

SIR JOHN CASS'S FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL



Friday 11th September, 2015

A voluntary aided Church of England primary school in the heart of the City of London

Headteacher: Mr T Wilson

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school! It's been lovely to see the children settling into their new routines over the first week of the academic year. I have to say, it's remarkable how quickly and purposefully each group has set about doing their work this year. It has been a wonderful start to learning in 2015-16.

I wanted to take this moment to share with you details about the superb achievements of children in Foundation Stage, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two last year. Our children achieved some of the best results ever and we were particularly proud of the fact that every single child made great progress from their different starting points. These achievements are testament to the hard work, dedication and commitment of the whole teaching team and all of the children who were so engaged with their studies last year.

Year 6 SATS Results Summer Term 2015

(national averages in 2014 in brackets)

The table below details the proportions of children working at the expected level (4) and above the expected level (5). I haven't provided an exhaustive list but I will just mention that a whopping 21% of children also achieved a level 6 in Mathematics at the end of the Key Stage. This is the standard expected of children well into secondary school!

	Level 4 or higher	Level 5 or higher
Reading	Our school- 96% (national 89%)	79% (49%)
Writing	96% (85%)	50% (33%)
Mathematics	96% (86%)	69% (42%)
Spelling and Grammar	93% (76%)	90% (52%)

Key Stage One Results Summer Term 2015

We were also particularly impressed by our Key Stage One Phonics results in the summer term. We had been working hard all year to ensure children had the best possible start to early reading. In 2013 -14 only around half of the children in Year 1 reached the expected mark and in Year 2 when they sat the re-check the figures were about the same. In 2015 an impressive 83% of children reached the expected score in Year 1. Every single child attained the expected mark at Year 2 in the Phonics re-check. The table below details other assessments at key stage One. Children typically attain a 2b or higher at the end of Year 2 if they left Reception with a good level of development.

	Level 2b or higher	Level 3 or higher
Reading	90% (81%)	30% (31%)
Writing	70% (70%)	17% (16%)
Mathematics	80% (80%)	23% (24%)

At **Foundation Stage** we 75% of children achieved a good level of development compared to 60% nationally in 2014. Children leaving every key stage are exceptionally well prepared for the next phase of their school life.

Meet the teacher (Class 1 to Class 6)

Teachers will be giving introductions to the curriculum, homework and class routines on Tuesday 15th September at the start and end of the day and again on Friday 18th at 3.30pm.

Governors Annual Meeting

Governors are holding their Annual Parents Meeting on Wednesday 16th September (9am). Please come along to find out more about school expansion and governors body priorities for the year ahead.

When your child is unwell...

We have revised our procedure when your child is unwell. If your child is unwell, you must telephone the school office on the morning of the absence. When your child returns to school you must send a written explanation of the absence to the school office. This is the typical procedure found in most schools and it helps to ensure that we have reliable records about each child's attendance at school. It also helps us to monitor any patterns of illness and improve the health of the children at school through whole school initiatives.

If you would like further information about this change of procedure, please contact the school office where someone will be happy to help.

Building work

We have been busy over the summer upgrading some of the spaces around the school. You will notice that there is still some scaffolding on the roof which is due to be taken down in the next couple of weeks.

Here are some pictures of the improvements in the Early Years spaces.



We've increased the amount of light getting into Inventors by replacing the sky-light. We have also had the damp problem addressed in this room.



The new washbasins with the automatic taps in the Nursery are proving to be a hit and are helping every child to learn good hand washing skills to help them stay healthy.

Marking a special moment

Class 2 have been comparing Queen Elizabeth II to Queen Victoria this week. Children marked the special moment that Elizabeth became Britain's longest serving monarch. Here are Class 2 wearing their crowns!



Term and holiday dates

Autumn Term 2015

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October: School closed for half term

Monday 2nd November: School reopens

Friday 18th December: School closes at 1.30pm for the Christmas holidays

Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January: School closed

Spring Term 2016

Monday 4th January: School closed for INSET day

Tuesday 5th January: School closed for INSET day

Wednesday 6th January: School reopens

Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February: School closed for half term

Monday 22nd February: School reopens

Wednesday 23rd March: School closes at 1.30pm for the Easter holidays

Thursday 24th March to Friday 8th April: School closed for the Easter holidays

Summer Term 2016

Monday 11th April: School closed for INSET day

Tuesday 12th April: School reopens

Friday 27th May: School closed for half term

Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June: School closed for half term

Monday 6th June: School reopens

Friday 22nd July: School closes at 1.30pm for the summer holidays

Please note: term time holidays will not be authorised. You must always seek permission if you wish to take your child out of school in term time. Please see the office for details.