JULIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Norwood site - Gabriel House, 16, Wolfington Road, West Norwood, London SE27 0JF
Streatham site - 21 Cunliffe Street, Streatham SW16 6DS
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Executive Headteacher
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18th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the year is drawing to a close, we wanted to update you on what's been happening at Julian's over the last few weeks.

We know that many of you would like an update on the Streatham site. The key thing to say is that while work is progressing, it is clear that the school needs extensive repair work. We will therefore be at the Goldfinch site until at least Easter at this stage**.** Frustratingly, we cannot give any firm date for when we will be back at the Leigham Court Road site, as there is still lots of work to do to firm up plans - but we are being told that there should be some clearer information in the new year. We know you will find this as disappointing as we do, but at this stage there is nothing we can do to speed up the rebuild process.

We set out as much as we know later in the letter, and will keep you posted as we get any more details.

Christmas at Julian's

First of all, we would like to thank you all for your support over the past few months - we realise it has been a challenging time for everyone. The Streatham children have been incredibly resilient at adapting to the temporary site and daily transport, while staff have gone the extra mile to make Goldfinch feel like Julian's. West Norwood has continued as normal with the children continuing to thrive.

Hopefully you will have had the opportunity to visit us and enjoy some Christmas cheer with the children's wonderful festive performances. They have been working very hard and bringing great joy to all in attendance. I often wonder what it would be like to bring all of the children together - it would be phenomenal! Our Ambassadors have selected the Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) as their chosen charity this year, believing that no child should spend the festive holidays in hospital. Thank you to everyone who gave generously - we have managed to collect £489.46 with $2 Barbadian and €0.13 at West Norwood and £538.97 and €4 at Streatham, giving us a grand total of £1028.43, $2 Barbadian and €4.13. Amazing!

The performances in Key Stage 2 have focused on *Belonging* and children in Years 3,4,5 & 6 delighted us with their singing, body percussion and makaton. The performances included a very special arrangement made especially for Julian's last year, which we performed with the Baked Bean Choir at the Old Vic as part of the 12 Choirs programme. I think everyone would agree that *"DJ Play A Christmas Song"* definitely made for jolly listening. With songs that centred around the theme of *Belonging*, there were certainly some poignant moments as we reflect upon those near and dear to our hearts.

Our steel pans played at our KS2 West Norwood performances and we look forward to the New Year when

our Streatham children will also be able to perform for you all.

In Key Stage 1 we met Cheeky, Rascal and Scamp – the party sheep who saw Bethlehem filling up, assumed it was for a big celebration and did not want to miss out! They escaped from the flock and made their way into town, but although they found lots of things they loved like noise and crowds of people, there was no party. However, what they did find was the nativity story unfolding right before their eyes, which gave everyone a reason to celebrate!

Our Reception children have once again charmed us with "It's a CRACKER!" and our nursery children performed a beautiful Nativity.

We hope that our performances have given you that "gingerbread feeling" and those precious moments we all remember…

Our fabulous PTFA have again ensured that Festive Friday was a great success. A huge thank you to Lucy, Rowan and the PTFA for organising and also to everyone who contributed. The total profit for Festive Friday was £2148.37 (almost 5% up on last year) and the wreath-making total was £1132.19 (a massive 43% increase on last year!).

Streatham Site update

We are very keen to share as much as we know about what is happening, so below we give more detail about how the project is being managed, who's involved, and why getting back on site is proving to be challenging. This is all we have at this stage, but we are getting regular updates from Lambeth and the project managers and will share more when we can.

- It helps to start by explaining who is involved in the project. The works to get us back on site are being paid for by Lambeth's insurance company. They are using a firm of 'loss adjusters' to manage this work, and in our case the loss adjuster is Sedgwick (https://www.sedgwick.com/). This is a major global firm and we have a major catastrophe loss adjuster leading our project, supported by a team of four. This is a large team for them, which gives you an idea of how complicated the project is.

- We communicate with Sedgwick through Lambeth Council, as they have the contract with the insurers. The Lambeth team has been very helpful in taking questions to the Sedgwick lead and are doing their best to keep the process moving along. Sedgwick understand that we need to be back on site as soon as possible, and it is in their interests to make that happen - each week we are not back is costing them thousands of pounds in transport costs alone.

- Much of the first half of term was taken up with the insurers investigating the site, understanding the situation, and getting contractors in place. This was not a quick process because the investigators needed to understand the circumstances of the fire fully before any work could begin.

- Sedgwick has contracted Belfor (https://www.belfor.com) to manage the first stage of the work. They have been busy across the second half of term, understanding the nature of the damage and stripping out the damaged parts of the building.

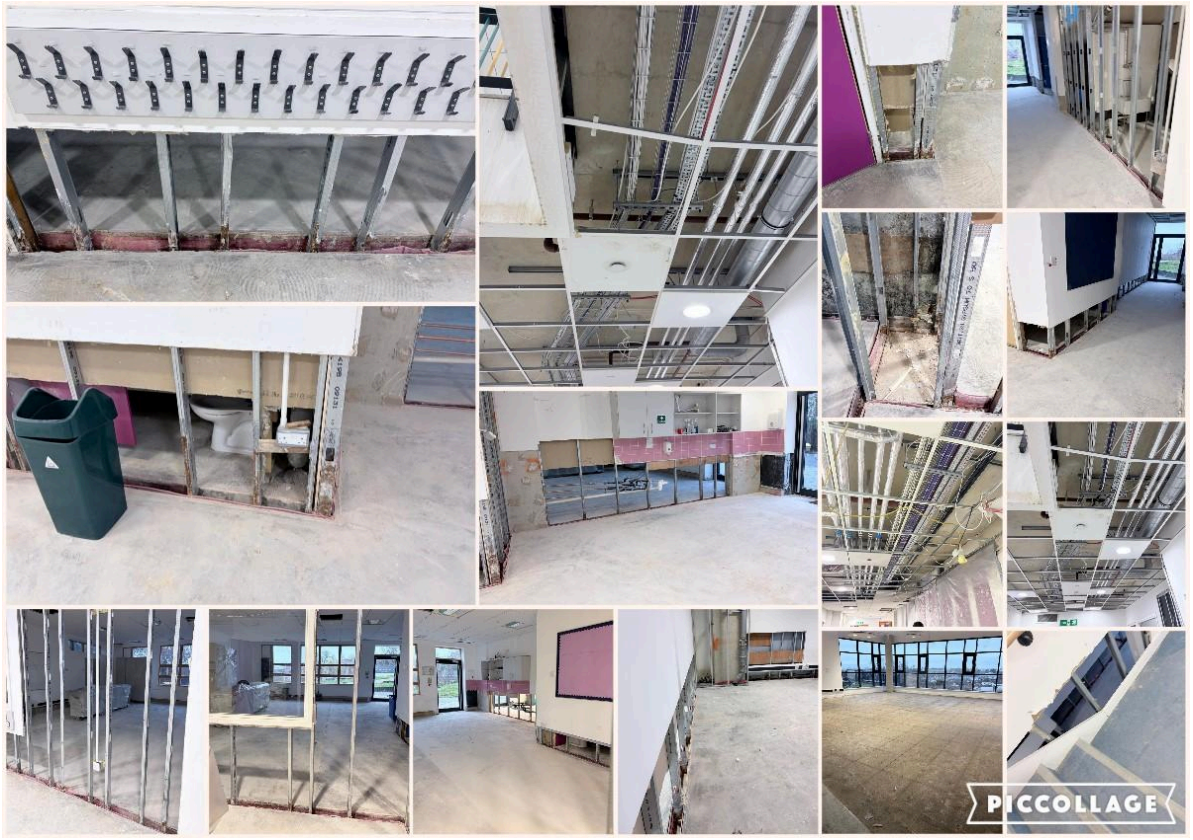
- We visited the site at the end of November to see progress and it's clear that the damage is extensive. This is primarily water damage. There is mould on most walls, the metal framework that supports the walls is rusting, and the underfloor heating - which is embedded in the concrete floor - needs complete replacement. We've attached some photos to show you how much is having to be taken out. In practice, it means the school has to be stripped right back to the bare brick for the next stage of repair work to start.

- Sedgwick will be responsible for placing a contract for that next stage of work, and are developing the specification based on advice from their structural engineer. The engineer has been onsite at the same time as Belfor. We are led to believe that this contract will be placed in the new year, for work to start as soon as possible.

We are expecting an update early in the new year on process, contractor appointment and timescales. We will provide regular updates on the progress of the rebuilding efforts as and when we know them, and we are committed to sharing a more concrete timeline as soon as it becomes available.







We have been keeping a very close eye on the impact of the move to the GF site and our children. We are pleased to report that the results of our most recent data collection show that standards have been maintained and children are continuing to do well.

Please rest assured we are doing everything in our power to be back at our Streatham site as soon as it is feasibly possible.

A huge thank you to all of our wonderful staff who work tirelessly to make our school the special place it is!

A reminder that we have inset on Monday 5th January and look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Tuesday 6th January.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful new year. See you in 2026!

Kind regards

Alison Moller
Executive Headteacher

Chris Davies
Chair of Governors