



Thursday 17th December 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Following further parent and staff consultation and a Full Governing Board meeting, the Governing Board has made the decision to continue with staggered end of day timings and an earlier finish time on Friday afternoons for the spring term. This will then be reviewed for the summer term.

The parent survey showed that 66% of parents continued to support an earlier finish time on Fridays. Although the school recognises that this places an additional childcare difficulty on parents, the benefit of not having members of staff teaching PPA across three classes a day on multiple days a week means that we will be able to keep more bubbles open in the event of positive COVID test. This means less children will be asked to isolate at home for up to 10 days.

Some parents raised a concern regarding loss of learning time. At the moment, all schools are required to operate staggered start and finish times to support social distancing at the school gates. This means that there will be a loss of learning time for the classes that leave earlier. This is evident in the vast majority of Islington schools. A number of Islington schools have also introduced an earlier close on a Friday for teaching staff to have the statutory PPA time that they are entitled to.

To address the loss of learning time due to the earlier finish on Fridays, school now has a soft start at 8:35 – 8:50 (10 minutes earlier than previously). The school also has reduced lunchtime breaks by 10 minutes each day, and 20 minutes on Fridays (as the children finish earlier) which means that each class has gained 1 hour and 50 minutes of teaching time across the week.

Change of start time:

Stars and Moon Class (Reception) will now also be able to come into school between 8:35 and 8:50. Ms Sharp and Ms Corbyn will be available in the infant playground to support with this as they are currently.

The end of day timings for the spring term are:

Monday – Thursday	Friday	Main Gate	KS1 Gate	Car Gate
3pm	1pm	Stars (and siblings)	Moon (and siblings)	Mars (and siblings)
3:10pm	1:10pm	Jupiter (and siblings)	Mercury (and siblings)	Saturn (and siblings)
3:20pm	1:20pm	Neptune (and siblings)	Earth (and siblings)	Pluto (and siblings)
3:25pm	1:25pm		Venus (and siblings)	
3:30pm	1:30pm	Sun		

If you have more than one child, you will need to collect your children together at the earlier collection time and location.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Day
Headteacher