

5th December 2025



John Donne Primary School

Tel: 020 7639 0594

Email: office@jdacademy.org.uk



Kindness

Respect

Resilience

Community

Collaboration

Aspiration

Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the festive season, we have a mix of emotions to share with you. Today, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Ankrah, a long-standing member of our staff who has been an integral part of John Donne since 2002. Her dedication and warmth have touched the lives of many students and families over the years. While we are all sad to see her leave, we wish her nothing but the best as she embarks on this exciting new chapter of her life. Thank you, Mrs. Ankrah, for all that you have done!

Our Year 2 children visited The Albany Theatre this week to see *The Snow Queen*. This performance will serve as a wonderful inspiration as they prepare for their upcoming rendition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in just a couple of weeks. We are thrilled to see their creativity come to life on stage!

As we look ahead, please remember our Winter Fair next Wednesday afternoon. It promises to be a delightful event for all. Additionally, Year 2 performances will take place on Friday 12th and Monday 15th, and we have our Christmas/Winter Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch scheduled for Wednesday 17th December. Be sure to check further along in the newsletter for more festive dates and activities.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and we will see you bright and early on Monday morning.

Miss Rooney



This Weeks Class Attendance Winner

Green 6 with 96.5%

Attendance

Our whole school attendance target is **97%**

Our overall attendance this week is **93.6%**

| Class | Attendance | Late |
|-----------------|------------|------|
| Nursery | 92.41% | 1 |
| Reception Green | 88.08% | 1 |
| Reception Red | 91.09% | 1 |
| Green 1 | 95.71% | 1 |
| Red 1 | 91.11% | 1 |
| Green 2 | 93.2% | 0 |
| Red 2 | 94% | 4 |
| Green 3 | 96.21% | 2 |
| Red 3 | 96% | 0 |
| Green 4 | 92.8% | 1 |
| Red 4 | 92.61% | 0 |
| Green 5 | 92.67% | 3 |
| Red 5 | 96.21% | 1 |
| Green 6 | 96.54% | 4 |
| Red 6 | 94.62% | 1 |

Thank you to everyone, who is making the effort to ensure their children are in school on time. The more time a pupil is in school the more likely they are to improve their opportunity to fulfil their full potential.

Diamond Ticket Winners this week:



Adetola R1, Ellis G1, Halim R1, Joan G2, Nehemiah bG2, Isla R3, Raheem R3, Cheznae G3, Leah R4, Richard R4, Nathan G4, Joshua H G4, Ryan G4, Eliud G5, Leonardo G5, Amina R6, Ayomide R6Habiba G6, Nevaeh G6

Golden Ticket Winners this week:



Matilda R1, Aaleyah V G1, Mayra Sanchez G1, Aaryan G2, Elijah G2, ELAINE r3, Grace R3, Moses G3, Kayden G3, Hassanah R4, Yeriel R4, Ibitayo G4, Ryleigh-Wrey G4, Morecombe G5, Aliya R6, Tomiwa R6, Jamal G6, Yacoub G6

Values Assembly – What our learners think!

Our assembly this week was about our value of ASPIRATION. We read one of the Little people, BIG DREAMS books about the British Formula one driver Lewis Hamilton. In the story, it shares some of the obstacles and adversity that he faced when growing up and the work he does not to inspire others to follow in his path. We then reflected on what we can learn about aspiration from Lewis' story. Green 6 shared that 'it is important to follow our dreams even when we face obstacles and that having lots of material things is not important, doing things that make us happy and enjoy, is'.



Aspiration

Autumn 2 Term Dates

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday 3rd November 25 | Friday 19th December 25 |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|

| | |
|------------------|--|
| CHRISTMAS | 22 December 25 - 5th January 26 |
|------------------|--|

Spring 1 Term Dates

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday 6 January 26 | Friday 13 February 26 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|

| | |
|------------------|--|
| HALF TERM | 16 February 26 – 20 February 26 |
|------------------|--|

Important Parent Information

Volunteers needed

Do you have a few hours to spare?

Join us in the classroom and help inspire the next generation!

Whether it's reading stories, supporting small groups, or just being a friendly face—your time can make a huge impact.

- 👤 No teaching experience needed
- 🕒 Flexible hours
- 💬 Supportive environment

Volunteer in our school today—because every child deserves a champion.

SCAN QR CODE

OR



send an e-mail to:
volunteers@jdacademy.org.uk



Important Dates to Remember

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 08 December 25 | Scholastic Book Fair 1– PM |
| 09 December 25 | Scholastic Book Fair 2—PM |
| 10 December 25 | G5 Assembly |
| 10 December 25 | Winter Fair –PM |
| 12 December 25 | Y2 Winter Performance 1 |
| 15 December 25 | Y2 Winter Performance 2 |
| 16 December 25 | Poetry Assembly (Y3 & 4– AM) (Y5 & 6-PM) |
| 17 December 25 | Reception Winter Sing-a-long Concert |
| 17 December 25 | Winter Lunch/ Winter Jumper Day |
| 17 December 25 | Nursery Singing Concert– PM |
| 18 December 25 | Winter Concert 'Songbirds and Sleigh bells' |



NEW

Next weeks

3

MENU

We currently use the following apps. Have you downloaded them yet?

Click on either image for more information or see the office for help.



We have a new Menu courtesy of our amazing Chef Mr Simpson! So why not take a look by clicking on the number!

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We wish
you
all
the
Best

This morning we gathered to honor Ms Ankrah for her dedication and the timer she has spent with us at John Donne. It was a bittersweet moment- filled with happiness for her next chapter and sadness because we'll miss her so much. Her impact on our community has been truly special.

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ROCK STEADY

Rocksteady Concert

Our winter performance series kicked off with a bang this morning. Parents and Key Stage One children had a musical treat from our fantastic Rocksteady bands! A big well done to all children who performed, you stepped onstage and performed with such confidence, excitement and musicality. Well done! You were an absolute joy to watch.

Mrs Batro



Let's
ROCK



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THE ALBANY theatre

With Year 2



Ask Canva



Year 2 went to the Albany Theatre where they had the pleasure of watching 'The Snow Queen' where they learnt about friendship. the show had amazing songs too!

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Parent Information Cont...

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

FREE BOOKS
for your school
when you buy at
the Book Fair!

Come to our
BOOK FAIR

A pop-up book-store
with hundreds of
books from
JUST £2.99

What are you waiting for?

Come find us
at your
Book Fair!

TIME:
3:15PM - 4:15PM

DATE: 8th December
9th December

LOCATION:
Bottom Hall

Find these characters and
EVEN MORE BOOKS online



SUCCESSFUL MUMS

Career Academy

Exciting Opportunity for Parents – Join
Our Skills Bootcamp in Education!

Free Training for London Mums
- with a **Guaranteed Interview**
Step into a family-friendly role in
education



CLICK HERE



Parent Information Cont...

Winter Jumper Day!



Wednesday
17th December 2025

We are excited to let you know that the children will be enjoying their Winter Lunch on this day.

To make the day extra festive, they are welcome to wear their Christmas or winter jumpers.

Thank you for helping us make this a fun and cozy celebration!



Winter Lunch

Raffle Contest

TICKET
£3
STRIP



More amazing prizes to be won!

Raffle Ticket Sale:

Monday, 1st December at 3:15 PM
Bottom Hall

Grab your tickets and join the fun on:

Just **£3 per raffle strip** – and remember, it's **Cash Only!**

Don't miss your chance to win fantastic prizes and make this Winter Fair unforgettable!

Parent Information Cont...

WinterLand Fair

Wednesday 10th December 2025



Join us at the JD Winter Fair
3:15pm - 5:00pm
Raffle, Santa's Grotto, Face
painting etc

All Home alone children to be
accompanied by an adult

No activity clubs!

Afterschool club run by Ultimate
Sports will still be running.

Winter Fair Stall/Tables

Want to Rent a Table at the Winter Fair? Sign Up Now!

We're excited to offer parents the chance to rent a table at our Winter Fair. If you'd like to showcase your business or activity, please sign up today!

£15
to rent a table*



sign up at the office where more information will also be given.

*(Cash Only)

Parent Information Cont...

We Need Your Help!

We are collecting toys that light up and make noise for our young learners!

- ✓ Please bring donations to the school office
- ✓ Toys must be in good working order
- ✓ Must be well-kept and safe for young children
- ✓ Toys must be small enough to place in a small bucket



Your generosity will make playtime brighter and more fun!
Thank you for supporting our children!



To apply for a space at John Donne primary School for reception 2026, you would need to apply through Southwark e-admissions.*

**(If you live in another borough other than southwark you would need to go through their e-Admissions portal)*

The deadline for
Reception- September 2026 applications is:

Thursday 15th January 2026

If you fail to submit your application by this date you risk not being given a space at John Donne Primary.



The link to make an application is:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

If you require any assistance or help please see the office or you can go online to Southwark where more information can be found.

Promo/Advertisements

FESTIVE HAMPER CAMPAIGN 2025



Our Festive Hamper Match-funded campaign runs:
2-9 DECEMBER

YOUR DONATION WILL BE MATCHED by our friends at Monday Charitable Trust



DONATE HERE





SOUTHWARK



PARENTING TEAM



[Click for more info](#)

Community Family Help and Support Service

Our service ensures there are effective and welcoming evidence based parenting programmes across the borough.

Parenting programmes provide opportunities for parents to learn new strategies, meet new people and improve relationships within homes and families.

We offer programmes face to face and online and have a wide range of programmes to meet different ages, stages and needs.

We also have some one-off sessions if a longer course is not something you can commit to at this time.

Our service is supported by our peer-parent facilitators; these are parents who have completed the course and now run them for other parents....meaning they know how you might be feeling that first week.

In this booklet you will find flyers for all of our courses, plus information on how to being a parent champion and how to refer.



CPCS
THE CENTRE FOR PARENT & CHILD SUPPORT



NHS
South London and Maudsley
MFT Foundation Trust

Funded by
UK Government



strengthening families
strengthening communities

Race Equality Foundation

Southwark Children & Family Hubs

Southwark Council

FAMILY GAME ZONE

ALL AGES WELCOME !



PECKHAM LIBRARY

11th December

4-6PM | 5TH FLOOR

WE HAVE THE BEST GAMES PREPARED FOR YOU

Contact: joanna.wimalasuriya@southwark.gov.uk



Promo/Advertisements



LOVE RUGBY SERIES

A nationwide series of **girls-only** festivals, joining up girls aged new to rugby with those already playing for a fun, friendly and positive experience

Key Information

- Girls in U9-U11s (Year 4-6)
- All abilities welcome
- Contact and no-contact rugby options
- Coaching workshops and game play

Southwark RFC
Cobourg Road, London, SE5 0JB

Sign up as a small group or as an individual.

Want to join in?

1. Find an event you are interested in
2. Sign up using the link below
3. Keep an eye out for upcoming events on findrugby.com

Sign-up to your local event here !

Inspire Your Pupils After School

Fun, creative writing clubs run by real writers – right in your school.

About Inkhead

Inkhead runs after-school writing clubs led by experienced, published writers. Our sessions help children discover the joy of storytelling while building literacy skills and confidence.



Why schools host Inkhead

- Zero admin, we can manage sign-ups, payments and parent communication
- Enriches your after-school offer with a unique, screen-free creative activity
- Supports KS2 writing and reading objectives
- Run by enhanced DBS-checked, qualified, published writers
- LOVED by children and parents alike

What pupils do

Children create their own stories – from time-travel adventures to superhero sagas – while learning planning, editing and expression in a friendly, supportive group.

"The teachers are inspiring, motivating and nurturing which brings out the best in our young writers."

– Headteacher, South London School

Club format: Before/After-school
| 60 mins | KS2 pupils

Group size: Around 15-18 pupils

Email us for an Inkhead club at your school
info@inkhead.co.uk | inkhead.co.uk |
[@inkheadcreativewriting](https://www.instagram.com/inkheadcreativewriting)

