



## FLORA GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

17<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents,

The end of a very busy and successful year has arrived. I am sure you will join me in thanking the staff for the fantastic work they have done this term in guiding and supporting your children.

What a year we have all had at Flora Gardens. So much has happened in such a short amount of time. Sport and Music are at the centre of the rounded education that I am determined that Flora Gardens provides. As Oscar Wilde said:

***“Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.”***

Whilst that is used slightly tongue in cheek, it does underline our philosophy that education includes the Arts, Sport and time for children to be children and to grow. We are not a ‘hot house’ for academic success but a school that has a warm, family atmosphere where every child can find their talent and develop.

Miss Nicklen took our talented choir to perform at the Tri-Borough Music Hub Christmas Festival at the town hall and all involved loved the experience. We have already been invited to join the Christmas Carol singing in The Lyric Square in December and our Partnership with Wigmore Hall and the Tri-Borough Music hub continues to flourish. My thanks go to all those involved and the John Lyons charity for their financial contribution to our partnership. Early Years and Key Stage 1 put on a fantastic Nativity play and we have never seen so many parents in the audience. Key Stage 2 showed us just how talented they all are in a spectacular Christmas Concert. The Chamber Orchestra performing last week at Wigmore Hall was a very moving event. I felt so proud of all the pupils and staff. We still have our Y6 play and music performance to finish the year in style.

Mr Finney has taken our pupils to so many sports tournaments and increased our number of sports clubs and extended hours provision dramatically. We won the Dodgeball competition and improved our standing in all the other competitions. Sports Day has to be a highlight, as pupils, parents and staff showed great sportsmanship and the day was greatly enjoyed by all. Our Tennis Club pupils went to Wimbledon and got to experience something that many of us did not have the chance to as children. The range of sports on offer at Flora Gardens is surely unsurpassed by any local state school: Trampolining, Rock Climbing, Cricket festivals, Netball competitions, Cross-Country, Athletics, Basketball and Tennis to name a few. We look forward to increased success and increased participation next year.

The PTA has been very active this year raising valuable funds for the school and our pupils. We kicked off the year with our International Day celebration – parents and staff had such fun, partaking in a quiz and eating delicious foods from around the world. Our Christmas Fair was bigger and better than ever, we even had a full sized Santa grotto and our choir, once again, put on a magical performance! Film nights and Discos have run regularly and this year we had an Eid celebration which was a lovely family event bringing together all of our diverse and wonderful community.



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Healthy Early Years Partnership  
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On Saturday we had our Summer Fete, which was opened by the Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham. Despite a spot of rain near the beginning, it was better attended than last year, made more money for the PTA and had more attractions. A massive thanks to Miss Kelly and the PTA for running this major event in our community calendar and we are already planning for the 2018 Fete! The PTA is always looking for committee members and I would encourage you to join up and lend a hand! This is especially important as we have two long serving members leaving – many thanks to Jemima and Archana for your years of dedication.

In April we received the long awaited phone call from Ofsted, and they confirmed what I had been so sure about – that this is a Good school. The personal development, behaviour and welfare of pupils received the “Outstanding” grade – our pupils are a credit to you and their school. With Ofsted complete we can increase the range of our focus and continue developing the rounded education that your children currently enjoy.

I wrote to you on 16<sup>th</sup> June to let you know the plan for September, when our pupils will move up to the next year group. Since this time, Ms Cenac was offered a fantastic career opportunity to be part of the Senior Leadership Team in another primary school. It is with regret that I now have to let you know that Ms Cenac will be leaving us at the end of this term. We are all very sad to see Ms Cenac go, but I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all of her hard work and commitment during her 5 years at the school and wish her every success in her new role and for the future.

This news has a knock-on effect on our plans for September, but I am delighted to tell you that I have managed to fill this teaching position with a very experienced, outstanding teacher, Mr Jones. Year 3 and Year 5 Gardens parents, the classes affected, have already been informed of the change and here is the new staffing structure for you.

Class	Teacher	Additional Adult
Nursery	Ms Owolabi	Mrs Aboiralor & Miss Bunce
Reception	Miss Kelly	Miss Newton & Miss Bunce
Year 1	Miss Earley	Mrs O'Brien
Year 2	Mrs Asserati	Miss Nicklen & Mrs McWilliams
Year 3	Mrs Grippman	Mrs Taylor
Year 4	Mrs Dunkley (nee Swann)	Miss Kelly & Ms Suseni
Year 5	Miss Abbasi	Mrs Matoshi
Year 6 Flora	Ms Woodcock	Mrs Brand
Year 6 Gardens	Mr Jones	Mrs Brand

Alongside her class teacher role, many of you across the school will know Ms Cenac for the sterling work she has undertaken as our SEN Coordinator and through her Safeguarding Lead role. From September, our Deputy Head, Ms Graham, will take over both of these responsibilities, and I am certain will continue the success of these roles. I truly believe that this new staffing structure will offer the best possible education for all of our pupils.



WIGMORE HALL  
*Learning*



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As you can see from the above staff list there is very happy news – Miss Swann will be returning to us as Mrs Dunkley! I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best for her wedding and a long and happy marriage.

Finally, it is always bittersweet to see the Y6's leave us and continue their educational journey. We wish all of Y6 the best for the future; look forward to welcoming them back to Flora Gardens and hearing how they are progressing. I found this wonderful poem about new beginnings:

### NEW BEGINNINGS | By Tony Walsh | Longfella |

Welcome to your new school!

Welcome to your future.

New beginnings here, and new rules.

New classrooms, new computers.

New timetables, new faces here.

New corridors, new signs.

But some things change, some stay the same

And some truths last all time.

You'll take out what you put in.

You'll reap just what you sew.

So face the tests and do your best,

Work hard, play hard and grow.

And play a full and active part

In school and its community.

Be pleased to say "I seized the day."

"I used this opportunity."

Remember that you're different.

There's no-one quite like you.

But make good friends, the one's who'll lend

A hand to get you through.

Remember – keep your head up.

Even if you fear you'll drown.

Achieving is believing mixed

With never looking down.

And think about your future;

And find a hope, a dream.

Put action in your action plan

And build yourself a team.

Made of parents, made of teachers,

Made of family and friends.

From this position make a mission

For a trip that never ends.

And so always keep on learning;

There's always more to know.

It may sound strange, but you can always change.

It's never too late to grow.

And so don't let anybody

Try and sneer and hold you back.

Your history is not your future!

So don't ever feel like that.

Because our town has a history

Of producing boys and girls

Who, from humble roots, pull up their boots

And go on to change the world!

And so people just like you and me

Can do very special things!

Aim higher! Be high-flyers!

And be bold, unfold your wings!

And so gain an education;

Learn skills, gain facts and knowledge.

And then take the inspiration

Through to jobs, careers and college.

And so make the most of these days,

The school and these facilities.

Take off the brakes, be sure to make

The best of your abilities.

Respect yourself and others.

Have confidence --- it's essential.

If you keep a burning urge to learn

You'll reach your full potential.

And so do things that you're proud of!

And let everybody see:

You've passed the test, you've done your best

To be the best that you can be!

Good luck!



# FLORA GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Good luck Y6!

I am excited for the new academic year – we have so many wonderful things planned for our pupils and parents. I wish you a happy, fun and restful summer break and look forward to seeing you on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours faithfully,

A S Naismith  
Head



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