



St Ippolyts CE (Aided) Primary School

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NEWSLETTER



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Wow wow wow! The children in Years 3-6 did SO well performing their summer show this week. It was truly magical to see them all on stage singing and acting so brilliantly. A huge thank you to all the staff, but especially Miss Walker and Miss Abbott supported by Mrs Stewart, Mrs Archer and Mrs Hoar; they have all worked tirelessly for weeks.

Thank you also for supporting the PTA by buying refreshments and for your donations. These donations go directly towards music and drama in school, such as performance licences, props, scripts, instruments etc. Keep an eye on the school website for a full photo gallery!





In a few short days we will waving goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children as they fly the nest for secondary school. It doesn't seem five minutes since they were arriving for their first day in Class 1, but we are so very proud of the remarkable, resilient, and caring young people that they have become.

This year has seen so many highlights for this class – either through their many sports achievements, their academic work, their artistic flair and of course their dramatic abilities in the wonderful end of year show!

We have no doubt that they will continue to shine at secondary school and beyond...go for it Year 6, we will miss you all very much but know you are ready for the next exciting chapter – Be Bold Be Strong!

Leavers Service & picnic: Monday

Parents of Y6 children are invited to join us in Church on Monday 17th July at 2.15pm for the Leavers Service. After the service, all children and families, not just Y6, are invited to an end of year picnic at the field.

Last Day of term: Tuesday

When we break up for summer on Tuesday, Year 6 will exit from the back of the school and come up the driveway rather than their usual gate by their classroom. Please could Y6 parents wait there for us at hometime, it's a lovely time for photos and goodbyes. All other families are welcome to join us to wave them off too!

Class 4 trip

Class 4 spent a wonderful day learning all about WW2 at RAF Hendon.

The children took part in an interactive workshop entitled 'Air Raid!' which enabled them to understand and appreciate what it must have been like to live through the Blitz. They also extended their knowledge of the topic through touring the museum in small, adult-led groups. It was a fabulous day. Thank you to all the grown-ups who went along to help!



Transition day today

Today we welcomed our new Reception children into school for the morning and our Year 6 children have spent the day at their secondary schools. All the other children spent time in their new classes, getting to know their new teachers, classrooms and classmates.

Each child has been given a leaflet with lots of useful information about their new class for September, they are also on the school website to refer to in the summer.



Important: current Year 2 children, free school meals

When children move into Key Stage Two, they are **no longer eligible for universal infant free school meals**. However, your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Please ask at the office about how to apply if you are unsure.



Summer Fair!

What an incredible summer fair we had last week! The weather was glorious and the school field was packed with things to see and do. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event.

The PTA have worked tirelessly this year and the summer fair was definitely the icing on the cake, so thank you to all of the PTA helpers, but especially our amazing PTA chair, Marta.

The fair raised

a £1425!

Early Bird Club: Important

Recently, we have had significant numbers of children arriving at Early Bird Club who have not be booked in advance. This causes a lot of additional admin work in the office, and also could potentially mean that you bring your child when we are fully booked and don't have space for them.

Please ensure that children are booked into Early Bird via Arbor in advance of the session. Many thanks.



READING BOOKS BEING COLLECTED IN FOR SUMMER

Between now and the end of term we will be collecting in all reading and library books so that we can do our annual summer stock check. Please can you have a check at home for any school books which may be lurking and send them in please. Thank you!



Goodbyes, Bon Voyage and a wedding day!

Next week we wave goodbye to Mrs Archer, Miss Gray and Mrs Harrington-Smith as they head off for new chapters! We send them off with our love and very best wishes!

We also wish Miss Abbott a wonderful wedding day and honeymoon in the summer and look forward to welcoming her back as Mrs Thain in September.

Year 6 assessment results

If you have noticed that the Year 6 children have big smiles on their faces this week, it's because they received their SATs results and we couldn't be more proud of how well they have done:

Reading:	85% at the expected standard (or above) <i>national – 73%</i> 40% at the higher standard
Writing:	95% at the expected standard (or above) <i>national – 71%</i> 20% at the higher standard
Maths:	85% at the expected standard (or above) <i>national – 73%</i> 45% at the higher standard
GPS:	95% at the expected standard (or above) <i>national – 72%</i> 30% at the higher standard
Reading + Writing + Maths (this is known as the combined score)	
	85% at the expected standard (or above) <i>national – 59%</i> 10% at the higher standard



This is a fantastic set of set of results which are very much deserved – Year 6 children have worked so hard this year. The tests do not only assess the learning from Year 6, but across the whole of Key Stage Two, so it is definitely a team effort; however special thanks (and well dones!) to Miss Walker for helping the children to revise and for preparing them so well for the tests so that they could be calm and confident.

Well done Year 6 – you smashed it!

A message from our Chair of Governors, Mrs Luxton

Like many parents this week I watched the school production of "Paws and Claws" and was left in awe of our wonderful, talented pupils. I felt a glow of pride as the children acted their hearts out, sang, made us laugh and delivered a profound message of love, community, friendship and diversity with a performance that was a fine example of everything we do so well at St Ippolyts.

Although we have high expectations, both academically and behaviourally, our overarching aim is to offer an inspiring curriculum enriched with opportunities and experiences that will motivate our pupils to enjoy learning and to live in harmony with others.

It is not just luck that has made St Ippolyts School is such a warm and vibrant place for our children to grow and learn. We have a dedicated and inspirational team of staff who are willing to go above and beyond to ensure that every child fulfils their potential and leaves St Ippolyts as a confident, caring individual ready to take the next steps towards adult life. We have amazing parents who support the school in so many ways by fundraising, volunteering and being wonderful advocates for everything we do. We have committed Governors willingly take on responsibility for the strategic direction and educational standards of the school and, last but not least, we have our brilliant pupils who are such fantastic ambassadors everywhere they go.

So, as we prepare to say goodbye to year 6 and to wish them well in their future lives, I would like to thank everyone who made their educational journey so far an exciting and fulfilling one.

Have a wonderful summer!

Best wishes, Mrs Liz Luxton

School Governors



Governor vacancies

In September, we will be seeking to fill two vacancies on our Governing Body.

If you think you might be interested and would like to find out more about the role and the time commitment involved, please do come and have a chat with Mrs Peddie at the start of the autumn term.

In the meantime, if you google 'role of a school governor' or similar, there is a lot of information online.

The PTA has had a very successful year raising funds for the school.

We have collected donations and held events and sales throughout the year to raise money for the school. This year, the PTA has raised over £7,000 and invested nearly £5,000 back into school on different projects, including play equipment, class stationery, storage for PE equipment, outdoor signs, class termly donations and more.

If you have ideas of projects the PTA could fund to benefit the children, look out for the date of the first PTA meeting in the first newsletter of the term. You can also email pta@stipps.herts.sch.uk with your suggestions.

On behalf of the PTA, we would like to thank all the children and their families for their continued support and generosity.



This week's article from our Pupil Journalists, Annie & Lily

Now this school year is coming to an end, everyone is getting ready for their next year. As for the year 6s, they are leaving to go to their secondary schools and today they get a small teaser of what is ahead.

Yesterday was class 3s assembly. They had so many different topics and ideas from throughout the year and eventually decided on the romans. They had so much to share about them. One of the many facts we learnt was that if the Romans had never invaded, we would've never had many important things we use to this day.

As we say goodbye to this school year, we also say goodbye to some of our beloved staff. We'd like to thank Mrs Harrington Smith for always cooking lovely school dinners, Mrs Archer for giving us wonderful art lessons. Goodluck Miss Gray on your travels to America and lastly, we wish Miss Abbott the best wedding day ever!



I am sure that you will agree, our pupil journalists have done a brilliant job reporting on school life this year. They have been fully committed to their role, always finding time to write an interesting article about something that has been happening in school each week.

Thank you, Annie and Lily, you have been fantastic!



SPORTS



KS1 Rounders

Gold medals and a smart trophy for these Y1 and Y2 children who competed in the SSFT Rounders competition.

For some of the team it was their first event and their first medal - well done!

St Ippolyts FC Summer Fete

Thank you to everyone who went along to the summer fete last Saturday and supported the PTA 'Jolly Jars' stall. You might also like to know that Mr Jefferies' team won the football tournament too - well done Mr Jefferies!





Diary Dates

Autumn term 2023



Date	Event	Information
SEPTEMBER		
1st	INSET Day	Staff training, no school for children
4th	Autumn term begins	
15th	Class 1 Curriculum Evening	Class 1 parents, 6pm in the school hall.
21st	Class 1 Coffee Morning	Class 1 parents, 9.00am in the hall, younger siblings welcome
29th	Harvest Festival	Service in church for children and staff. Children are asked to bring a harvest gift of non-perishable food items.
OCTOBER		
9th	OPEN SESSION 3.30-5.30pm	A chance for parents & families to visit classrooms, look at books and chat informally to teachers, no appointment needed
13th	Class 6 Assembly	Assembly for C6 Parents at 9.15am
w/c 16th	WELLBEING WEEK	A week of themed activities and visitors to support children's mental health and wellbeing
16th	PTA Movie and Munch	After-school fundraiser, finishes around 5pm
20th	Class 6 Cake Day	Class 6 are asked to provide the cakes to sell at breaktime. All children can bring money to buy a cake instead of their usual snack.
23 – 27th	HALF TERM	
30th	Back to school	
NOVEMBER		
2nd	School photos – individual and siblings	
10th	Remembrance Day	Service in church for children and staff
w/c 13th	AUTUMN ASSESSMENT WEEK	
24th	Class 5 Assembly	Assembly for C5 Parents at 9.15am
w/c 27th	PARENT CONSULTATIONS	A blend of face to face, vide and telephone appointments will be on offer.
DECEMBER		
1st	Class 5 Cake Day	Class 5 are asked to provide the cakes to sell at breaktime. All children can bring money to buy a cake instead of their usual snack.
4th	PTA Festive Movie and Munch	After-school fundraiser, finishes around 5pm
7th	Class 1 Nativity	2pm in the hall for C1 parents
8th	PTA Christmas Fair	3.30-5.30pm
12th	Carol Service	In church for children and staff
13th	Christmas Dinner	
18th	Christmas Parties	Children can wear non-uniform/ Christmas outfits for the day
19th	End of term 2pm	

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES TO MAKE A NOTE OF (please note that there is always the possibility that dates may need to change as the year goes on; make sure you keep an eye on newsletters for any changes)			
Spring term 2024		Summer term 2024	
17-17 th Jan	Arts Days	26 th April	C2 Cake Day
29 th Jan	Open Session	10 th May	C2 Assembly
2 nd Feb	Class 4 Cake Day	w/c13 th May	Y6 SATs week
9 th Feb	C4 Assembly	21 st May	SPORTS DAY
14 th Feb	Y6 Parent Consultations	22 nd May	Reserve date for sports day
19 th – 23 rd Feb	Half term	27 th – 31 st May	Half term
w/c 4 th Mar	Spring Assessment Week	w/c 3 rd June & w/c 11 th June	Summer assessments for Y1,3,4,5
7 th Mar	World Book Day	7-10 th June	Y5/6 PGL School Journey
11-12 th Mar	Science Days	14 th June	C1 Assembly
w/c18 th Mar	Parent Consultations	20 th June	PGL Assembly
10 th Mar	C3 Cake Day	21 st June	C1 Cake Day
27 th Mar	Easter Service	5 th July	PTA Summer Fair
28 th Mar	End of term 2pm	8- 10 th July	KS2 Production
		11 th July	Transition Day
		17 th July	Leavers Service
		18 th July	End of term 2pm



Term dates 2023 – 2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023	
1st September	INSET Day, no school for children
4 th September	Autumn term begins for children
23 rd – 27 th October	Half term week
19 th December	END OF TERM 2pm
20th December	INSET Day, no school for children
SPRING TERM 2024	
4 th January	Spring term begins for children
19 th – 23 rd February	Half term week
28 th March	END OF TERM 2pm
SUMMER TERM 2024	
15th April	INSET Day, no school for children
16 th April	Summer term begins for children
27 th - 31 st May	Half term week
18 th July	END OF TERM 2pm
19th July	INSET Day, no school for children
22nd July	INSET Day, no school for children
23rd July	Occasional Day. School closed to staff & children



Term Time Holidays

Please avoid taking children out of school for holidays. You might think that a week doesn't make much difference, **but it absolutely does** and children can miss key concepts of learning that they find it difficult to recover from, especially when trying to build new learning on shaky or missing foundations.

However tempting it may be, please do not take children out of school for the beginning of terms, especially September. This is the most critical point of the school year, for children to settle into new classes, learn new routines and expectations and start new topics and units of work. Missing this vital time really does put your child at a disadvantage from the very start of the year. Please also be reminded that holidays are not authorized and may incur a fixed penalty notice.

attendance MATTERS

0 days absence	190 days in school	100% attendance
10 days absence	180 days in school	95% attendance
19 days absence	171 days in school	90% attendance
29 days absence	161 days in school	85% attendance
38 days absence	152 days in school	80% attendance
47 days absence	143 days in school	75% attendance

Attendance	Days absence	Weeks absence	Hours missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	59 hours
90%	19 days	4 weeks	124 hours
85%	29 days	6 weeks	189 hours
80%	38 days	8 weeks	247 hours
75%	48 days	10 weeks	312 hours
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	371 hours
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	436 hours



Thank you...

...to everyone who has supported our school over the past year:

Our Governing Body, particularly Mrs Luxton, our Chair, who provides such excellent support and leadership for the school. Much of what the Governors do is 'behind the scenes' but there is rarely a week goes by without a meeting or task of some description and they all give of their time voluntarily ~ thank you Governors!

Our FANTASTIC and dedicated PTA committee who work tirelessly to host an array of events and raise such valuable funds ~ you are our unsung heroes! The work of the PTA makes such a difference to what we offer in school, and we are so grateful for your involvement however big or small.

To you as parents for all the support you give to the school through working in partnership with us to achieve the best outcomes for your children, your input is vital. Thank you especially to those of you who have provided us with transport to sports fixtures, helped at special events, fundraising and on trips.

Last but by no means least, the staff. We have a fantastic team of dedicated professionals who **always** give 100%. St Ippolyts School is so lucky to have them all. So THANK YOU to all the staff; they deserve a well-earned sleep over the summer!

It has been a fantastic year in school with so many highlights: continued sports success (not to mention a national title!), brilliant creative learning, a successful Ofsted inspection, class trips, PGL, church services, themed weeks, swimming lessons...the list goes on.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break,
See you in September!



Our end of year prayer

We always use this prayer on the last day of term in July for our leavers

Dear Lord,

We thank you for the happy times we have had at St Ippolyts School. For the fun times we have had playing games on the grass in summer, for the sports days, fairs, and school productions. We thank you for the fun school trips we have experienced and the interesting visitors we have met.

We thank you for the teachers and grown-ups who have worked with us over the years, who have prepared us to move onto secondary school with confidence.

We thank you for our friends through the years who have cared for us, helped us with our work and shared our troubles. As we venture off in different directions, help us not to feel sad, but to remember the good times we have shared together. Help us as we move to new schools and new classes, to make good friends and be happy, facing the future with courage.

As we leave school today to enjoy the summer holidays, we ask that you are with each and every one of us in all that we do in the coming weeks. Help us to rest and to enjoy spending time with our friends and families ahead of our next big adventure.

Most of all, we thank you for loving us. May we always remember to love one another, just as you have loved us.

Amen