



# St Mary's CE Primary School

## Parent Newsletter



July 2018

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### Farewells

We wish our Year 6 leavers every success as they begin the next chapter of their school journey. They have been excellent ambassadors for the school throughout their time here and we will miss each and every one of them. We also send our best wishes to those families whose association with St Mary's draws to a close at the end of this week.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Howe - we thank her for everything she has done for the school since returning in 2015 and we wish her well for the next phase of her career. We also wish a happy and well-deserved retirement to Mrs Williams who has served St Mary's for 20 years and has had an impact on countless numbers of children during this time.

Finally, many thanks to our families for supporting us throughout the year, partnerships with home are vital to any school's success. We wish you a peaceful summer break and look forward to seeing you all on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### Attendance

Our final attendance figure for the year is 96%. The final figures for each class are below:

R Wallabies	93.4%	R Koalas	93.8%
1 Penguins	95.2%	1 Seals	94.9%
2 Foxes	96.3%	2 Hedgehogs	96.8%
3 Eagles	96.4%	3 Falcons	97.5%
4 Dolphins	97.1%	4 Starfish	97.7%
5 Lions	95.6%	5 Giraffes	95.5%
6 Tigers	98.1%		

Poor attendance patterns can become habitual from a very early age and have a very negative impact on progress. Below is the latest government data showing the proportion of 11 year olds leaving primary school and working at the standards expected for their age in Reading, Writing and Maths:

- Those with high levels of attendance (i.e. 99% or above):  
**96% of pupils achieve the standards expected for their age.**
- Those with average levels of attendance (i.e. 95% - 98%):  
**88% of pupils achieve the standards expected for their age.**
- Those with low levels of attendance (i.e. 90% or below):  
**70% of pupils achieve the standards expected for their age.**

In the past 12 months the school has followed Birmingham City Council's 'Fast Track to Attendance' legal procedure and has issued letters of warning to families of pupils with concerning attendance levels. Some families have been prosecuted and fined as a result of action taken against them. We will continue to follow this process from September.

### Key Stage Two Sats

These are derived from a combination of tests and teacher assessment and used to help judge the effectiveness of a school. The results are published nationally in December but we received the provisional figures for our school last week. They are shown below and list the percentage of our 11 year olds who achieved the standard expected for their age with the provisional national figures in brackets for comparison.

**Reading:** 87% (75%)

**Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling:** 90% (78%)

**Writing:** 90% (78%)

**Mathematics:** 97% (76%)

Congratulations to the Year 6 children and huge thanks to all of the staff who have been involved in teaching and supporting them during their seven years at the school.

### Friends of St Mary's

It has been a busy term for FOSM with the summer fair and discos - we will be able to let you know the final figure for our fundraising soon. Many thanks to the volunteers whose tireless work makes these events happen - particular thanks to Zara Reed (a Year 3 parent) who is standing down as chair at the end of this term having served brilliantly for the past three years.

All money raised provides valuable funds which benefit the pupils of the school. **The fundraising work of groups such as FOSM are becoming ever more vital to schools as the impact of funding cuts begins to have a detrimental effect on the provision and service we are able to offer.** We urgently require a committee and chair for the new academic year and if you are interested in getting involved, no matter how much or how little, we would very much like to hear from you.

### Reports

Annual reports were issued on Friday. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the school office as soon as possible so we can provide you with a duplicate.

## Teaching Arrangements 2018/2019

A further reminder of class allocations for September 2018:

Class	Teacher	Teaching Assistant
<b>RBadgers</b>	Mrs Woods	Miss Rooney
<b>RMoles</b>	Miss Domagala	Mrs Kirby
<b>1Koalas</b>	Mrs James	Mrs King/Mrs Cartwright
<b>1Wallabies</b>	Mrs Lehal	Mrs Ashton
<b>2Seals</b>	Mrs Fage	Mrs Powers
<b>2Penguins</b>	Miss Goley	Mrs Cater
<b>3Turtles</b>	Mrs Precious-Li	Mrs Thomas
<b>3Whales</b>	Mr Jones	
<b>4Eagles</b>	Miss Forrest	Mrs Cleary
<b>4Falcons</b>	Miss Atkins	
<b>5Starfish</b>	Mr Tromans	Mrs Cotterill
<b>5Dolphins</b>	Mr Warfield	
<b>6Lions</b>	Mrs Evans	Mrs Neal
<b>6Giraffes</b>	Miss Daykin-Pont	

We would like to welcome Miss Atkins who joins us from September.

Mr Jenkins, Miss Hudd and Mrs Barton will continue to be non-class based teachers.

## Site News

The school completes the seven-year process of expansion in September as we reach our limit of 420 pupils. In the interests of managing a high number of people on site at the start and end of the day safely, we are continuing with our method of dispersing entry and exit points for classes across the site. They are remaining the same as this year, namely:

**Reception:** entry from the Frederick Road playground (am) and exit from classroom doors (pm).

**1 (Wallabies and Koalas):** from the classroom doors.

**2/3 (Penguins, Seals and Whales):** the doorway next to the canopied area in the Lodge Hill Rd playground.

**3 (Turtles):** the classroom door leading onto the playground.

**4 (Eagles and Falcons):** the classroom doors that lead directly onto the Lodge Hill Rd playground.

**5 (Starfish and Dolphins):** the stairwell door leading onto the Lodge Hill Rd playground.

**6 (Giraffes and Lions):** the doorway by the spider-web climbing frame on the Frederick Road side of the site.

**During the summer the following works will be carried out:**

-Completion of the refurbishment of all toilets used by Reception to Year 3 pupils.

-Creation of a partitioned classroom outside the school hall.

-Renewal of the covering of the hall roof.

A further reminder that parking restrictions are in place outside school and demarcated by lines and cones. Parents should park with the safety of pupils and consideration for local residents in mind.

## Term Dates 2018 - 2019

A reminder of dates for the forthcoming academic year:

Aut 1: Tue 4<sup>th</sup> September – Fri 26<sup>th</sup> October

Aut 2: Tues 6<sup>th</sup> November – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> December

Spr 1: Tues 8<sup>th</sup> January – Fri 15<sup>th</sup> February

Spr 2: Tues 26<sup>th</sup> February – Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April

Sum 1: Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April – Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May

Sum 2: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July

**The school is closed on the following dates for staff training:**

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> September; Mon 5<sup>th</sup> November

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> January; Mon 25<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Looking forward to next summer, if your child is currently in Year 5 please note that the test week for the 2019 Year 6 Sats is the week beginning **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May**.

## Year 6 Leavers' Service

This is being held on Friday at 9.30am in St Mary's Church. **Please note that this is by invitation only due to the numbers expected in church.** Those invited are the families of leavers; their siblings; staff who have taught them since they entered Reception and the children in their partner classes.

In this way everybody involved in guiding and supporting the children throughout their journey in school has the opportunity to say farewell and wish them success as they begin a new chapter of their lives.

## A Prayer



Dear God,

We thank you for all the gifts you have given to us throughout this school year.

We think of those who are leaving St Mary's to embark on new and exciting journeys. We ask you to bless them in your love and give them peace.

We give our thanks for the good things you have done for us during this school year and for all who have shared in the work of school.  
Amen

## Safeguarding

The school takes its safeguarding duty very seriously. If you have any concerns about the safety or well-being of a child, then you must contact the school or the Birmingham Children's Advice Service on 0121-303-1888 in confidence.

## Important Dates

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 leaver show 9am
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Inspire Thank you assembly 9am
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Drop in session – reports 3.30pm
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Encourage Thank you assembly 9am
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leaver service 9.15am in church
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	School finishes for summer holiday at 3.20pm/3.30pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	School re-opens to pupils for Autumn term