



Comber Grove Primary School

'Small School. Big Heart!'

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Deputy Headteacher: Ms Joanne Fielding

Thursday, 20th July 2023

Dear Comber Grove families,

With the summer holidays just around the corner, I want to take a moment to remind you about the importance of taking some well-deserved time off for yourself. **It's a time to recharge, relax and reflect on all the amazing achievements and milestones you, your children, families and Comber Grove staff reached over the past year.** At Comber Grove, we value self-care and well-being, so it is essential for everyone to enjoy some quality time away.



As we reflect together on the last year at Comber Grove Primary School, I am amazed at how quickly the past ten (10) months have gone. It has been a huge privilege to be the Headteacher of Comber Grove Primary School and I am very grateful to Miss Fielding, Mrs Roberts, and the Wider Leadership Team at Comber Grove Primary School for the support and commitment that they have given to our school. There is much that has been done to manage the school since September 2022 and as an SLT we faced many challenges an interim leadership would not ordinarily have had to face and manage.

The SLT are richer for the lessons we have learnt, and we can all use what we have encountered to continue to nurture and support our children, who are, quite frankly, the most important and real reason we are all here!

Staffing Update

Inevitably, the end of the year brings changes in staffing, and we say a fond farewell to:

Mrs Becca Kweresa-Amone
Miss Charlotte Hunter
Miss Shuhana Begun
Mr Alex Oviawe

We **thank** them all for their hard work and wish them much success in their new roles.

Please join me in thanking them on behalf of the whole school community for their hard work and commitment to our children and the school. We wish them well in all their future endeavors!



Community

Pride

Empathy

Happiness

Individuality

Creativity



well for the future!

This year we have had a number of Supply Staff who have provided invaluable support for our children. We would like to say a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to:

Miss Amina Elboury (Year 6 Teacher),
Mr William Shelor (Teaching Assistant),
Mr Tom Scholfield (Teacher),

Thank you for supporting our children and we wish you

Welcome!

We would like to **welcome**:

Miss Katie Saunders (Assistant Headteacher)
Mr Tobi Oke (Teacher)
Ms Kat Kolodziejczyk (Teacher)
Ms Regina Laryea (Teacher)



Future of Comber Grove Primary School

As an SLT we are committed to giving our best to our school and we will continue to work with our Governing body to ensure that Comber Grove Primary School remains the school of choice in our community despite the informal consultations planned for the Autumn Term and the uncertain future which we currently face! **Be assured that we will be here to support you- our families, children and staff!**

Comber Grove Primary School is a special place because of our pupils, our families and the staff that make up our school. That will always remain unchanged, and we look forward to an exciting 2023-2024 academic year filled with exciting learning activities. We also plan to build further on our PE and Music provision.

Goodbye Year 6

The end of the Summer Term is when we say good bye to Year 6 as they leave us to start Secondary School in September. They are a wonderful group of pupils who all deserved a fabulous send off. Despite all the challenges they faced over the past months, they have taught us to be resilient! There is much that we can learn from them! We are extremely proud of every single one of them! We will miss them all but know they will be a credit to Comber Grove Primary School and their families as they begin the next phase of their education.

I would like to wish our Year 6 children the very best on their journey. I know that they will go on to achieve great things in the future.



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School Day Timings for 2023-2024

School gates will open at 8:40am and the bell will ring at 8:45am at the start of the school day for ALL pupils. See timetable below:

	School Gate opens:	Start of Day	End of Day
Nursery and Reception	8:40am	8:45am	3:00pm
KS1 and KS2 (Year 1 to Year 6)	8:40am	8:45am	3:15pm

The Summer of Food and Fun is running summer holiday programmes at over 30 centres in the borough for children up to age 16, including those with special educational needs. The programmes including free food, activities and "take and make" boxes for family cooking at home.

[Healthy eating - Southwark Council](#)

The programme aims to support local families access free, healthy food and fun activities over school holidays in 2023. Each programme will provide:

- free, nutritious and tasty food,
- fun physical activity sessions,
- a wide range of other enriching activities to suit different ages and personalities
- Opportunities to learn more about food and nutrition for children and their families.

The Summer of Food and Fun webpage [Healthy eating - Southwark Council](#) is now live.



Holiday Free School Meals

Southwark Council, in discussion with schools and partners, has agreed to continue funding to provide all families with children eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals (FSM) with food vouchers during the summer holiday period. **A £90 voucher per eligible child will be funded to cover the summer holiday period.** This will be emailed directly to eligible families from Southwark Council.

How to get the one-off payment

Take the letter (with barcode) with one of the following IDs to any Post Office branch within 1 month of the date of the letter.

- Passport
- Photo Driving License
- National Identity Card (for EU citizens)
- Official government letter including your name and address such as:
 - Southwark Council Rent Statement
 - Council Tax bill (Southwark Council)



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- Letter confirming receipt of Housing Benefit, Universal Credit or similar
- NHS letter

Thank You

We have come to the end of an exciting, challenge-filled year and I am sure that everyone is looking forward to a very well-earned break. We recognise how uncertain the future feels for our children, parents, families and all our staff. **Please be assured that the school will be open in September 2023.**



This has been an enormously challenging time for everyone, and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for everything you have done to support us!

Despite the many challenges we faced, there have been many highlights over the year including our Year 6 Prize-giving and PROM, EYFS Graduations, Sports Days, Science Week, Book Week, Red Nose Day, Trips and Visits, Musical performances and dress up days. None of this would have been possible without the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of our Teachers, Support Staff, Administrative and Premises Staff and Catering Staff. I am incredibly grateful to each of them for their hard work and extensive contributions.

Now, it is time for a summer holiday!

I would like to finish off with a huge thank you to our staff team. They are such a hardworking and brilliant group of people. As they wave goodbye at 3:15pm daily they are often about to start many more hours of work and when they welcome the children at 8:45am their day has usually started long before. I can't stress enough what a dedicated group they are, and I know you will wish to join me in thanking them for all the times they go above and beyond!

September starts with a busy few weeks. The first week involves settling in, making new friends and learning the classroom rules. We tend to find that children who have missed this week struggle to settle so please return to school on the first day back!

Over the holidays, please try to read with your child every day. Children who don't read over the summer can regress up to 6 months in their reading ability.



Have a great and memorable summer holiday. Keep reading!

We look forward to seeing you all back at school on **Wednesday, 06th September 2023!**

Lorram Black, Staff and Pupils of Comber Primary School

Celebrating 2022-2023!



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