



Issue no 2 2013

**Welcome to all parents/carers and children who have joined us in the Nursery and Reception classes this week. We look forward to working with you during your time with us.**

**As it is the start of the year it is worth reflecting on our vision for the school so....**

**What is our vision?**



***...to be outstanding in every aspect, pushing the boundaries of excellence as we grow.....***

**The aspects are:**

- Achievement
- The quality of teaching
- Leadership and Management
- Behaviour and Safety

**Julian's is a school -**

- With creativity at its core
- Where outstanding teaching and learning leads to excellent standards

- Where everybody matters
- Where great care is taken to provide a high quality learning environment
- Where we aim to develop responsible citizens of the future
- Where we actively draw on and involve our community

**What are our priorities this year?**



- ☑ To ensure consistently high quality teaching across the school
- ☑ To further develop assessment both summative and formative
- ☑ To develop middle leadership throughout the school to build capacity for the future
- ☑ To further develop inclusion including the role and impact of TAs
- ☑ To further develop partnership and engagement with parent/carer
- ☑ To work with Investors In People
- ☑ To continue to work on the expansion of Julian's

**Absence to be granted only under exceptional circumstances**

On 1 September, the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment)

Regulations 2013 came into force, changing the rules about term-time holidays.

The amendments remove references to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days.

The amendments specify that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless they consider there to be "exceptional circumstances" for doing so. If leave is granted, headteachers should determine the number of days a child can be away from school.

While decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, requests will normally be refused.

Should the child's average attendance be below 95%, it is highly unlikely that the headteacher will agree to authorise any further absence.

### Year 6 School Journey

For the first time ever Julian's took two Year 6 classes on our annual trip to Osmington Bay.....in what had been a sunny Dorset the week before! The children returned on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September from their week away. They have told us that they had a fabulous fun-packed week of activities including the zip wire, Jacob's ladder, Sensory trails, wall climbing and quad biking to name but a few.

All of the children challenged themselves to do things they had never done before with many of the children overcoming fears – the biggest of which

appeared to be sharing a room with a daddy long legs! You know who you are!!!

My thanks to Alice, Nikki, Charlene, Kerry and Reuben for leading the school journey. Without staff who are willing to give up their own time, these residential trips would simply not be possible.



What did the children think?

*The best thing about PGL was that I got to do things I don't get to do at home -*  
Maya



*I loved the giant swing. If I could sum it up in one word, I'd say adventurous -*  
Ebony



*I enjoyed the sensory trail. My biggest challenge was the zip wire. I was worried about jumping off - Monae*



*I loved the giant swing. It was great fun. I screamed so loud when we released the rope - Faith*



*I liked Giant swing and getting to the top of Jacob's ladder – Izzy*

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Best Wishes

***Alison Moller***

***A message from Margherita Watt  
(CHAIR) and Christopher Fifield  
(SECRETARY)***

**Update on Parent/Carer Forum -**

There have now been two Parent/Carer Forum meetings where a wide range of subjects have been covered. Out of these, the group have proposed a number of things to the school to improve school/parent carer relations. Some of those have directly resulted in change, others are being worked on and some the school are unable to facilitate at this time.

We have summarised those points below so you can see the value of the group and why we hope as many parents/carers as possible will come to our next session which will be **Wednesday 23rd October between 6.30pm and 8.00pm** looking at School Engagement with Parents/Carers.

**Forum success:**

1. Once a term bulletin with key dates on school trips and events – This is now happening at the beginning of the term in the newsletter
2. Advance notice of parents evenings/ability to book – This is now happening, with the most recent parents evening being announced 3.5 weeks ahead
3. More promotion of volunteering – Becky is currently updating the volunteering register. Please email her with your availability on [becky@juliansprimary.org.uk](mailto:becky@juliansprimary.org.uk) if you are interested.
4. Use of exercise books for homework rather than individual sheets, and in it acknowledgement that homework has been received – this will be in place from the Autumn term

5. Greater publicity of breakfast club – This will be re-promoted in September
6. Wider consultation of the website plans – this happened through the P/C Forum and once live the P/C Forum will be asked to feedback on user experience

**Forum requests that are being looking into:**

1. Physical notice board for Forum and PTA in the school – Currently looking into the best location but this will happen at a later date
2. Consideration of extending breakfast club hours to 8.00am – School could only do this if parents committed to at least a term at a time to attending as would need to pay for additional staff/breakfast catering. Action – to further discuss at P/C Forum.

**Forum requests which the school cannot facilitate:**

1. Being able to add multiple numbers to the text service – This cannot happen on mass but in exceptional circumstances an additional number can be added manually
2. Where there are school trips that happen out of hours the school HAVE to gain permission from parents/carers. The school try and minimise the requests for permission. On occasion some parents/carers occasionally wish to decline so school need parents/carers the opportunity to do.