



Brunswick Park Primary School e-Newsletter 12

Monday 21 November 2016
 Tel: 0207 525 9033 www.brunswickparkprimary.co.uk

November's value is Courtesy

Dear Parents and Carers

This fortnight's Newsletter has a healthy food focus. Brunswick Park is a pioneer in school food and nutrition, and at the moment is unique in London and quite possibly in the UK; it is the only primary school that has a restaurant-style Dining Hall where children sit in groups of 8 and their food is brought to them. They are helped to share it out fairly, encouraged to try new foods and are helped to use cutlery and napkins correctly. Adults keep a close eye on what the children eat to ensure they eat a balanced meal. A team of pupils from Key Stage 2 supports the Kitchen Staff to serve food and support the children eating it, and are proud to wear their purple Dining Hall Helper aprons. In this Newsletter you will find details of our Food Tasting Event last week, when ISS explained how menus are devised and Parents and Carers tried school food, all of which is cooked from scratch on-site, is sustainably sourced, Vegetarian Society Approved and is organic where possible. All meat and gelatine served to the children is Halal, and pork and beef are never served. The event was very popular!

Every child in school receives a daily piece of fruit, and the younger children receive daily milk, which because of its nutritional importance Governors have decided to subsidise to enable all children in the Nursery and Reception classes to receive it, not just those children who are under the age of 5. The Government only funds milk for children until their fifth birthday. Children also receive milk during their transition from Reception to Year 1. Jonny White, our Special Projects Teaching Assistant, is responsible for supporting children's learning through gardening and cooking, and delicious aromas of the wonderful and ambitious food the children make with him waft around the school every afternoon. Children grow the vegetables used in their cookery lessons on our Caspian Street Allotments and in the Nursery Garden, so they are taught where their food comes from and enjoy a huge sense of achievement when they cook and eat vegetables they have grown from seed. The conversion of the School House into a teaching kitchen starts in January 2017 to enable even more children to be taught vital cookery skills, which we must not forget include skills in mathematics, English and reading, co-ordination and health and safety. The children even sold their vegetables at Borough Market, raising money for charity, so we can add entrepreneurship to the list of skills. Lord Sugar'd better watch out! The children always eat what they cook and take some home for their families to try along with the recipes, so the Healthy Eating message is spread around the whole community. Please come if you can to the next food tasting event in January when you can try what we have to offer for yourselves, and as always I wish you all the very best.

Susannah Bellingham



The Great Potato Harvest

Having spotted a stray potato during the summer, Year 5's Bella Swann planted the potato in their home garden. We are very impressed with the harvest this autumn and they certainly have enough potatoes for a roast dinner, or two!

Bedtime Stories for Reception Classes

A reminder to all Reception Parents and Carers that **Thursday 24 November** is our 'Bedtime Stories', linking with our topic 'The Story of Us'. Children can come to school in their warm pyjamas or onesies. We will be telling stories throughout the day, and Parents and Carers are invited to join us for cookies, hot chocolate and snuggly stories from 2.30pm for our last hour of school. The session will be repeated for Nursery classes the following week, on Wednesday 30 November.

Food Taster session for Parents and Carers – Tuesday 15 November

In partnership with our catering provider, ISS, we were delighted to welcome a large and enthusiastic group of Parents and Carers to The Brunswick Bistro last Tuesday.

Parents and Carers had the opportunity to sample some delicious food, ask questions of the catering staff, and pick up cooking tips from Freda and Hassan. Parents and carers tasted the following selection of food (which was exactly the same as that served to children at lunchtime):

- Minced lamb meatballs with tomato and onion sauce, served with spaghetti
- Vegetarian paella
- Fresh steamed broccoli and carrots
- Home baked wholemeal bread (all our bread is baked from scratch on-site)
- Mixed fruit salad
- Home baked peach crumble and custard

There were lots of requests for second helpings, and lots of goodie bags were taken home!

Parents were joined by Assistant Heads Fiona O'Malley and Andrea Inniss-Griffith, who discussed our Healthy Schools initiative and explained how lunchtimes work at Brunswick Park.

As there was so much interest, we will be running another session in January 2017. Please look out for further information next term – we look forward to welcoming our next group of happy, healthy food tasters.

Special thanks to our catering team and to all the Parents and Carers who gave us their time.



Anti-Bullying Week

Thank you for your support of Anti-Bullying Week, and for the huge number of children in school on Thursday wearing blue to show bullying is not tolerated. Year 6 pupils watched a live anti-cyber bullying drama called Boy during the week, and all parents and carers are reminded to ensure you keep your children safe using their mobile phones, Smartphones and electronic devices. Make sure your privacy settings are age appropriate, and that you are fully aware of your children's online activity outside school. Thank you.

Reception Admissions 2017

If your child has a date of birth from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, you are due to apply for a place in Reception before January 2017. All applications must be completed online on <http://www.southwark.gov.uk>

If you would like some advice or support in doing this, please attend a workshop with Fiona O'Malley and members of the LA Admissions Team on 7 December in the Computing Suite at 9.15am or 12.30pm.

Traffic Patrols

At the school's request, to improve the safety of everyone who uses the school, Parking Enforcement Officers now patrol Picton Street at the beginning and end of the School Day. Thank you for your co-operation with them, as they are working for everyone's benefit, and the difference made since they started has been huge. Picton Street is now much calmer, safer and better organised at these crucial times.

Remember, it is best to avoid driving to school where possible, but if you have to, please allow plenty of time so you can park at a distance from school to minimise congestion, and after you have dropped your children off, please drive slowly and carefully.

Dangerous driving will be reported to the Police.

