

JOHN SCURR NEWSLETTER

BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE

HEAD TEACHERS NOTE



I'd like to round up this first term by thanking you all for making September and October 2021 – such a success. Our attendance is sitting about National Average (despite the autumn sniffles and the fear of Covid) and our learning is getting back on track after 2 years of uncertainty.

This term the teachers have really focused on settling the children and ensuring that the curriculum allows them to know more, do more and learn more... This is our Curriculum Intent and our high expectations will ensure that this happens.

As I write – I can hear Year 6 parents waiting patiently for their appointments with their teachers – so that the children are well prepared for the year ahead and their transition to secondary school in 10 months' time.

Y6 Parents – please ensure you complete your e-admission forms for this by the deadline and include your 6 choices. This year will go really quickly and we will work hard to ensure your child is ready for the leap to secondary school. Please support us with ensuring that the reading is the main steer – and that your child is accessing Google Classroom for all their home learning.

Of course – Gorsefield will be the greatest event for next half term for Year 6 and we hope that every child in Y6 enjoys their 2 nights away from home on their very exciting adventure. This visit really helps boost their confidence and allows your child to experience real joy in being in the countryside with their friends and their teacher.

I really look forward to seeing the rest of you at your parent's meetings after half term- by now you will know when your appointment is and we will set up safe appointment areas in the halls.

This term we have welcomed new teachers, new pupils and new support staff. We have completed our redecorations and have really enjoyed our new playground surfaces in Reception and Key Stage 2. We have baked, scooted, dug, danced and made flax! We are getting fitter through running our marathon and we all love our singing and music sessions that happen throughout the week. Year 6 is swimming and our chess has made a return too.

In Early Years – we have welcomed 16 children who are only 2 years old, over 40 children who are 3 Years old and 60 children who are 4 years old! and they are settling well and learning every day. Our learning has been improved by using real objects that you have helped collect for us – kitchen equipment, cutlery, hats, pots, pans ... and the children are now learning to read and write.

We are really proud of how they have settled. Our steer throughout it all is the commitment to our 5 RS

"Respect, Resilience, Resourcefulness, Readiness and Reflection."

OUR 5 R'S

RESPECT

1



We respect each other's opinions and we respect everyone's right to learn.

RESILIENCE

2



If learning is difficult we know this because we are learning something new or difficult and we keep trying.

RESOURCEFULNESS

3



We ensure we have the right equipment and we look after what we have.

REFLECT

4



We think about the words and actions of ourselves and of others and we reflect on our learning to help us improve.

READINESS

5



We take the steps needed to ensure we are ready for the next stage in our learning.

OUR VISION



For everyone in the John Scurr Primary School community:

I will keep trying to learn new skills to grasp all of life's exciting opportunities

I will grow healthy and strong and will know how to look after myself

I will see the good in others and they will see the good in me.

My friends and my family all feel proud of our school community

I will have the confidence to think for myself, explore and take risks so that

I CAN BE THE BEST THAT I CAN BE!



Reading Pledge

1

The John Scurr Community

My Promise: 'I will read everyday at home and at school

2

What does reading look like

Sharing your reading together, reading on your own, playing reading games, reading to an adult, having an adult read to you and talking about reading

3

How long should I read for at home

Children in Early Years & Yrs 1-2 should read for at least 10 minutes everyday. Children in Yrs 3-6 should be reading for at least 20 minutes everyday

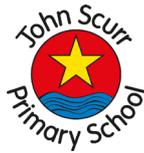
What Will You Choose To Read Today?

If we hold to this – then our children will make excellent progress in what they learn and how they learn. Lets make every day count.

Thank you for your support

Maria Lewington

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE



'We believe everyone should feel proud of the school community'

This is one of our vision statements- One of the ways that we feel proud about our school is through the website and our twitter page. We are really excited to be planning and creating a new Website for the school. Currently our Website is a little out of date and we want to run our twitter account **@JohnScurr_Sch** and our Prospectus from the Website Home Page – to keep you up to date.



@JohnScurr_Sch

Please remember to follow us on twitter – we now have 500 followers – this helps us to celebrate the great offer and talk about what is happening in school.

I aim for us to have a thousand followers by the end of the year! Twitter is a positive place to share all that is great about the school.



We also know that School Ping keeps you updated with the communication at school and so the website has a different function than before. Please look out for the new Website – and pass any information to your friends.

We have so many new families joining us now – lets spread the news and use the website and twitter to tell everyone how proud we are of John Scurr School.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY



Mental Health is all about keeping our minds healthy just like we keep our bodies healthy. We have been thinking about things we can do to feel happy or to cope when things feel tricky.

To raise money for a school mural we all came to school wearing something that made us happy! It was so exciting to see some BMX tricks too.



Fabienne King, Class Teacher

CURRICULUM INTENT



• To Know More • To be able to Do More • To Learn More

Some exciting new learning is happening at John Scurr Primary. We have been trialing a new curriculum, which ensures learning is taught over time so that pupils commit their learning to the long-term memory.

We now use CUSP curriculum for History, Geography, Science, Reading and Writing. The sequence of learning has been built around evidence-led practise and enables the children to Know More, be able to Do More, which will help them to Learn More.

If your child comes home with knowledge Organiser, please do make time revise the information on the sheet as this will help your child to participate with enthusiasm back in class. This also helps children to remember and make links to their learning which is something we are working on in school.

Keeley Alborough, Deputy Head Teacher

2 YEAR OLD PROVISION AT JOHN SCURR



We have an excellent opportunity available in our 2 year Old Provision here at John Scurr School.

If you are interested in finding out how to apply for a space please visit the Tower hamlets website below and find out if you are eligible for the 15 hour offer. Any queries please see Alomgir/ Halima or Rojina for further advice.

https://forms.towerhamlets.gov.uk/service/Early_learning_for_two_year_olds_application

Rojina Begum-Ullah, 2YO Provision

BMX - WITH MATTI FROM FUSION EXTREME

AMAZING MATTI from Fusion Extreme joined us at John Scurr for our **Mental Health Awareness Day**.

All year groups got a chance to see Matti do some amazing tricks, flicks, twists and turns on his BMX bike. The crowds of children cheered, laughed and smiled their way through each show Matti did in the playground.

Mental Health awareness day is all about creating an environment to allow your children and adults to have a great time and enjoy a bike show like Fusion Extreme. The children were also very interactive with Matti with counting down from 5 before he threw himself and his BMX bike in the air to do his twists and turns. The children loved it! Laughter and fun is always good to see when we celebrate events at John Scurr and we saw plenty of that as we celebrated.

Let me leave you with this quote by William Thackeray a British Novelist: **'A good laugh is sunshine in the house'** We certainly had sunshine on that day.



Satnam Sokhal- & Jermaine Pemberton-Smith

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

It is so exciting that we now have the chance to go on visits outside of school.

Zephaniah Class has started weekly swimming lessons at Mile End Leisure Centre and are already making fantastic progress. After the holidays it will be the turn of Khan Class to participate in swim lessons.

Year 4 has visited Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park as part of their Science learning. While there they explored the local environment and even went pond dipping!

Meanwhile Year 6 children are also excited about their Gorsefield residential next month.

We can't wait to find out what trips are coming up later in the year!



Joe Bentley- Educational Visits Lead

KEY STAGE 1 CELEBRATIONS

The children in Year 1 and 2 have settled into their classes so well and have been working really hard with fantastic results. I know that all the adults who work with these children are very proud.

In **Malala** class the children have been using their 5 senses outside and in the forest school to collect ideas for an Autumn poem. See what we wrote:

The children in **Attenborough** and **Kanneh-Mason** has an amazing day making their own bread, using some of the wheat grown in our own garden! Cassie brought an expert baker to share his expertise and I know all the children loved what they created. We hope you enjoyed the sharing of the bread at home.

Helen Davies - KS1 Lead

I see
scrunchy brown leaves

I feel
hard rough logs

I hear
bees buzzing

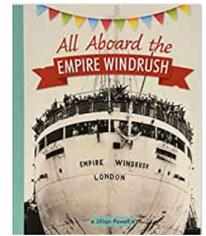
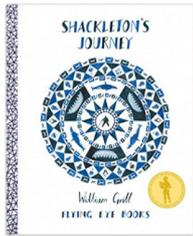
I taste
juicy tangy raspberries

I smell
stinky mud



UPPER KEY STAGE 2 CELEBRATIONS

The children in Year 5 and 6 have had an amazing start to the school year!



In Year 6 the children have enjoyed reading and learning about the Windrush generation. The class read, "All Aboard the Empire Windrush," has enhanced the children's learning in history. In Year 5 this term, both classes have read Shackleton's Journey."

We are proud to announce that the children in Upper Key Stage 2 together have read 10,267,964 words, Our children can be caught reading at any opportunity!

We would also like to say well done to all children who are attending READINESS clubs for Reading, Writing and Maths on Thursday and Friday after school. Also a big thank you to the parents in Year 6, who are making sure that their children attend Maths tuition before school and on Sunday mornings too!



Joanne Power - English Lead

LOWER KS2 NEWS

Year 3 have been having an amazing time as scientists this term. They have been learning about rocks, soils and volcanoes. Did you know that they are growing crystals? Look what happened to the crystal tree only 18 hours after adding crystal growing solution to the cardboard. They have also started designing and making their own cushions. The children have practised threading their needles, sewing a simple running stitch and a more complicated cross-stitch.



Musa, Fahim, Safwan and Raifa..



Year 4 have been busy learning about rivers, they have even built their own model rivers. Rashford class have visited the Soams Center to find out about animals and their habitats, Thunberg will be visiting later in the term. The children have also been tasting, designing and baking their own biscuits. Maybe they could do some baking with you during half term – they are excellent biscuit bakers!



Tracy Baskett - Class Teacher

PUPIL VOICE COMMITTEE



We are really excited to have launched this year's Pupil Voice Committee.

The Pupil Voice Committee is a group of pupils who help make and communicate decisions within the school. We meet once a week with Sophie to talk about our ideas for the school and any issues.

Then, we share what we have discussed with Maria. We also talk in assemblies and in our classrooms to tell the other children about any changes to the school.

Over the next half term we will be thinking about:

- Our curriculum and our learning this term and how it can be improved
- Improvements to the building over the summer and plans for next year.
- Events such as Children in Need day.

We are always happy to hear suggestions from other pupils about any ideas they might have.



Sophie- Lewis - Class Teacher



Netflix Parental Controls



To ensure your children do not have access to inappropriate content on Netflix, it is important for you to create a profile for them, customise the 'maturity rating', and 'lock' all profiles with a 'pin' so that they do not access content through someone else's profile. You can do all this by following the steps below:

Create profiles:

Go to your Manage Profiles page. Select Add Profile.

Name the profile.

To use the Netflix Kids experience, select Kids.

Select Continue. The new profile should show on the list of profiles on your account.

To manage the types of TV shows and movies that people on your Netflix account can watch, you can create individual profiles with customised maturity ratings:

Profiles can be added on devices made after 2013.

1. Go to your **Manage Profiles** page.
2. Select **Add Profile**.
3. Name the profile. To use the **Netflix Kids experience**, select **Kids**.
4. Select **Continue**. The new profile will show on the list of profiles on your account.

How to lock or unlock profiles:

1. From a web browser, go to your Account page.
2. Open the **Profile & Parental Controls** settings for the profile you want to lock.
3. Change the **Profile Lock** setting.
4. Enter your Netflix account password.
5. Check the box to **Require a PIN** to access the selected profile—to remove the PIN requirement, uncheck the box.
6. Enter 4 numbers to create your **Profile Lock** PIN. Unless you're using an unsupported device, you'll enter this PIN to open the profile or play titles downloaded from it.
7. To require a PIN any time a new profile is added to your account, select **Require PIN to add new profiles**—this option is only available after creating a **Profile Lock** PIN for the main account profile
8. Select **Submit**.

How to require a pin to add a new profile:

You can create a Profile Lock PIN, and then require the PIN to be entered before a new profile is added on your account.

1. From the main account profile, create and require Profile Lock PIN.
2. After requiring a PIN to access your main Netflix profile, you have an option to Require PIN to add new profiles—This option is available only after creating a Profile Lock PIN for the main account profile.
3. Select Save.

Full instructions available at: <https://help.netflix.com/en/node/264>



OUR SCHOOL GOVERNORS

For everyone in the John Scurr Primary School community:



Kevin Hinde (Chair)
Curriculum / HR Committee
Link - Safeguarding and Looked after Children

The Governing Body's job is to oversee the strategic direction of the School. We meet Maria regularly and work with her to ensure everything possible is being done to ensure that the school flourishes. We make budget decisions, review the curriculum, look at the progress that children are making, and make sure that the school buildings and grounds are well-maintained.

The full Governing Body meets twice a term, and in addition we meet in committees to consider issues in more depth.

In June we welcomed Yasmin Afsana as a new parent governor, alongside Julie de Young who joined the Governing body in January.

At the most recent Governing Body meeting in October we looked at the budget for the year- despite the general pressure on school finances, our School's budget is in good shape. We were pleased to hear about the investments made to improve the school grounds over the summer. We also discussed the School's plans to support children who have missed out on classroom time during the recent lockdown.

The heart of what we do as Governors is to define and uphold the vision and ethos of the School. As a School, our values are the "5 R's": we are Respectful, Resilient, Resourceful, Ready and We Reflect. We are determined to offer all children in the School a rich, relevant and inclusive education to prepare them for the modern world.

We believe that a high quality education provides a child with the best start they can have in life. We want all John Scurr pupils to have a passion for learning.

Education is at the root of a creative, compassionate, and prosperous society.

We are proud of the enthusiasm and hard work of our children, our staff, and the School community.

Kevin Hinde - Chair of the Governing Body



Mehreen Malik
Finance & General Purpose
Link - Safeguarding and Looked after Children



Gemima Reilly
Headteacher Morpeth School
Curriculum/ HR & Standard Committee
Link - English



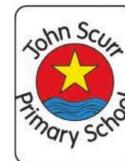
Adeyinka Adefisoye
Finance & General Purposes
Link - Behaviour & Personal Development



Joanne Power (Teacher)
Writing Leader
Curriculum & Standards
Link - Enrichment



Fabienne King (Teacher)
Early Years/Finance/ General
Link - Early Years



Viren Patel
Curriculum & Standards
Link - Science, Tech, Computing



Xina Li
Finance & General Purposes Committee
Link - Maths



Julie De Young (Parent)
Elected position
Link - Inclusion



Yasmin Afsana (Parent)
Elected position - EYFS + KS1
Curriculum & Standards
Link - Early Years



TOM'S WEEKLY CHESS PUZZLE



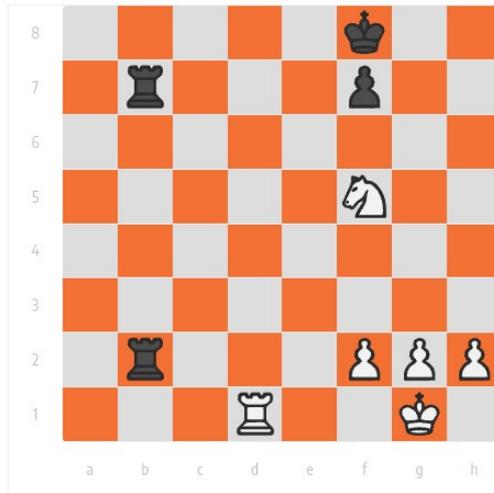
Tom's weekly chess puzzle #8

My chess puzzle is back! I've got a tricky one this time.

It's a checkmate for white in one move.

Can you find the move?

Which piece should move to which square?



Answer to puzzle #7 = Queen to C8. Checkmate!



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS HALF TERM

96%

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Nursery 1 | 95.16% |
| Nursery 2 | 94.75% |
| Reception | 89.85% |
| Year 1 | 96.55% |
| Year 2 | 96.75% |
| Year 3 | 96.31% |
| Year 4 | 97.45% |
| Year 5 | 97.30% |
| Year 6 | 96.86% |
| Total | 96% |



TERM DATES 2021-22

AUTUMN TERM

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Term 1 | Wednesday 1 st September - Friday 22 nd October 2021 (36 pupil days, 2 INSET) |
| INSET Days | Wednesday 1 st and Thursday 2 nd September 2021 |
| Half Term | Monday 25 th October - Friday 29 th October 2021 |
| Term 2 | Monday 1 st November - Friday 17 th December 2021 (34 pupil days, 1 INSET) |
| INSET Days | Monday 1 st November 2021 |
| Christmas Break | Monday 20 th December 2021 - Friday 31 st December 2021 |

SPRING TERM

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Term 3 | Tuesday 4 th January - Friday 11 th February 2022 (29 pupil days, 1 INSET) |
| INSET Days | Monday 3 rd January 2022 |
| Half Term | Monday 14 th February - Friday 18 th February 2022 |
| Term 4 | Monday 21 st February - Friday 1 st April 2022 (30 pupil days) |
| Easter Break | Monday 4 th April - Friday 15 th April 2022 |

SUMMER TERM

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Term 5 | Tuesday 19 th April - Friday 27 th May 2022 (27 pupil days, 1 INSET) |
| EID Closure | Tuesday 3 rd May 2022 |
| INSET Days | Polling Day (date driven by LBTH Polling decision) |
| Half Term | Monday 30 th May - Friday 3 rd June 2022 |
| Term 6 | Monday 6 th June - Friday 22 nd July 2022 (34 pupil days) |
| Eid closure | Monday 11 th July 2022 |

PLEASE NOTE

1. Dates are subject to change in reflection of COVID-19 restrictions.
2. Our dates reflect Morpeth School - as we have many families who share both sites.