

Important information/Dates to remember

Wednesday 24 July at 1.15pm school closes for the summer holidays

Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September **school closed** for staff training

Wednesday 4 September **school re-opens to years 7 & 11 only**

Thursday 5 September school opens to all pupils

School uniform

As previously notified we are introducing school uniform for all pupils from the beginning of the Autumn Term (September 4th for pupils in years 7 and 11, and September 5th for all pupils). The uniform is:

Boys: Dark grey school trousers

Girls: Dark grey school skirt or dark grey school trousers

Boys and Girls:

White school shirt or

plain white polo shirt

Dark green (bottle green) sweat shirt with school logo or

dark green (bottle green) v neck jumper with school logo.

Black shoes

With the exception of the school sweatshirt and V neck jumper all items can be bought in clothes departments of larger supermarkets or department stores, for example Asda, Tesco, Sainsburys, Marks and Spencer. By choosing generic trousers / skirts / shirts and polo shirts we have ensured a reasonable price for all items.

The dark green sweatshirt or polo shirt can only be purchased via Tesco as the school logo will be embroidered onto the item as they are ordered. These items can be ordered online, by telephone or in store after 9th August 2013, Tesco's will deliver the items (or they can be collected in store) within 14 days. Currently the cost is £6.50 for size 11 – 12 years, and £7.50 for size 12 – 13, 13 – 14, 14 – 15 and 15 – 16 years. For the introductory period only the school will order a stock which will be available from school on Monday 2nd September and Tuesday 3rd September at the special price shown below.

Two for one offer on sweatshirts and v necked jumper

As a special introductory offer we are giving two for the price on one on the new school sweatshirt / jumper.



The sweatshirts / jumpers will be available for collection from the school on Monday 2nd or Tuesday 3rd September. Size 11 – 12 years are £6.50 for two, sizes 13 – 16 are £7.50 for two. If you wish to pre order your sweatshirts / jumpers you may do this via email info@stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk, by telephone 020 8985 4245 or by text to 07855 105044 (please only use this number for uniform orders).

Farewell and Good luck

Today we say a sad farewell to the following staff:



Tricia McNamara

Ms McNamara (Deputy Head), who is moving abroad after 4 years here. Her teaching skills made such a difference to Literacy, Maths and Work-Related Learning, and she has always been someone that pupils turn to for help or advice. She quickly became a key part of the senior leadership team, driving us forwards by improving teacher planning, staff training and the way we safeguard children.



Yvonne Packer

Ms Whitbread (Transition and Year 7 tutor) and Ms Packer (Music and Counselling), who are both retiring after a working lifetime in education. Ms Whitbread came to us 5 years ago with a wealth of primary school experience and has greatly improved the way we help pupils make the transition from primary to secondary, as well as being able to teach just about anything! It was Ms Whitbread who coined the phrase 'that Stormont House magic' to describe how so many children settle, learn and develop their confidence here. Ms Packer made music one of the strengths of the school, and, because of her, many pupils discovered their hidden talents or found the confidence to develop them and perform in public. Ms Packer has worked here over 23 years and also taught in many other schools as part the Hackney Music Service. It was a privilege to see her teach.



Pauline Whitbread

Mr Dushka (Teaching Assistant), who will train as a PE teacher in September. We hope that he can combine his excellent sporting skills with the knowledge of special needs that he has built up here.

Mr Cravioto (Humanities and PSHCE), who is moving to mainstream secondary. Mr Cravioto helped us greatly by covering classes when Ms Carter was away, and introduced humanities teaching into Year 10.

We wish them all happiness and prosperity in their next job or stage of life

and goodbye...

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Andrew Bridgwater, long-term former school governor and former member of the HASGA Executive.



**Andrew
Bridgwater**

Kevin McDonnell, Headteacher at Stormont House sent the following message:

Andrew was equally formidable as an ally or opponent, with exceptional attention to detail. We knew him best as a critical friend, challenging and supporting us to become the first outstanding school in Hackney in 2005 and then to improve further. Andrew's wider contribution to education in Hackney via the Council Chamber, Scutiny Committees and numerous governing bodies was immense and enduring. Despite having retired to Devon, he remained in close contact and we were due to see him this week. He is sadly missed and very fondly remembered by all of us. It was an honour to represent the school at Andrew's funeral in Plymouth on Monday. Even at that sad time it was a joy to hear how important our school was to him, and to celebrate his life with family and friends.

Message from Yvonne Packer

I first met Andrew when I taught at Crusoe House - so many years ago that I can't now even work it out but it's probably in the region of twenty. He'd already been a governor there for some years and was viewed by governors, staff and pupils alike as a man of integrity, a stalwart figure who was virtually a part of the fabric of the school. As chair of governors he gave his time freely for the good of the pupils and, as the school struggled towards its end, he proved to be its champion as he fought to gain the best future options for pupils and staff. Both in Crusoe House and Stormont House Andrew clearly demonstrated the pride he took in his role and emphasised to all how critical is the importance of the governing body. And both schools have much to thank him for as he cared for them deeply and was determined that special schools should have the same rights as all others.

And finally we wish you all a happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all again in September.