



Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome back

As always, a particular welcome to the children and families joining us this term. Welcome also to Miss Bernie Garvey, who is joining us as Interim Deputy Head this term.

#### Secondary Transfer for Year 6

A reminder that online applications are now open and that closing date is October 31<sup>st</sup>. More information and a link to the e-admissions site can be found at <https://www.sutton.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=563>

#### Children's Centre Facebook Page

Our Children's Centre now has a Facebook page. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can still view the page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tweeddale-Childrens-Centre/832331570119964>

#### Children's Centre Family Fun Day Saturday 18th October from 11.00am-3.00pm

Our Children's Centre is running a Family Fun Day with SCOLA, the Sutton College of Learning for Adults, on Saturday 18th October from 11.00am-3.00pm. All families welcome.



#### Children's Centre Advisory Board

If you have a child attending our school or our children's centre, you may be just the person the Children's Centre Advisory Board needs. Meetings are usually no more than once each term and the board's role is to help the centre staff and management meet the needs of the children and families in the St. Helier community. Please talk to one of the centre managers if you think you would be interested.

### Universal Free School Meals

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are now eligible for Universal Free School meals, although if you prefer to provide a packed lunch for your child, that's fine. If your child is having a cooked meal at school, please check they know how to use a knife and fork properly, in particular how to cut food into bite sized pieces.

Your child, including children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, may be eligible for Free School Meals if you qualify for:

- 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 (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, school receives funding which can be used for your child for uniform items, subsidising the costs of school visits etc. If you think you are eligible, apply to Sutton Council.

### Strike Action

The GMB, Unison and Unite are planning to take strike action on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October. As always, we will keep the school and children's centre open if possible, but please be aware that we may have to close one or both to children on that day.

### Dates for your diary



Tuesday 9th September	AM - Parents drop-in with the school nurse
Thursday 18th September	Year 3 - Animal visit (in school)
Tuesday 23rd September	AM - Parents drop-in with the school nurse
Wednesday 24th September	2:45pm Macmillan Coffee Afternoon in the hall
Tuesday 30th September	Puffin Class - Pizza Express trip
Tuesday 7th October	AM - Parents drop-in with the school nurse
	Turtle Class - Pizza Express trip
Thursday 9th October	9:00-11:00am Family Support worker parents drop-in
Monday 20th October	School Photographer (individual photos)
Tuesday 21st October	AM - Parents drop-in with the school nurse
Friday 24th October	Break up at normal time for half-term (1 week)

### Term Dates 2014-2015

These are the London Borough of Sutton term dates for the 2014-2015 academic year. **Please note that INSET days are now included in these dates (with the exception of one which is still to be decided).**

Monday 1st September 2014	- INSET Day	Friday 27th March 2015	- Break up for Easter
Tuesday 2nd September 2014	- Children return to school	Monday 13th April 2015	- INSET Day
w/c 27th October 2014	- Half term (1 week)	Tuesday 14th April 2015	- Children return to school
Friday 19th December 2014	- Break up for Christmas	w/c 25th May 2015	- Half term (1 week)
Monday 5th January 2015	- INSET Day	Friday 17th July 2015	- Break up for Summer
Tuesday 6th January 2015	- Children return to school	Monday 20th July 2015	- INSET Day
w/c 16th February 2015	- Half term (1 week)		

### Parents drop-in sessions with the school nurse


Once a fortnight, the school nurse holds a drop-in session for parents & carers in the Round Room. If there is anything you would like to discuss with her, please go along to the Round Room on one of the following Tuesday mornings - 9th September, 23rd September, 7th October and 21st October. There is no need to book.

### Parents drop-in sessions with the family support worker

Once a month, Maria Cunningham will hold a drop-in session for parents & carers in the Round Room. Maria's aim is to offer a listening ear to parents who may be struggling with their children and need support and guidance. The sessions run on a Thursday morning from 9:00-11:00am. Dates for this term are 9th October, 6th November and 11th December.



## Children's Centre Information

A full timetable of our activities and groups can be found in the file downloads area on the Tweeddale website [www.tweeddaleprimary.sutton.sch.uk](http://www.tweeddaleprimary.sutton.sch.uk). You can also follow us on  [www.twitter.com/TweeddaleCC](http://www.twitter.com/TweeddaleCC)

Contact the Centre on 020 8404 1640 or email [tweeddalechildrenscentre@suttonlea.org](mailto:tweeddalechildrenscentre@suttonlea.org)

### The U Courses at Tweeddale Children's Centre on a Wednesday morning (crèche from 9:45am)

The U courses offer fun interactive sessions on useful life skills. The courses we are running this term are:

On 17th September 10:00-11:30am - **Build Your Own Networks** will help you look at how to develop friendships and a personal network to support you in life.

On 15th October 10:00am-12:00pm - **Practicing Positivity** - Developed in partnership with SLAM (South London and Maudsley NHS); this session builds on the amazing evidence that being happier will actually help you live longer! Loads of great practical tips for improving your overall well-being, managing stress and staying positive, even at difficult times.

Please contact Reception to be booked onto a course.

We are offering a free crèche service for children under 5 years old.