Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer and that the children are ready and raring to come back to school on Wednesday morning. Our staff all returned this morning and are putting the finishing touches to the preparation for the school year ahead. We are all very excited to welcome you all back.

Although there may not have been any teaching taking place over the holidays, the school has been an incredibly busy place to be, with lots of works going on. We have undertaken renovation in the dining room and the top floor toilets. Half of the school roof has been replaced. Our CCTV and entryphone systems have been upgraded to increase security in the school. We have also had some more greening work done around the school - in the main playground and on the roof.

We will be happy to discuss the work and further planned work in the school at the upcoming Governors AGM meeting. At this meeting we will also discuss the achievements of the school over the last year and the priorities for the coming year.

**Dates for your diary**

**Wednesday 4th September** - School reopens to children

**Wednesday 4th September** - 10:00am Welcome back Church service in St Botolph’s

**Thursday 5th September** - 3:30pm meet the class teacher and find out what your child will be learning over the year. (Rec to Y6)

**Thursday 12th September** - 9:15am for Year 5 and 6 parents. Transferring to secondary school information meeting.

**Monday 23rd September** - CHILL study follow up

**Monday 23rd September** - Lady Mayoress Mansion House Tea Party for Years 5 and 6

**Thursday 26th September** - 9:00am Governance AGM - come and find out what we are focussing on in school over the next year and hear about our achievements from the last academic year.

**Staffing updates:**

In addition to the changes we announced prior to the summer holidays, I am pleased to be able to let you know that we now have a new Children’s Centre Services manager - Ms Zahida Hussain. Zahida will be working in the Sp@ce and closely with the City of London to ensure that all City families with young children have the best opportunities from the earliest stages.

Cecilia Mutuku got married over the summer and is now Cecilia Ndungutse and Ms Jess Mills also got married, she is now Mrs Jess Ghui. We offer them our congratulations and best wishes for a happy future.
**Attendance**

In the last half term of the school year we experienced an increase in the number of term time absences that were unauthorised. Every day of term time is a day where children can gain valuable experiences and although holidays may be cheaper to take during term time this is unfortunately not an acceptable reason to be taking your child out of school. We broke up for our summer several days before a number of schools in and around London this year, however I was disappointed to see that families still took their children out of education early. The Local Authority Education and Welfare officer will be in school early this term to investigate absences and to discuss the implementation of fines where necessary.

Please remember to check the school calendar and our INSET dates to ensure that your child is present in school every day they are well enough to attend this year.

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**Uniform**

Every child should be returning to school in the full and correct school uniform. Please see below for a reminder of the uniform. If you have any difficulty with costs, please let the school office or myself know.

- **Trousers/ Shorts** – Navy
- **Skirt/Pinafore/Trousers** – Navy
- **Summer Dress** (Easter to October half term) – Red/Navy gingham. White socks should be worn with a summer dress.
- **Shirt long/short sleeve** - White
- **Polo Shirt with school Logo** – White
- **School tie** – To be worn with shirt
- **School logo sweatshirt** – Red/Navy
- **School logo cardigan** – Red/Navy
- **Tights** – Plain navy, white or red
- **Socks**—Plain white, navy or grey
- **School Shoes** – Black. Black trainers should not be worn to school. Boots should not be worn to school. We class boots as any footwear that fully covers the ankle bone.
  
  During the summer term sandals may be worn in a plain design with an ankle support. Sandals may be black, brown, blue or white.

- **Socks** - Navy or Grey

Uniform and logo items can be purchased from Khalsa schoolwear: [https://www.khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/](https://www.khalsaschoolwear.co.uk/)

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**Crossing Patrol**

As you know, our school crossing patrol officer moved away at the end of July so for the time being we have no support in this area. Please be very vigilant when your children are near the road and reinforce the appropriate crossing usage and safety.

If you are interested in, or know someone who may be interested in the role (working hours are - 8:15 to 9:15 and 3:00 to 4:00), please contact myself or Lizzie Webb our school business manager.

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*Faith, hope and love abide, these three: and the greatest of these is love.*