



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we edge ever closer to the end of the summer term and start of the holidays, I wanted to firstly express my thanks. My first year at BJR has been extraordinary (in every sense!) and I am so grateful for the support and kindness shown by so many of our school family. I am also very grateful for the support of families throughout the pandemic with following the measures we have put in place to ensure the safety and health of our staff and pupils.

I am really excited about our plans for the next academic year, particularly in welcoming parents and carers into school for coffee mornings, afternoon teas, parent workshops, quizzes etc. (Please see the leaflets and information included in your child's report pack). We have also overhauled our curriculum, to ensure we are inline with the National Curriculum, but also to give pupils the very best experience of education possible; to enjoy their learning, to have time to play and opportunities to grow in their own spiritual journeys.

Whilst perhaps not quite the end of primary school our Year 6s might have hoped for, we have endeavoured to include as much fun as possible into their final days in school, whilst still ensuring we do everything possible to prepare them for secondary school. Despite the interruptions throughout the year, their hard work in class and at home, supported by the dedication and commitment of Mrs Hale and the Yr6 team, our pupils have achieved some fantastic results in their end of term assessments. I am proud of all of our departing pupils and wish them the very best for their new adventure in secondary school.

At the end of a school year, there are always people we have to say goodbye to. The various lockdowns throughout the past 18 months, as well as personal isolations for our children and families, have given many of us a new perspective on our work-life balances. In Spring, I agreed a flexible working policy with the governors, and a number of our staff will be changing their roles to address their personal balance. We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Ogabi, Mrs Fernandes, Mrs Forster and Miss Mary, and welcoming Mrs Graham, Mrs Vanderkar, Miss Malumbe and Mrs Ripley to our school in September. Mrs Valentine and Miss Biney will also not have their own classes in the new academic year, and so will be



*During the storm, Jesus stood and said to the wind "Be Still." As the end of the pandemic 'storm' seems in sight, we can remind ourselves that our faith has been and continues to be our anchor throughout the storm.*

**"Jesus is the Anchor of my Soul"**

**Hebrews 9:16**

able to support our new and growing team, as well as work with pupils for interventions and cover.

We will also be welcoming in Madame Canavan each week, who will be delivering French lessons for our Key Stage 2 pupils – we have already begun discussions about future residential trips for our older pupils to visit Normandy in France! More news to follow!

We have also been in contact with PGL to arrange residential trips for pupils, as these have been sorely missed by pupils and staff this year. Our first adventure is for Years 5 and 6 in November, for a night away of adventure, activities, team building, character shaping and outdoor fun. We then have further, longer residential planned for later in the academic year.

We are really excited about the launch of our after school sports clubs, and look forward to selecting pupils to represent the school in the BJR Clippers Netball Team and the BJR Carracks Basketball Team. There will also be an opportunity for parents and carers to join staff in the BJR Brigandines Netball Team. All teams will be competing in the local leagues and hopefully earning more trophies for our cabinet!

We are meeting with various breakfast and after school providers, and will keep you informed of any offers we are able to make for the new year.

Finally, may I wish you all a restful, peaceful and enjoyable summer break, and I look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Matthew Harris

Headteacher

**Our School Online**

[www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk](http://www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk)

Please follow us @BJRSchool



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**

**Contact the School Office**

0208 310 9160

[admin@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk)

## Classes for September 2021

We are very excited to be joined again by Miss Farrant from her maternity leave, as well to welcome a number of new members of teaching staff to our school. I am sure you will join me in praying for them and helping to make them feel a welcome part of the BJR family.

Class Name	Year Group	Class Teacher	Support Staff
Creation Class	Nursery, FS1	Miss S Graham	Mrs Townsend
Friendship Class	Reception, FS2	Ms L Bealing	Mrs Oguntola
Thankfulness Class	Year 1	Miss H Farrant & Ms R Vanderkar	Mrs Nabieu
Hope Class	Year 2	Miss E Worrall	Mrs Seccombe
Reverence Class	Year 3	Mr M Elegbede	Miss Broad
Perseverance Class	Year 4	Miss D Malumbe	Miss Thompson
Peace Class	Year 5	Mrs K Ripley	Mrs S Linge
Justice Class	Year 6	Mrs J Hale & Mrs K Valentine	Mrs J Albert

There will also be additional staff in different classes, providing support and interventions. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will also have a weekly lesson of French, provided by Madame Canavan.

### Start and Finish Times for September

From Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, (unless there are renewed restrictions imposed due to the current pandemic) the gate times for pupils will be as follows:

**8:40am – the front gate will open** for pupils in all year groups. Parents and carers dropping off their children will continue to leave the school site via the gate into Manorway Green at the back of school.

**8:50am – the front gate will close.** Children arriving after this time must come to the school office.

**11:40am – nursery dismissal.** (The front gate will open at 11:35am.)

**3:10pm – Infants' dismissal** (children in reception, Year 1 and Year 2).

**3:15pm – Juniors' dismissal** (children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6).

### Pupils Walking Home

As this year, parents and carers of pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) will be offered the opportunity for their child to be dismissed directly from school at 3:15pm.

They will be expected to leave the school site and either meet you or an arranged appropriate adult in a designated spot or to walk home unaccompanied. If you would like to request permission for this, please complete the enclosed permission form and return it to school as soon as possible. *Current permission will end in July this year.* Please note, as children are in their uniform they are representing our school to the local community. If children do not behave appropriately on their way out of school, the permission will be withdrawn. Please also ensure that if your child walks to school unaccompanied in the morning that they behave safely and appropriately.

### Reflections

As the academic year draws to a close, it seems fitting to show how Ecclesiastes reflects so much of what has happened in our school and local community:

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to begin and a time to end, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to split and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to leave, a time to battle and a time for peace."*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8





## Prayer Requests

As a Church of England school, we are proud to remind you of our Prayer Request page within our school website (under the "Our Faith" tab). Parents, carers and members of our local community can submit prayer requests, which will be included in the prayers of the school staff, fellowship at St Paul's Thamesmead and the wider diocesan prayer team.



We would love to pray for you and we look forward to welcoming parents and friends of BJR back into school to gather together and pray for our school and wider community.

## Parking outside School

When parking, please kindly respect our neighbours and the community. Do not park across driveways, on the double yellow lines, the zigzag lines or turn your vehicle around directly outside the school gates.



It is very important that we park safely and considerately before and after school each day.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Homework

During the summer holidays, your child will not be set homework, however, if you wish to support them consolidate their learning, they will still have access to Reading Eggs and Mathletics. We will migrate their login to the next Year Group in September.

## School Shoes

A polite reminder that all children from Year 1 to Year 6 should wear black school shoes, except on their designated PE day.

Children in the Early Years and Foundation Stage classes (Creation and Friendship) are permitted to wear black trainers at all times.

## Uniform Bank

Please continue to bring in your donations of good quality spare school clothes. These will be washed and sorted, and then available for parents to purchase at significantly reduced cost. Proceeds will go to the school fund and local charities.

## The Triple A Club

We are really excited to launch our AAA club in school from September. Our three As stand for:

- Application,
- Attitude and
- Appearance



Any pupil, in any year group, can be nominated by a member of staff to join the AAA club (and pupils can nominate teachers too!), providing they fulfil the requirements of the club. Each term, teachers and staff will review who is in the club, to ensure that they are continuing to meet the standards, and if not, provide a timely and encouraging reminder!

Pupils in the AAA club will receive their membership badge during Thanksgiving Collective Worship (on Friday afternoons) and will be encouraged to wear their badge with pride on their school jumper or cardigan.

Throughout the year, there will be extra treats and events for the AAA club children – ranging from special visitors, extra playtimes and treats, to special out-of-school events or trips, opportunities to represent the school etc.

If you have any questions about the club, or how you can support your child to gain access to the club, please speak to your child's class teacher (from September!)

## School Uniform – Advanced Notice

We are making a slight change to our school uniform policy from September 2022. The key changes will be as follows:

- All pupils in EYFS and Key Stage 1 will be asked to wear a white polo shirt and jumper / cardigan with the school logo.
- Children in EYFS or Key Stage 1 should not wear a school tie.
- Pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) will be asked to wear either a polo shirt or wear a collared blouse or shirt with school tie.
- Pupils will be allowed to wear grey school shorts or a checked summer dress during the Summer term.
- PE Kit for all pupils will be black or grey shorts or jogging bottoms, white or house-coloured T-shirt, black or grey jumper.
- School bags must be book bags. Rucksacks will not be permitted (due to limited storage space).

### **A new adventure calls...**

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Ogabi this summer. She has been a pillar of strength and support to our school for a number of years, and has taught nearly every pupil in our school at some point in their early education. Mrs Ogabi is moving to St Margaret's school in Plumstead to begin a new adventure within their teaching team. Our prayer for Mrs Ogabi is that God continues to be her rock and foundation, that He gives her a blessed and restful summer holiday with her family and that He guides her path in the months and years ahead as she begins this new chapter. Our school is richer for the contributions she has made and her legacy within the school will continue for many years to come. Mrs Ogabi, may you know God's presence and blessing in your life, may He guide and sustain you, and pour our His abundant grace and mercy on you and those you love. We will miss you.

### **An Ode to Mrs Fernandes**

So many lessons, so many years,  
teaching in Key Stage one,  
Our chapter draws swiftly to a close,  
The final lesson is nearly done.  
A Masters in Children's Writing,  
A voyage of learning ahead,  
A new part-time teaching role,  
More time for books to be read.  
Such energy and passion,  
Our resident wordsmith brought each day,  
Always helping our young learners,  
Join in learning, prayer and play.  
Our loss this summer is Castilion's gain,  
We pray for God's blessing on you,  
A peaceful summer, with those you love,  
And time to rest and renew.  
We're going to miss you, Miss Fernandes,  
But we wish you all the best,  
We'll say hello at sports day next year!  
May your next chapter be richly blessed!

### **Finding a better balance...**

We are very sad to also say goodbye to Mrs Forster this summer. During the past year, with lockdowns and isolations, Mrs Forster has decided to find a better balance between work and home life, and so is moving on to Gravel Hill primary school to begin a part-time role, which will enable her to continue her enjoyment and growing experience of the Early Years and Foundation Stage, whilst having more time to be Mum to her two lovely children. Mrs Forster has taught in every Key Stage of our school, and will be fondly remembered by the many children she has taught and missed by many in our school family and wider community. We wish her well in her new role and rejoice with her in the increased time she can spend with her family. May God sustain you and keep you always, may He shine His goodness on you and those you love, and may His blessings be forever clear on the path ahead of you.

### **Support Staff**

Miss Mary Dowdye will also be leaving us at the end of the summer term, to begin a new adventure with the Endeavour Trust of schools. Miss Mary has supported early years and key stage 1 pupils for a number of years and we are grateful for all of the support she has given. We wish her well in her new role and pray that God will bless her in this new adventure, so that she may continue to be a blessing to others.

### **Placement Teachers**

We have been blessed to have Miss Adeyemi (Year 3 and 5) and Miss Swinney (Reception) with us this term; both trainee teachers from London South Bank University. They have both secured positions in great schools for September. Miss Fulham will also be leaving us to begin her teacher training in September. Whilst we are sad that they are leaving us, we are very grateful for their energy and commitment to our school during their placement. We pray for God's continued blessings in their future teaching careers.

### **New Arrivals...**

Mrs Parr wanted to express her sincere gratitude to all of the pupils and families who wished her well before her departure for maternity leave. She was incredibly touched by the kindness showed by so many. At the time of printing, we are still awaiting news from Mrs Parr and her family. She and her family remain in our prayers, and we look forward to sharing and celebrating the news with you, as soon as we hear it!

