



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Parent Newsletter

May 2019

Tel: 0121 675 1729 E: enquiry@stmryb29.bham.sch.uk or teacher.info@stmryb29.bham.sch.uk
W: www.stmarys-sellyoak.co.uk T: @stmarysb29



Somerville Primary Exchange Visits

In recent months, we have been developing links with Somerville Primary School in Small Heath focused on developing exchange visits for our Year 4 pupils. This has taken the form of writing letters to a pen pal and, a couple of weeks ago, we hosted staff and pupils from Somerville in school and made a joint visit to St Mary's Church.

Next month, our staff and pupils will visit Somerville and spend time in school and will visit their local mosque. It is a great chance for the children to learn about the diversity which exists in a city like Birmingham and we hope it will signal the beginning of a long tradition of visits between the two schools.

Attendance

Our attendance figure to date is **96.9%**. A reminder that any late children are to report to the office and not the classroom doors as office staff must have an accurate picture of attendance each day. The current figures are below:

R Moles	93.5%	R Badgers	96.7%
1 Wallabies	97.0%	1 Koalas	97.8%
2 Penguins	96.4%	2 Seals	97.5%
3 Turtles	97.9%	3 Whales	96.3%
4 Eagles	97.7%	4 Falcons	97.9%
5 Dolphins	97.3%	5 Starfish	97.9%
6 Giraffes	96.2%	6 Lions	96.0%

Term Dates

School closes for the half-term break today and we reopen on **Monday 3rd June**. The final day of the summer term is **Friday 19th July**.

Below is a further reminder of term dates for the following academic year:

- Aut 1:** Tues 3rd September – Fri 25th October 2019
- Aut 2:** Tues 5th November – Fri 20th December 2019
- Spr 1:** Tues 7th January – Fri 14th February 2020
- Spr 2:** Tues 25th February – Fri 3rd April 2020
- Sum 1:** Mon 20th April – Fri 22nd May 2020
- Sum 2:** Mon 1st June – Fri 19th July 2020

Staff training days (where school will be closed) are:

Monday 2nd September 2019; Monday 4th November 2019
Monday 6th January 2020; Monday 24th February 2020
Monday 20th July 2020

Important dates for the remainder of this year can be found on the next page of this letter.

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 and Support Service on 0121-303-1888 in confidence.

A Pentecost Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for the special times we enjoy and for the special people who help us.

Encourage and comfort us when life is not easy and help us to keep alive the flame of your love today and always, through the gift of your Holy Spirit.

Amen

Family Support

We have a support team in school consisting of a family worker and pupil mentor who are able to support both families and children in a range of different areas.

Support with parenting, emotional and mental health, attendance, help with accessing different services and housing are just some of the areas in which they can help.

All support comes free of charge and we would urge any parent who feels they need advice or support to contact the school in the strictest confidence. Please do not think that you cannot approach us, we are here to help.

Staffing

We belatedly welcome Mrs Cole to St Mary's as our new subject leader for English. She joined us at the start of this term and will be teaching across the school for the remainder of the academic year and we hope that her time at the school will be happy and successful.

We say a temporary farewell to Mrs Lehal who leaves us today as she begins her maternity leave. We wish her well over the coming weeks and months and look forward to hearing good news very soon. She will be replaced for the final weeks of the term by Mrs Holmes who has been teaching across the school since January and is well-known to the children in Wallabies.

Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) Committee News

FOSM are extremely excited to be funding a new climbing frame for the ks1 playground and table tennis table for the ks2 playground which will be installed over the summer holidays. This is all thanks to contributions and support from parents for our events so a huge thank you!

Our latest projects include ice cream sales on sunny Friday afternoons, party packs for hire for your children's parties and upcoming next term will be another disco and the summer fair. We are also working on updating the FOSM section of the website so look out for future updates.

Site Safety – Before and After School

The school site is small for the number of pupils we have and it is important to consider the safety of all users at all times. Please ensure that bicycles and scooters are not ridden anywhere on the site (both children and parents). For this purpose, the boundary of the site is where Frederick Road and Lodge Hill Road meet both pedestrian gateways and the top of the driveway on the Lodge Hill side. We are fortunate not to have had any accidents so far but we have seen a number of near misses and want to eliminate the risk completely.

In addition, please ensure that children are not using the climbing equipment we have on site, this is for use during the school day only. Many thanks for your support with these issues.

Thank You

Many thanks to all parents who attended our church services today and class assemblies over recent weeks, your support is greatly appreciated by children and staff alike.

Particular thanks to our Year 2 and Year 6 families for supporting your children through their recent test weeks which have now drawn to a close.

As you will see below, there are a number of events for you to get involved with and support during the final half-term and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at one or more of these.

We wish you a peaceful break and look forward to seeing you on our return on Monday 3rd June.

BOOKS NEEDED! - FOSM are running a book swap event every 1st Thu of the month at pick-up time in the main playground. We desperately need your help! Please send books with your child as donations from 1st day back after half term and give them to the teachers. We aim to start the event on Thu 6th June, so **please send from the 1st day back after half-term.**

Important Dates

Monday 27th – Friday 31st May	School closed for Half term holiday
Monday 3rd June	School re-opens
Monday 3rd June	Y5 to Blists Hill
Monday 3rd – Friday 14th June	Y4 Eagles swimming at University of Birmingham
Tuesday 4th June	Y6 Viney Hill meeting for parents 3.30pm
Wednesday 5th June	School class photos
Friday 7th June	Y2 to Warwick Castle
Monday 10th – Friday 14th June	Bikeability for Years 5 & 6
Monday 10th – 11th June	Bikeability – if not completed during previous week
Wednesday 12th June	1 Wallabies class assembly 9am
Thursday 13th June	1 Koalas class assembly 9am
Friday 14th June	Year 1 charity event
Friday 21st June	Year 2 charity event
Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th June	Y6 Giraffes to Viney Hill residential visit
Wednesday 26th – Friday 28th June	Y6 Lions to Viney Hill residential visit
Thursday 27th June	2 Seals class assembly 9am
Thursday 27th June	Y4 to Somerville Primary School
Wednesday 3rd July	2 Penguins class assembly 9am
Wednesday 3rd July	Y3 to Cadbury World
Friday 5th July	Donations to be bought in for FOSM fair
Monday 8th July	Y6 leavers service at St Martins 11.15am
Tuesday 9th July	KS1 sports day
Thursday 11th July	KS2 sports day
Friday 12th July	FOSM (Friends of St Mary's) SUMMER FAIR
Tuesday 16th July	Y6 show 9.30am
Wednesday 17th July	Y6 show 9.30am
Friday 19th July	Leavers Church service 9.30am
Monday 22nd July	School CLOSED to pupils – teacher training day
Tuesday 23rd July	Summer holidays – School closed
Monday 2nd September	School CLOSED to pupils – teacher training day
Tuesday 3rd September	School re-opens

