



John Donne Primary School

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Kindness

Respect

Resilience

Community

Collaboration

Aspiration

A word from the headteacher

Welcome back! Although we have been back for just over a week now, this is our first newsletter of the new academic year so we hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting year ahead. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week and last week and to see them settling into their new classes so positively.

We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to our school community. Ms Benskin joins us as our new Red 4 teacher, Ms Anderson will be teaching in Red 2 on Mondays and Tuesdays, Ms Wilson will be working with us as a trainee teacher in Year 5. We have some new support staff who have joined us too including Miss Amoh in Red 1 and Mr Abdulwahid in Year 5 on Thursdays and Fridays. I am sure you will join me in making them feel very welcome as they begin their journeys with us.

Over the summer, Ms Taylor made the difficult decision to leave John Donne. We are grateful for the contribution she made during her time at the school and know that many members of our community will join us in wishing her and her family all the very best for the future.

A new school year brings exciting opportunities, experience ahead. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

As always, I wish you a wonderful weekend and we will see you bright and early on Monday morning.

Miss Rooney

Attendance

Our School attendance target **98%**
Our overall attendance this week is: **92.95%**

Registration Form	Late: Marks (Count)	(%)
N1	0	74.29%
Reception Green	0	89.58%
Reception Red	1	88.79%
Green1	1	88.85%
Red1	0	94.4%
Green2	0	94.07%
Red2	2	97.69%
Green3	0	96.3%
Red3	2	92.14%
Green4	0	96.43%
Red4	0	92.67%
Green5	1	98.33%
Red5	0	91.67%
Green6	0	92.69%
Red6	0	89.31%



11th September 2026

This weeks class attendance Winner



Green 5

With

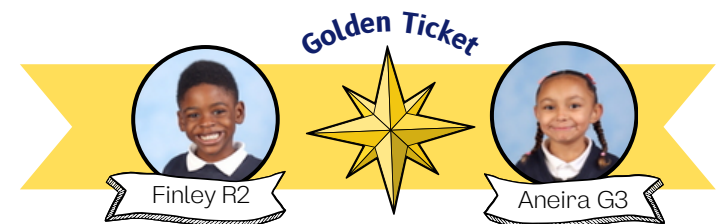
98.33%



Ticket winners this week



Jonah R1, Joshia R1, Knight G1, Violet G1, Meriem R2, Noah R2, Oscar G2, A'zariah R3, Peter R3, Aaryan G3, Ezekiel G3, Raheem R4, Ruby G4, Sia G4, Richard R5, Annabelle R5, Ayaan G5, Camilla G5, Bridget R6, Prince R6, Becky G6, Makai G6



Jack R1, Obianuju R1, Sonny G1, Zham G1, Ariana R2, Jessica G2, Romeo G2, Mickell R3, Nevaveh R3, Celina G3, Dora R4, Elaine R4, Eliza G4, Great G4, Mubarakah R5, Raphael R5, Abdulkadar G5, Osinachi G5, Maison R6, Ezekiel R6, Lina G6, Morecambe G6

Values Assembly – What our learners think!

Our first values assembly of the new academic year was with Mr James. We reminded ourselves of our 6 core values and how they help us to be the best versions of ourselves! We then looked at different scenarios and matched them to the value. Our final task was to reflect on which value we would work on for the rest of the week – which value did you choose?



Key Dates for your Diary/Calendar

Dates	Event/Trip	Year Group
14th September 2026	Meet The Parents - Community Space	Year 4
15th September 2026	Meet The Parents- Community Space	Year 5
16th September 2026	Meet The Parents - Community Space	Year 3
17th September 2026	Meet The Parents - Community Space	Year 2
18th September 2026	Meet the Parents Community Space	Year 1
20th September - 25th September	Nethercott residential Trip	Year 4/5
21st September 2026	Meet the Parents Community Space	Year 6
2st September 2026	St Paul's Cathedral Trip	Year 2
23rd September 2026	Meet the Parents Community Space	Year Reception

Term Dates

TERM	START	END
AUTUMN 1	Thursday 3rd September 2026	Friday 16th October 2026
HALF TERM	19th October 2026	30th October 2026
AUTUMN 2	Monday 2nd November 2026	Friday 18th December 2026
CHRISTMAS	21st December 2026	4th January 2027

Key Apps that John Donne Use

We currently use the following apps:

- Study Bugs: To report your child's illness
- Arbor: you can view your child's student profile and make payments to trips etc

Notice: New Changes with how we use Arbor

All consent for trips will now go through the Arbor App. We will no longer be using paper slips. When paying for your child's trip etc please ensure you select consent for your child to attend.



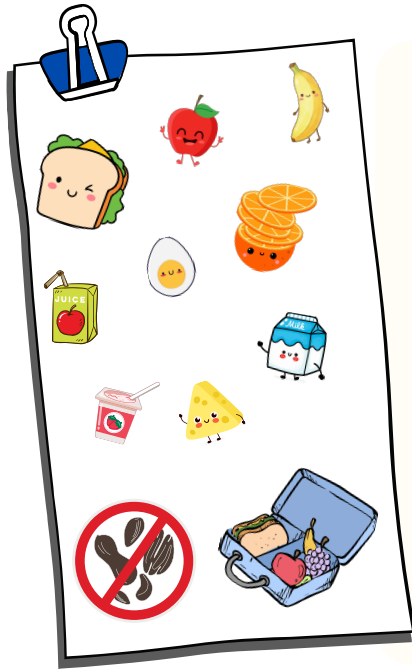
Lunch Time menu



Next weeks Menu

Reminders for Parents:

Healthy Packed Lunches



As a Healthy School, we encourage any child who has a packed lunch to bring a balanced lunch that supports their learning, concentration and wellbeing throughout the day. A healthy packed lunch should include items such as a sandwich, wrap or pasta, fresh fruit and vegetables, and water. Please remember that we are a nut-free school and ask that no nuts or nut-containing products are included in lunchboxes. We also ask that sweets, chocolate, confectionery and sugary drinks are not sent into school. Thank you for your support in helping us promote healthy eating habits and keep all members of our school community safe.

Meet the Team

Dear parents and carers – please see dates below for the Autumn 'Meet The Team' meetings for parents and carers – this is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teachers, find out about your child's learning for the Autumn term, as well as dates and other helpful information. Meetings will all take place at 08:45 – 09:15 in our Community Space (classroom next to Green Reception/by the climbing wall)

Here's the dates and year groups:

Monday 14th September - Y4

Tuesday 15th September - Y5

Wednesday 16th September - Y3

Thursday 17th September - Y2

Friday 18th September - Y1

Monday 21st September - Y6

Wednesday 23rd September - Year Reception

Little Wandle (LW) parent workshops will run straight after the Reception and Year 1 'Meet the Team' meetings.



PE DAYS

Year 1: Tuesday

Year 2: Friday

Year 3: Thursday

Year 4: Tuesday

Year 5: Monday

Year 6: Wednesday



Swimming Lessons

Year 3 will be going Swimming from next week Friday



Letter here!

JD After school Activity clubs

All John Donne Activity clubs will begin the Week:

21st September 2026

Sign up for clubs closes:

18th September 2026



TAEKWONDO WITH MASTER WILLIAMS

There are availability in the following Taekwondo clubs:

Thursday AM - Y3-4

Thursday PM - Afterschool (open to Y3-Y6)

If you are interested in joining please register your interest at the school office

£3.50 per session



Applying for Secondary Schools in Southwark

If your child is due to start Year 7 in September 2027, now is the time to begin researching secondary schools and planning your application.

Parents and carers living in Southwark Council must apply for a secondary school place through the online admissions system. You can list up to six schools in order of preference, including schools both inside and outside Southwark. It is important to carefully research schools, attend open days and consider each school's admission criteria before submitting your application.

Key Dates

- Applications open: 1 September 2026
- Application deadline: 31 October 2026 at 11:59pm
- National Offer Day: 1 March 2027

Important Reminder

Applications submitted after the deadline may be treated as late applications, which can reduce the chances of being offered one of your preferred schools. For this reason, parents and carers are strongly encouraged to submit their application well before 31 October 2026.

How to Apply

Applications should be made online through the London eAdmissions website. Southwark residents must apply through their home local authority, even if they are applying for schools in another borough. Likewise, families who live outside Southwark but wish to apply for a Southwark school should apply through their own local authority.

We encourage all parents and carers to attend secondary school open days and evenings over the coming weeks. Visiting schools can help you find the best environment for your child and make informed choices when completing your application.

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[Click here for help with E-Admissions.](#)



[Click the circle for more information on schools within Southwark](#)



[Click the circle for Southwark Secondary School brochure](#)