

Stormont House School

Our school vision: Achievement for all in a unique world class school

Exams

We returned from half term to some of our year 10 and year 11 pupils beginning to take their GCSE modules and exams. Although pupils should always arrive at school on time it is especially important as we are now in exam season. Morning registration is at 8.55am and the school is open to all pupils from 8.30am so there is no excuse for lateness! Please make sure your child is on time for school especially if they are taking an exam.

Forthcoming exam times and dates:

- **Friday 20 May GCSE Turkish Listening exam at 1.30pm**
- **Tuesday 24 May GCSE Turkish Writing exam at 1.30pm**
- **Friday 27 May GCSE Science exam at 9.00am**

Attendance

Every pupil should attend school regularly; we are pleased to see that in the last half term 56 pupils had more than 95% attendance, with 33 pupils having a 100% attendance record. Well done to those pupils, let's see if we can get that figure higher for this term. Please also be reminded that holidays must not be taken during school time. In some exceptional cases there may be a need, but permission must be always obtained from the Headteacher before doing so. Only essential medical/ dental appointments should be made during school time, and a note or medical card showing the appointment should be seen by the school to authorise the absence. Please try to make routine medical/dental appointments after school or during school holidays.

A note from Mr McDonnell on the Easter Assembly

On Tuesday 5 April, parents and family members attended a very special assembly: The Year 7 Easter assembly is always a landmark event, as it requires such close and trusting teamwork from pupils who did not know each other a few short months ago. This was also the first Easter assembly since Ms. Grosvenor's retirement, and the staff involved were fully aware of the extremely high standards set in previous years.

The important Easter messages of hope, faith, sacrifice, and renewal (which transcend any one faith) are very weighty subjects for such young pupils, but I was moved by their impeccable performance. I was also very touched by the many positive comments afterwards from parents, grandparents and other family members, who left inspired by the event.

In Ms Petrenko's absence, 'The Easter Assembly', was directed by Ms Whitbread, ably assisted by Ms Packer, Ms Knight and Ms Cohen. Ms Grosvenor would have been proud!



Y7 performers in the Easter Assembly

Parent Governor Elections

There is still one place to be filled for the parent governor position. Nomination forms were sent out last term and two nomination forms were returned back to us. An election will now take place and the ballot papers will be with you shortly.

BSF News Building Schools for the Future Update



BSF

As you know, BSF public consultation evenings were held on 18 & 20 January regarding the authority's proposal to relocate the school site further back from the road onto the current defunct Bowling Green site. There were not many responses, but some local residents were strongly against the idea of moving the building further into the park. The school is very sympathetic to this point of view, and our preference all along has been for the new school to be next to Downs Park Road.

What happens now?

The good news is that the authority is making plans for the new school to be exactly where we are now. However, this means that we would move out of our current school in summer 2012 and return to the new school around the end of 2013. In the meantime we would be at the school site on Mount Pleasant Lane, E5. Some of you may know this as the former Skinners' Lower School, and others may know that Our Lady's Convent High School are currently there while their new school is being built.

Will it actually happen?

We certainly hope so, as the government says that the Hackney plans are unaffected by the cuts. In the meantime, there is still a lot of work to be done in agreeing the overall shape and design of the building. It has to suit the needs of the pupils now and into the future, and also be able to pass through the planning process, so there is a lot of work going on to achieve this. As soon as an overall draft design is agreed, we will involve all parents and carers in discussion. Your parent governors will have an important role to play, as the plans will need to be agreed by governors.

We need your contact details!

For most of our parents and carers, we have a range of contact numbers, which becomes very important if there is an emergency. However, in some cases we have out of date numbers, or only one emergency contact. It is too late to sort this out when an emergency or urgent situation involving children has happened, so please keep us up to date with **at least two emergency contact names**, (named numbers for each).

We will continue to use our text messaging service, as so many parents and carers have told us they like it, so it is **vital that we have the correct numbers for you all**.

Term Dates

The Summer term begins on Tuesday 26 April – Friday 22 July 2011 with the following closures:

Half term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June 2011 - School returns on Monday 6 June

Bank Holiday: Monday 30 May 2011

Last day of the Summer term for pupils is Friday 22 July - school closes at 1.15pm

