



ST AGNES Catholic Primary School

With Jesus beside us, we do our best

Rainhill Way, Bow, London, E3 3ER

Tel: 020 8980 3076

Email: office@st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms B McDaid

9th September 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you all had a good summer and managed to get some rest. It was very good to see all the children back, eager and ready to work. We are excited to welcome new children and staff to the school and hope that they settle well. Please see below some important information to familiarise yourself with as we start a new term.

Dropping off and picking up:

Reception – Year Six:

School day 09:00 - 15:30

Nursery

School Day 08:50-11:50 (Part time) 08:50-15:20 (Full time)

Entrance via the playground for all morning drop offs. Part time children are collected via the car park gate. Full time children are to be collected from the classroom door via the playground.

The main gates will close promptly at **9.05 am** in the morning and **3.40pm** in the afternoon. Any late children will need to enter the school via the car park and report to the office. This will be marked as a late attendance. In order to avoid a late registration mark, please ensure your child is lining up outside the class door for the 9am bell.

Attendance

Attendance will continue to be a big focus this year. We do understand that sometimes children are unwell and unable to attend school. Please note that if your child is absent, it is your responsibility to notify the school on the first morning of their absence before the start of the school day. This can be via Parentmail, email, phone, or voicemail to the office. St. Agnes will closely monitor attendance & punctuality and where this falls short of the expectations, parents will be asked to attend a meeting with the headteacher. A reminder to please ensure all medical appointments are booked outside of school hours. For any appointments during the school day, proof must be sent to the office via info@st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk.

Leave in Term Time

We follow the Tower Hamlets 'Holidays and Leave in Term Time Policy', which means that requests for holidays or leave in term time are likely to be rejected and could be subject to a penalty notice (fine).

We appreciate that there may be times that are unavoidable and in this instance we ask that you make an application for leave to the school and wait for a response before booking your trip. Our school dates are attached to this letter and can also be found on the school website. Please also find attached to this letter the New National Framework regarding penalty notices, which includes new guidance stating that penalty notices will be issued where there are 10 sessions (1 session = 0.5 day) of unauthorised absence and/or lateness in a 10 week period.

School Uniform:

Please ensure to send your child into school wearing a school uniform with their name on the label. Please note school jumpers can be plain navy and do not need to show the school logo. A copy of the school uniform is attached. Earrings, jewellery and nail varnish are not allowed. Long hair (boys and girls) must be worn up, no patterned cuts. Children should only wear trainers on their PE day.

Communication between school and parents

For quick questions/ comments: please feel free to approach the class teacher at pick up time and ask to speak to them. They may be able to talk to you once all the children have left, or they will offer you a time to meet instead. **Please be prepared to wait until all children have been picked up.** Messages can also be passed on via the school office. You can email info@st-agnes.towerhamlets.sch.uk or telephone 0208 980 3076. Polite reminder that the school office is closed every Tuesday from 12pm. Please only telephone the office in the case of emergencies. There is now a standard £5 admin charge applicable to not only passport applications but also requests for letters such as confirmation of school attendance, visa applications etc. We ask that you please avoid requesting such letters during the last week of each term.

Meet the Teacher schedule September 2024:

Parents/Carers are invited to a class meeting for Years 1 to 6 (dates and times below). This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher who will be able to give information about the year group curriculum, the class timetable and offer suggestions on supporting your child's learning at home. We appreciate there may be an overlap for some families, if you are unable to attend any class meetings resources will be published on the school website.

Year 2 - Mr Ramesar	Wednesday 11 th September 3.30-4.00pm
Year 3 - Mrs Manning	Wednesday 11 th September 3.30-4.00pm
Year 4 - Miss Sloan	Thursday 12 th September 3.30-4.00pm
Year 5 - Mr Karwacinski	Friday 13 th September 3.30-4.00pm
Year 6 - Ms Todd	Friday 13 th September 3.30-4.00pm
Year 1 - Miss Daly	Monday 16 th September 3.30-4.00pm

We will also have two learning review meetings. The first is held in the Spring time after all Autumn term assessments have been completed. You will receive a short interim report reporting progress, achievement and attitude to learning as well as a focus on attendance and punctuality. The second will be in the second half of the Summer term.

Religious Education Curriculum

There is a new Catholic education system in England and Wales which St Agnes will be following this year. Details of the new curriculum are attached. Our Catholic social teaching element for this half term is Care for Creation. We will be considering how we can take care of our common home – God's World.



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School Meals

As the cost of living rises, I would like to remind you that the school currently offers all children except Nursery free school meals as a result of funding from Tower Hamlets. These hot meals are nutritious and increasingly popular. The school would encourage all parents to sign up for school meals. A copy of the menu is located on the school website and is due to change in October. Packed lunches for some in the last year have become less nutritious. This term there will be regular packed lunch searches and those food items that go against the healthy eating of the school will initially be highlighted but if they regularly appear will be confiscated. NUTS SHOULD NOT BE IN PACKED LUNCHES. We remain a water only school so no other drinks should be consumed on the school premises. A copy of the packed lunch policy can be found on the website.

Clubs:

St Agnes runs a daily Breakfast Club and After School club. Further details including costs are on our school website. Both clubs are currently full, however if you would like for your child to be placed on the waiting list please contact the school office.

We also provide activity clubs such as choir, gardening club, art club and sports club, dates of which will be available towards the end of the half term.

PE timetable:

Reception	Friday
Year 1	Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday
Year 3	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Friday – swimming starting 13 th September
Year 6	Tuesday

Reception children are to bring their P.E kits into school in a school P.E bag. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled.

Year 1 - 6 are to come to school in their P.E. kits, trainers are allowed.

Westminster Building Fund:

St Agnes is a voluntary aided school and we are therefore required to contribute 10% of the costs spent on updating, repairing and maintaining our school buildings and infrastructure. To fund this cost, we kindly ask that families support the school by making a contribution of £22.50 per year, per family. Contributions are made via Parentmail. Parents are able to make a payment for the full amount of £22.50, or part payment throughout the year. With the continued support and generosity of parents we as a school can continue to maintain and improve the facilities for the benefit of all children. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 18th September 9am – Secondary transfer drop in session - Mrs Manning will be assisting Y6 parents with secondary school applications.

Thursday 19th September – Year 3 Class Assembly 9.10am. Parents/Carers welcome to attend.

27th September – 9am New Hall - We will be arranging a Macmillan coffee morning with our parental engagement team so that you can meet teachers and other staff in a more informal setting, whilst also supporting a very good cause. We welcome all donations of cakes, whether they be home-made or shop bought. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Thursday 3rd October - Year 4 Class Assembly 9.10am. Parents/Carers welcome to attend.

Thursday 17th October - Year 5 Class Assembly 9.10am. Parents/Carers welcome to attend.

Monday 21st October – School Photographers In for whole school photos – Individual and sibling photos.

Yours sincerely



Ms B McDaid

Headteacher