



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Parent Newsletter

February 2019



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Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings for the Spring term will be held on **6th and 7th March** and you will be able to book a time for one of these evenings at the school office from **Monday 11th February**. They provide an excellent opportunity for you to discuss the progress that your child has made so far and for us to share and set targets to support further progress during the remainder of the year. We will also have a range of your child's work available to look at and discuss and look forward to seeing you on one of these evenings.

Important Dates

A reminder of term dates for the remainder of the year:

Half-term begins: Monday 18th February

Children return: Tuesday 26th February

Spring term ends: Friday 12th April

Summer term begins: Monday 29th April

Half-term begins: Monday 27th May

Children return: Monday 3rd June

Summer term ends: Friday 19th July

Children return for 2019/20 academic year: Tuesday 3rd September

Key Dates – Spring 2019 onwards

Thursday 7th February	Parent meeting for Viney Hill Oct 19 for current year 3Turtles & 3 Whales 3pm
Thursday 14th February	5 Dolphins pyjama day £1 donation for charity
Thursday 14th February	Church service – Encourage group 2.30pm
Friday 15th February	Church service - Inspire group 9.30am
Friday 15th February	5 Starfish fun afternoon £1 donation for charity
Monday – Friday 18-22 Feb	Half term holiday-school closed
Monday 25th February	School closed to pupils -Teacher training day
Monday 4th March	4Eagles to King Edward School
Tuesday 5th - 11th March	Book fair in school
Wednesday 6th March	Parents' evening 3.30 – 6pm
Thursday 7th March	Parents' evening 3.30 – 6pm
Friday 8th March	6Giraffes – cake sale 3.30pm for charity
Monday 11th March	4 Eagles to King Edward School
Friday 15th March	6 Lions – cake sale 3.30pm for charity
Monday 18th March	4 Eagles to King Edward School
Monday 25th March	4 Falcons to King Edward School
Wednesday 27th March	R Badgers class assembly
Thursday 28th March	R Moles class assembly
Monday 1st April	4 Falcons to King Edward School
Thursday 4th April	4 Eagles class assembly
Wednesday 10th April	4 Falcons class assembly
Thursday 11th April	Church service 2.30pm Inspire group
Friday 12th April	Church service 9.30am Encourage group

A Prayer

Dear God,
As we see new life begin to unfold around us, help us to appreciate the beauty of the natural world and the happiness it brings into our lives. Amen.

Attendance

Our attendance figure to date is 96.9%. A reminder that late children report to the office and not the classroom doors. The current figures are below:

RMoles	93.5%	RBadgers	96.4%
1Koalas	97.5%	1Wallabies	97.0%
2Penguins	95.9%	2Seals	97.6%
3Turtles	97.5%	3Whales	97.8%
4Eagles	97.5%	4Falcons	98.3%
5Starfish	97.9%	5Dolphins	98.2%
6Giraffes	96.2%	6Lions	95.8%

Winter Weather

A reminder that in the event of adverse weather please assume that school is open unless you are informed otherwise. In the event of a closure we will inform you through text message, the school website, Twitter and e-mail by 7.15am. The site is fully gritted when we have icy conditions overnight but ask that you and your children take particular care when walking on site and avoid areas that are away from the usual footpaths or busv areas as well as decking.

Staffing Changes

Miss Hudd will be leaving us at half-term to take up a post in another part of the city. We thank her for all she has done for the children of St Mary's during her time at the school and wish her well in the future. Mrs Shore re-joins us after half-term following the end of her maternity leave and she will be teaching throughout the school upon her return.

Timings

A reminder of some small adjustments to our timings on Fridays which came into effect at the start of term.
-Parent reading now finishes at 9.10am.
-Congratulations assemblies now begin at 2.45pm.

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.

Parking

The local PCSOs patrolled on Lodge Hill Road yesterday morning following a complaint from a local resident and they issued a penalty notice to a motorist who was parking on the yellow zig-zag lines in front of school. These will continue into the future and, as always, we ask parents and carers park with the safety of pupils and consideration for our neighbours in mind.

Uniform

The vast majority of pupils come to school wearing appropriate uniform. However, there are exceptions to this and on the final page of this newsletter you will find an extract from the school's uniform policy which provides clear guidance as to what is permitted to be worn.

Voluntary Aided Consultation

Thank you to all who have taken part in the pre-consultation exercise we are currently holding in relation to the school's possible conversion to voluntary aided status. The first phase will close on Friday 15th February, please direct any contributions to consultation@stmryb29.bham.sch.uk

Travel Disruption – March onwards

The school have been informed by Birmingham City Council of likely travel disruption occurring in the local area due to two different road projects beginning in March.

- 1) **Weoley Avenue** will be closed between the **14th March and 12th April**.
- 2) The final phase of changes to the road system in Selly Oak will begin on the **21st March**.

This project will be concentrated around Selly Oak triangle (the former Sainsbury's site). **Bristol Road, Harborne Lane and Chapel Lane** are all affected and it is expected that the disruption caused by this will last for several months.

Both will inevitably have knock-on effects in the surrounding area. It is important that families/carers allow extra time for travelling to school if using a car or public transport as the works will involve diversions, lane closures, traffic restrictions, temporary signalling and so on.

Competition Winners!

Last term was not only a busy time with Christmas activities but there were a number of competitions that took place. Therefore, we would like to say thank all the children that took part in any of the competitions and congratulations to the winning entries.

Sainsbury's - Design a Bag for Life

Sainsbury's wanted to say a huge thank you for all of the entries that they received and well done to the top 3 who each received a chocolate hamper. They were:

Oliver - 3 Turtles; Sophia - 5 Dolphins; Millie - 6 Lions

The overall winning design belonged to Oliver. His design was made into a bag for life and he was able distribute these to the first 200 customers at the grand opening of the new Sainsbury's store. The bag is displayed in Sainsbury's and will also be on display in the Year 1 corridor.

Design a Birthday card

Well done to the following children who have had their designs printed and their cards have become the new St Mary's School Birthday Card. Their cards will also be displayed in the Year 1 corridor.

Deniece - 1 Koalas	Adedoyin - 5 Starfish	Fatemeh - 5 Starfish
Elnathan - 1 Koalas	Olivia G 5 - Starfish	Dami - 6 Lions
Nea - 5 Starfish	Hannah K - 5 Starfish	Peter - 6 Lions

Design an Anti-Bullying Poster

Well done to the following children for their Anti-bullying posters. They each received a certificate and their work is displayed outside The Hub promoting anti bullying.

Emma - 6G	Heph - 6G	Miki- 5D
Zhane - 6G	Sohalia – 4E	Eloise - 3W

Design a Cyber- Bullying Poster

Well done to the following children for their Cyber-bullying posters. They each received a certificate for their work which will be displayed around the school as a constant reminder of how to stay safe online.

Aisha - 4E	Rosanna - 4E	Lauren - 1K
Sam B - 6G	Zach - 6G	Kerime - 6G

All of these opportunities help the school to meet Article 31 of the UN Convention Rights of the Child which states 'Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities' and we thank Mrs James, Mrs Joel and the Rights Respecting League for all of their hard work in organising these great competitions.

ITEM OF UNIFORM	GUIDANCE NOTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plain dark grey or black trousers, skirt, culottes or pinafore. Plain dark grey or black trousers or shorts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trousers and shorts must be a tailored fit, e.g. no jogging bottoms or sports shorts. Skirts should be no higher than 5cm above the knee.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White or light blue shirt, blouse or polo shirt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items specified must have a collar, e.g. NO T-SHIRTS.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal blue sweatshirts, cardigans, jumpers or fleece jackets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Blue is St Mary's chosen school colour.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue and white dresses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress length should be no higher than 5cm above the knee.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plain socks (no higher than below the knee). Blue, white, grey or black tights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterned tights are not permitted. Socks/tights MUST be worn at school.
FOOTWEAR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black shoe or ankle boots. Black, white or blue sandals – SUMMER OPTION. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trainers or other sportswear not permitted. Shoes MUST be predominantly black, e.g. no visible patterns/logos. Sandals MUST have backs to them, e.g. not slip on sandals. Open-toed footwear must not be worn.

Jewellery:

We discourage children from wearing jewellery to school but we do permit the following:

- Pierced ears – just one small stud in each ear lobe.
- Watches should be of a suitable size and alarms deactivated when in school.
- Hair accessories should be kept minimal and without extensions.
- Items worn for strictly religious reasons.

St. Mary's CofE Primary School cannot accept responsibility for any items, such as watches, brought into school.

Unsuitable:

We do not consider the following to be suitable for school:

- Nail varnish/nail decorations
- Make-up/tattoos
- Extreme hairstyles, e.g. lines/patterns shaved into hair. Hair should also be of natural colour
- Football shirts, including those worn underneath school uniform
- Heeled shoes and heeled sandals

NB: Outdoor clothing, e.g. jackets, wellies, hats should not be worn in class.