



We have reached the end of the first half term of the academic year and we hope you have enjoyed seeing your school evolve and develop further into an outstanding school which puts the child's needs and wants into the very heart of our ethos. The introduction of 'charking' has been a complete success. Your children enjoy 'feeding back' to their teachers and this has proven invaluable. A new reading scheme along with 'reading cards' has been introduced with unquestionable success. We have a new Numeracy system. Our library has doubled in size and has become an even more relaxing and welcoming place for the children. The introduction of further soft furnishings, such as bean bags, which will be arriving shortly after half term which will further add to this restful environment. If you have been into school over the past few weeks – and we wholly encourage you to do so, you will have seen some beautiful new displays and murals adorning our walls.

The children have enjoyed learning about the ideas behind Growth Mindset; always being the very best you can be, stretching yourself and sticking to a task even if you find it difficult, loving a challenge and enjoying effort, all valuable lessons. An introduction to Peer Marking has also been welcomed by our upper school children; sharing ideas, learning from each other and helping our friends. 'Golden Tea' and 'Shooting Stars' have been two wonderfully positive new initiative which your children have embraced excitedly.

Tapestry – an online portal for our EYFS (Early Year's Foundation Stage) children is also being introduced. The introduction of this valuable service has been delayed by a few weeks due to technical difficulties but we are confident it will all be in place after half term. Tablets have also been purchased and introduced to the classroom as an aid to data collection. We are also hugely excited to let you know that we have invested in **INTERACTIVE SMART BOARDS FOR EVERY CLASSROOM**. This will be an invaluable tool for all your children. They are being fitted over the half term. We can't wait to invite you into school to see them in action and learn about the benefits of using them.

We still welcome your views on our suggested 5 lesson timetable before a final decision is made. I am delighted that every single response so far has been positive. There is still time to express your opinions before a definitive judgement is made or a trial week is considered.

This half term the children have enjoyed trips to The Chicken Shed Theatre and the synagogue to learn about the Jewish festival of Sukkot. We have welcomed parents into our school to talk to the children about Diwali and the Islamic New Year. Father Steven came to our school to talk about Harvest.

There have also been many changes 'behind the scenes' – our staff have all been on or will be attending some wonderfully enjoyable and hugely helpful training courses. Our policies have been updated, our administration systems have been upgraded.

We look forward to the next half term with excitement. It is always one of the most magical times of the year – Christmas Lunch, a children's entertainer and a pantomime visit to name but a few. We are hugely thankful to FoSMS for arranging the personalised cards and for the end of term party which we know your children will love.

This coming half term will also be Mrs Wilson's final half term as Head Teacher. We thank you for your kind wishes following her announcement. Dr Walak is delighted with his new position and we know his vision for our future is a hugely exciting and positive one.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. We are excited about our future... We've worked hard for it, your children deserve it and you expect it.



This Week's Shooting Stars



Zain	Impeccable Manners	Michael	Learning to tie his tie
Kassandra	Excellent Homework	Dylan	Learning to tie his tie
Anthony	Super Singing	Koutaro	G.M Approach to averages
Hashini	Good Trying	Tito	Being quietly committed to her work

Golden Tea

This week, the following children were chosen at random to enjoy Golden Tea with Mrs Wilson –

Michael B	Maya
Tre	Musa

Autumn Term 2016

Half Term Break: Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2016

Term Ends: Friday 9th December 2016

Spring Term 2017

Return to School: Monday 9th January 2017

Half Term Break: Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February 2017

Term Ends: Friday 31st March 2017

Summer Term 2017

Return to School: Monday 24th April 2017

Half Term Break: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2017

Term Ends: Friday 14th July 2017

Autumn Term 2017

Return to School Tuesday 12th September 2017

Assembly Dates

Reception: 4th November

Pre School: 11th November

Form One: 18th November

Form 5: 25th November

Form 3 and 4: 2nd December

Form 6 will not be leading an assembly this half term due to 11+ exam pressures.

Menu Our winter menus will be introduced after half term. We will continue to provide wholesome, healthy and warming hot meals. They will continue to be free of pork, beef and nut products. Should you wish your child to enjoy a hot meal each day instead of packed lunch please do let Mrs Jacobs know.

If you haven't yet returned your Pupil Information Form with Home – School Agreement and Digital User Agreement, kindly do so immediately upon your return to school after half term

Harvest Celebration Thank you so much to all our parents, grand-parents, families and friends who came to support their children and school yesterday at our Harvest Celebration. Your children were exceptional. They made us all very proud. Thank you for all the Harvest contributions. Mrs Wilson delivered them to Age Concern, Barnet immediately after the concert and they were very gratefully appreciated.

Have a wonderful Half Term!