

News from the Hill

Sunnyhill Primary School, Sunnyhill Road, Streatham, London SW16 2UW
T: 020 8769 4785 W: www.sunnyhillprimary.com Twitter: @SunnyhillSW16

*"Learning Together, We Will All Be
Exceptional"*



3rd November 2023
Issue 8

Our Values
respect one another
every individual matters
take responsibility
strive for excellence
try your best

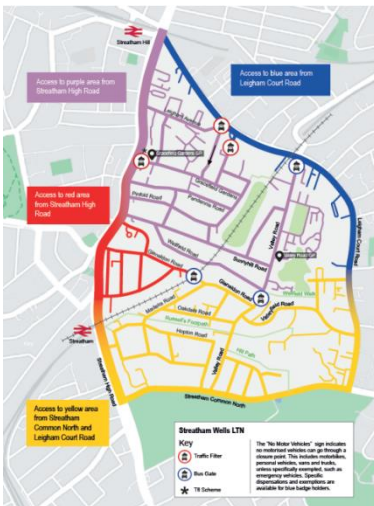
Dear Parents/Carers,

This newsletter will feature feedback from the governors following their day in school today. The governors are an integral part of the school leadership and set the strategic direction of the school. We have 13 governors (including me) and you will find their annual statement for 2022-23 in the newsletter below.

Governors visited classes and were rightly impressed with what they saw happening across a range of curriculum areas. As ever, pupils' engagement with learning was a real highlight!

This week has been very tricky with the new LTN in place. A number of parents/carers have asked if I can do anything to change the LTN and I cannot. This is a Lambeth policy and any feedback needs to go back to them. On a positive note – well done to everyone for getting here, mostly on time, every day. Despite the rain!

Here is a reminder of the LTN zones:



LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD

Most Sunnyhill pupils walk/scoot to school, but for those who drive, you need to make arrangements to park and walk or to come a different way to school after half term. **You will not be able to drive through Valley Road.**

You can only access Sunnyhill Road, Harborough Road and Valley Road **from Streatham High Road**. We are in the purple zone.

If you are a blue badge holder, you can apply for a dispensation using the form below:

https://epermits.lambeth.gov.uk/options/ltn_dispensation?ref=Resident%20LTN%20Dispensation.

Further information can be found here: <https://streathamwells.commonplace.is/en-GB/news/streatham-wells-low-traffic-neighbourhood-ltn-trial-launch>

Attendance for w/c 16th October was back up again at 94.8% - which is an increase on the week before, well done!

Congratulations to class 2E for 99.3% attendance!

Best wishes,
Sarah Wilson
Head Teacher

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Governors priorities over 3 years

Today, as part of their day in school, governors worked together to decide on priorities in the following areas:

- Resources
- Sunnyhill brand
- Horizon-scanning (looking to the future)

Governors started by looking at the possible risks of things going wrong in these areas and then identified what it would look like when things are going well! From there, governors decided on 3 priorities which will be finalised at the next governing board meeting on 15th November. After this meeting, I will share the priorities with you.



Here are some comments about the day:

"A fantastic opportunity to reflect on our successes and our next steps to make Sunnyhill even better for our children"

"Hugely valuable and informative updates!"

"It was wonderful to see reading and phonics being taught, especially the way our value Every Individual Matters shines through the school"

"Very productive and informative and a bonding opportunity"

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Governors Annual Statement

A statement is written every year by the governors outlining the work they have done in that year. It is placed on the school website. Here is the statement for 2022-23:

The Sunnyhill Governing Body is made up of 12 governor posts plus the school's head teacher. We have two governors elected by parents, one staff governor, seven co-opted governors (and one co-opted governor vacancy) and a local authority governor vacancy. We also currently have one associate governor.

The core functions of the Governing Body are to:

- ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school;
- hold the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and
- oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

This year we have had three full governing body meetings, one per term. We would like to thank the head teacher and the deputies for the work they do to prepare for these meetings. An example of one really interesting session was seeing feedback from staff about the school's progress on the School Development Plan. We enjoyed hearing about the Little Wandle Phonics programme, progress on developing 'character strengths' and how staff were making the most of opportunities to develop expertise through professional development. Their reflections on how to improve even further were also really insightful.

In the summer meeting, we had the privilege of judging the finalists of the 'Presentation Competition'. It was a pleasure to review the workbooks of students across year groups who had clearly been putting a lot of hard work into improving the neatness and presentation of their work. We can't wait to be involved again next year!

As in previous years, we have also had a separate 'business meeting' in September, which is really useful in covering off vital Governing Board administration, and an away-day in October. The away day was an opportunity for us to review the skills profile of the board and the key risks facing the school, as well as getting to see teaching first hand across different year groups. This year, we will be using our away day to reset our governors' priorities for the next three years – our priority plan acts as a strategic framework through which governors support and shape the development of the school.

In general, visits to the school remain a critical aspect of Governors' roles. Sometimes these visits are focussed on specific areas such as reviewing safeguarding procedures or pupil voice, and other times they are an opportunity to get involved in key calendar dates such as the Year 6 leavers play. We were so impressed with the confidence of actors, great singing and seamless production of Olivia!

Throughout the year two sub-committees have supported the Governing Board:

- The Resources Committee remit covers finance, site and premises, and personnel. As well as regular monitoring of the budget, a focus of this year was agreeing a targeted investment plan for the school. We are really pleased to see underway the installation of the new LCD screens in classrooms, new playground equipment and some much-needed fence repairs. We have reviewed a number of policies such as the before and after school club policy and the supporting pupils with medical conditions at school policy.

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- The Curriculum and Standards Committee remit covers curriculum planning and delivery, standards assessment and improvement, and community engagement. The main focuses in the last year have been how the school provides for children receiving pupil premium and vulnerable pupils, reviewing the SEN (special educational needs) curriculum, as well as a review of the STEM (maths, computing, design & technology, science and gardening) curriculum. The committee also continually monitored the post-lockdown recovery, provision and curriculum for and of all pupils across the school.

As a result of the Full Committee Meetings, the visits, and the sub-committee structure outlined above, Governors felt confident talking about the school to Ofsted inspectors in June. We were pleased to see that the Inspector clearly recognised the school's positive culture, its commitment to developing well-rounded and happy children, as well as its strong safeguarding arrangements. Next year, Governors will want to work with school leaders to ensure a continued focus on the suggested areas for development.

As ever, we extend our thanks to all the staff and wider community at Sunnyhill Primary School for the work they do to create such a positive learning environment for the pupils.

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Useful dates

Event	Date & Time
Parent/carers and teacher meetings	14 th November in person 16 th November online
CanTeam/school social eating event	14 th November 4-6pm in the sports hall
Friends of Sunnyhill Winter Fair	30 th November
Year 1 & 2 Shakespeare Performance	12 th December PM (time to be confirmed)
EYFS Winter Show	13 th December AM and PM (times to be confirmed)
Year 3 & 4 Shakespeare Performance	14 th December PM (time to be confirmed)
Year 6 Shakespeare Performance	18 th December PM (time to be confirmed)
Year 5 'Play Your Part' Performance	19 th December PM (time to be confirmed)
Children's Christmas Lunch and Festive Jumper Day	20 th December
Children's Class Parties	21 st December AM
End of term	21 st December School finishes at 2pm

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Parent/Carer Workshops

The programme of workshops for this term has been released. In case you haven't seen it, here is a copy:

Date and time	Year Groups	Event	Information
Tuesday 7th November 2.00pm	All year groups	SEND Coffee Afternoon	With Edyta Zjawiony from the Lambeth Autism Advice Service and Marima Kandeh from Autism Voice, a charity working to enhance the health and well-being of children with autism and/or learning disabilities and their families from mainly Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic Communities.
Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th November Timings to be confirmed	All year groups	Parent/carers Evening	Meet with your child's class teacher to find out how your child is doing in their new year group. You will be sent information for how to book your appointment closer to the time.
Tuesday 21st November 9.00am	Y1 - 2	Maths	Learn how we teach maths at Sunnyhill and how you can support your child at home.
Tuesday 28th November 9.00am	Year 3 - 6	Spelling and handwriting	Learn how we teach spelling and handwriting at Sunnyhill and how you can support your child to learn spelling patterns and rules.

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Term Dates 2023/2024

Term	Start Date	Finish Date	Number of days
Term One	INSET DAY 1&2 - 1st & 4th September 2023 Tuesday, 5th September 2023	Friday, 20th October 2023	36 days
Holiday Monday, 23rd October 2023 – Friday, 27th October 2023			
Term Two	Monday, 30th October 2023	Thursday, 21st December 2023	39 days
Christmas Holiday Friday, 22nd December 2023 – Friday, 5th January 2024			
Term Three	INSET DAY 3 - 8th January 2024 Tuesday, 9th January 2024	Friday, 9th February 2024	25 days
Holiday Monday, 12th February 2024 – Friday, 16th February 2024			
Term Four	Monday, 19th February 2024	Thursday 28th March 2024	29 days
Easter Holiday Friday, 29th March 2024 – Friday, 12th April 2024			
Term Five	INSET DAY 4 - 12th April 2024 Monday, 15th April 2024	Friday, 24th May 2024	30 days
Holiday Monday, 27th May 2024 – Friday, 31st May 2024			
Term Six	Monday, 3rd June 2024	Friday, 19th July 2024 INSET DAY 5 - 22nd July 2024	36 days
			195 days