers as part of the NHS routine childhood vaccination schedule. It's given when the child is:

- 8, 12 and 16 weeks old as part of the 6-in-1 vaccine
- 3 years and 4 months old as part of the 4-in-1 (DTaP/IPV) pre-school booster
- 14 years old as part of the 3-in-1 (Td/IPV) teenage booster

You will need to have all these vaccinations to be fully vaccinated against polio. The NHS in London has contacted parents to come forward for a booster or catch-up polio dose - parents should take up the offer as soon as possible.

Please visit your child's class dojo for more information

Under 18's COVID
Community Champions

Living Safely with COVID-19



Continue to keep
yourself and your
loved ones safe



1 VACCINES



Get vaccinated to reduce your risk of catching Covid-19 and becoming seriously ill, and to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to others

2 FRESH AIR



Letting fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meeting outside to disperse Covid-19 particles and reduce the risk of spreading the virus

3 FACE COVERING



Consider wearing a face covering in crowded enclosed spaces

4 STAY AT HOME IF UNWELL



Try to stay at home if you are unwell

5 HAND WASHING



Wash your hands regularly to limit the spread of Covid-19

Community

WOOF FEST 🐾🐾

St Raphaels's are an exciting new event coming to Beddington Park (Wallington) on Saturday 17th September! Woof Fest is our brand-new fundraising event for furry friends and their wonderful humans.

There will be loads going on, including a central dog show ring with workshops, displays, a fun dog show, the chance to meet the Met Police dogs, a food and drink quarter and a market square with vendors offering human and doggy treats and products.

Pups and humans can also sign up and get sponsored to complete our Treasure Trail around the park too! All for a fantastic online price of £5!!

All information and tickets can be found at <https://www.straphaels.org.uk/wooffest>

Early Help support

We understand that there are many demands placed on our families which have been further exacerbated by rising cost of living expenses. It is important to pull together as community to support each other as well accessing the wide range of support offered through Merton's Early Help strategy. Children and Families hub offer a wide range of support around many factors that could be impacting on your child's development and/or family functioning and well being. These can include:

- Child's development
- Behaviour and emotions
- Relationships
- Money
- Benefits
- Finding childcare

If you feel that you would benefit from accessing these services, please contact our Family Support advisor Alexia Waysay.

After School Enrichment Clubs

A letter will be going out to children from reception to year 6 informing you about our after school enrichment clubs. Please read this letter carefully and note that places are given on a first come first served basis.

Year 4



Year 4 have begun their topic, Home and Away by finding out where our families are from and plotting them on a world map.

We have also experimented with patterns in our art lessons



Year 2

Year 2 went to explore the Edible Garden this week. We found lots of fruits and vegetables growing.

