



### Important Dates

Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Non uniform day (shine & show sparkle for anti-bullying week)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Flu vaccines in school YR – Y5
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Non uniform day in exchange for donations for Christmas fair
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Y3&Y4 to Theatre (see letter on website)
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Y5&Y6 to Theatre (see letter on website)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	FOSM Christmas fair
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity performance 9.30am & 2pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity performance 9.30am
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Party day (afternoon)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas concert at St Mary's Church 6.00pm
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed to pupils
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	YR& Y1 Theatre visit (see letter on website)
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Y2 Theatre visit (see letter on website)

### Registration for Pupil Premium

For some years now, governments have provided additional funding to schools based upon the number of pupils who receive a free school meal or have had in the past 6 years (known as Pupil Premium Funding). This is aimed at improving the achievement of these pupils regardless of their economic background or academic ability.

Since 2014 the government has provided every infant aged child with a free meal regardless of income, this has meant that families of younger children who may have been entitled to a free meal no longer need to register. This is positive for the child and their family but it has had the long-term effect of lowering the number of pupils who benefit from this funding in our school.

If you have a child in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and believe that they may have been entitled to a free school meal had you needed to register, please contact us in confidence – it may be that we access funding for your child.

Alternatively, if you have children in other year groups and believe that they may be entitled to a free meal, please do the same, we do not want any child to miss out on any additional support that can be provided for them.

Please note that children of families who claim for free school meals are not identified publicly in any way and all information provided by parents is treated in the strictest confidence.

### Safeguarding

The school takes its safeguarding duty 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 (CASS) on 0121-303-1888 in confidence.

### Food Allergies and Packed Lunches

In recent days, we have noticed a number of children who have brought packed lunches to school which contain nut-based products (a popular one being chocolate/hazelnut spread).

As a school which encourages healthy eating, the benefits of such items is questionable but more importantly, they pose a risk to the many pupils we have in school who have different types of nut allergy. Products which contain nuts of any kind must **not** be brought to school or included as part of packed lunches as there is a real risk that a pupil will have an adverse reaction which could be serious. Thank you your support in this matter.

### Attendance

Our attendance figure for the term so far this year is 97.5%. 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 figures for each class are below:

R Moles 95.5%	R Badgers 97.9%
1 Wallabies 97.2%	1 Koalas 97.6%
2 Penguins 96.4%	2 Seals 97.4%
3 Turtles 97.5%	3 Whales 98%
4 Eagles 98%	4 Falcons 98.5%
5 Dolphins 98.6%	5 Starfish 98.4%
6 Lions 96%	6 Giraffes 97.8%

### Forthcoming Events at St Mary's Church

If you live in the parish, you are entitled to the services of St Mary's Church. There are many different activities and groups that are offered to the community. We have a monthly Men's Group and Women's Group as well as coffee mornings, soup lunches and social events. For details of baptisms, weddings and funerals, please see the church website

[:http://www.stmaryselloak.org.uk](http://www.stmaryselloak.org.uk)

As we approach Christmas, there are lots of different events happening in December:

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup> (10-11.30):** Children's Christmas Activity Morning

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup> (10am):** Nativity Tableau

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup> (6.30pm):** Carol Service

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> (11.30pm):** Midnight Mass

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> (10am):** Christmas Communion

### School Admissions

A reminder that if you have a child who is due to start in Reception next September, the deadline for applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2019**. Applications are now made online and for further information on both procedures, please visit the following link:

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school\\_admissions](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions)

We would be grateful if current parents could pass this information onto those families who may be looking for a place here for the first time.

