

Reminder:

Friday 8 November Parent/Carer Consultation Day.

We'd like to keep these appointments running to time, so please arrive 5-10 minutes early so that you can make your way to the right classroom.

Parent Governors Needed

There are currently three vacancies on the governing body for Parent Governors. Any parent that has a child on the register of this school may stand as a candidate by completing a nomination form and returning it to the school by the date shown. You may nominate yourself or you may nominate any other parent **with their permission**.

Governors play an important role in supporting the school and in making decisions about the service provided for your children. For example, they are responsible for:

- helping to establish the aims and policies of the school and how the standards of education can be improved
- helping to draw up the school development plan
- helping to decide how to spend the school's budget
- selecting the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher
- linking the local community with the school
- the appointment, promotion, support and discipline of staff
- drawing up an action plan after an OFSTED inspection and monitoring how it is put into practice

If you nominate another parent they must also sign the nomination form. Nomination forms have been sent out to all parents by Royal Mail. Any questions that you may have please call the school to speak to Mrs Tracy Napier.

Nomination forms should be returned to Brenda Vanriel at school by 4.00pm on Thursday 14th November.

Dates for your Diary 2013/14

Parent Carer Consultation	Friday 8 November (Scheduled appointments throughout the day)
Year 11 Work Experience	Monday 11 – Friday 22 November
Carol Service & Christmas Dinner	Monday 16 December
End of Term for pupils	Monday 16 December – school closes at 3.30pm
Christmas	
Pupils return (start of Spring term for pupils)	Monday 13 January 2014 (Downs Park Road)
Careers Evening Years 10 & 11	Tuesday 21 January 6-8pm
Half Term	Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February
Year 7 Parent/Carer evening	Tuesday 4 March 3.45 – 6pm
Years 8 & 9 Parent/Carer evening	Tuesday 11 March 3.45 – 6pm
Staff Training Day	Friday 21 March (school closes at 1.15pm)
Reward Outings	Thursday 3 April
End of Term for Pupils	Friday 4 April 2014 (school closes at 1.15pm)
Easter	
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 22 April (School closed)
Pupils return (start of Summer term for pupils)	Wednesday 23 April
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May
Half term	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May
End of Term for Pupils	Friday 18 July (school closes at 1.15pm)
Summer	

Maths Homework Club

Reminder:

Maths Homework Club every Thursday after school from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Classes are run by Miss Haynes and Miss Wosiak for Key Stage 3 and KS4 GCSE Revision. Parents/carers must complete and return a permission form before the pupil can start to attend any of the clubs. Pupils can contact Mrs Napier for further information about this club on any other clubs.



Year 11 External Work Experience Monday 11 – Friday 22 November

Year 11 are set for external work experience which takes place from 11 – 22 November. Placements include working in a garage, local primary schools, our business partners Williams Lea, a solicitors office, a care home and a hairdressing Salon. All the pupils are very excited following their interviews and looking forward to starting work!

We will keep you all up to date as to how they are getting on!

School Meals

Please pay dinner money on Monday morning ensuring that your child's name is clearly written on the envelope. Dinner money is £1.70 per day or a weekly amount of £8.50.

Stormont House School Council - Democratic Week An Interview with Michael Jones Hackney Counsellor - New River Ward

On Friday 25 October representatives from the Stormont House School Council met with Michael Jones who is a Counsellor for Hackney - New River Ward. Michael is concerned with the following areas -

- Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission (next meeting: Nov 11 2013, 7.00PM)
- Overview and Scrutiny Board
- North East Neighbourhood Committee
- Council (next meeting: Oct 30 2013, 7.00PM)
- New River Ward Forum (next meeting: Mar 24 2014)

The School Council members had worked together with Mrs Napier to formulate a number of questions to find out what it was like to be a counsellor and to ask Michael if he had any suggestions about how to be a more productive School Council.

Michael is one of the youngest counsellors in the country, he has been a counsellor for four years, and his term of office is up next May. He will have to canvass to become a counsellor in the next Hackney Council elections which take place in 2014. Michael is changing ward for next year he will be canvassing in the Springfield Ward.

Michael was a keen member of his own School Council when he was a pupil at Homerton Boys School he went on to be a member of Hackney Youth Parliament before taking up his position on the council.

Nikita asked Michael: "How do you prepare yourself for meetings and speaking in public? Can you give us any tips for how we could prepare for speaking to our classmates?"

Michael responded by saying - "I always make sure that I have researched the topic I am meant to be discussing - so that I can handle any questions that are asked. I think one of the best ways to prepare to speak in front of any audience is to be fully prepared."

Michael is going to arrange for the School Council to visit Hackney Town Hall to see the council chambers in action.



**Members of the School Council
Interviewing Michael Jones**