



20<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Dear Families and Friends of St Mary's

**THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE – MUFTI PTA TOMBOLA DAY**

Wear your own clothes in exchange for chocolate (KS1) or a bottle (KS2) for the PTA Summer Fair Tombola stalls. Thank you!

**SCHOOL CLOSED ON FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE – STAFF TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT DAY**

(The children's toilets are also having a deep clean on this day!)

**A note about safeguarding ....**

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, please contact the school to speak to **Miss Alice Brown** (Designated Safeguarding Lead). In her absence, please speak to **Mrs Purnell or Mr Finlay** (Deputy DSLs). The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.



**ARTS FORTNIGHT – OPEN EXHIBITION**

**Thank you** to everyone who came and visited the exhibition of children's work inspired by "The Auriol and Dashwood Families" by Johan Zoffany. I hope you agree that the children produced some amazing art work and clearly enjoyed learning more about this particular painting, tasting tea and discovering more about Incredible India. Miss Morris will shortly take a selection of work for display at The Holburne Museum, which you can then visit (for free) during the weekend of Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

The Museum Opening Hours are: Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-5pm.





### **PIANO, GUITAR, VIOLIN and DRUMS!**

Thank you to Jody and Mrs Munro for encouraging our amazing musicians to perform at a school concert on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. The children performed a range of pieces with great confidence – whether in a trio, as a duet or a solo; and the audience listened appreciatively. Well done everyone.



If you are thinking that your child may like to learn to play a particular instrument, please do let Mrs Munro know via the school office, and we can investigate the peripatetic options that may be available from September for you.

### **A VISIT FROM ED GREGORY, Director of Education for the Diocese of Bath and Wells**

We were visited by Ed during the first week of term, and he commented that “The children I met were delightful and all very confident to speak about their school”. We clearly inspired him too, as the weekly email which is sent to all Church Schools, began with a reference to his visit here: *“I love forest school! It was a real treat last week to kneel down in the grass and cook a marshmallow on a stick over an open fire – who needs Masterchef! Many schools are fortunate to have space and staff that enable the children and young people to enjoy learning outdoors. Some schools have to travel to find the space or staff to make this happen. Whatever the context it is always worth it to see the faces of the learners as they solve problems, overcome fears, learn new skills and even communicate differently.”*



### **STAFFING NEWS**

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Brewer has confirmed she will be returning from Maternity Leave on 9<sup>th</sup> July, and there will be a comprehensive handover of SENCO responsibilities between her and Jon during the last two weeks of term. Sadly however, both Miss Smith and Miss Riddell will be leaving St Mary’s at the end of the academic year. They have both been very committed to St Mary’s and we wish them well in their future careers. We have successfully recruited excellent teachers for September and so I can now confirm the class teacher structure for the autumn as follows:

EYFS – Ducklings	Miss A. Leach
Y1 – Rabbits	Miss K. Humphries
Y2 – Badgers	Mrs S. Brown
Y3 – Bees	Mr C. Daniels
Y4 – Otters	Mr D. Finlay
Y5 – Lions	Miss A. Seyers
Y6 – Eagles	Miss Z. Morris

Miss Wylie will also be teaching on a Thursday and Friday, providing non-contact time for teachers to undertake professional development activities and fulfill leadership responsibilities; and Mrs Munro will continue to teach Music and Forest School (and provide non-contact time to staff for leadership tasks too). Pascale will continue to deliver French across the school from Year 1-6. I am currently organising a session for children to spend some time with their new teacher before the end of term – and to say hello to parents - but the timing of that will depend on new staff being released from their current schools. (It may be that this meeting has to be on different days for different classes). Teaching Assistant deployment to each class will be confirmed in due course too.

We also send our thanks to Mr Sage, caretaker, who has left St Mary’s to run his own business; and welcome Paula, who is doing a superb job of cleaning/locking up for us. Mr Tanner (Church Warden) is also helping out with locking up after evening lettings – thank you very much for your support.

Term 6 Attendance to date						
Ducklings	Rabbits	Badgers	Bees	Otters	Lions	Eagles
92.73%	99.01%	94.02%	94.38%	95.80	95.89%	95.79%
Well done to RABBITS for your great attendance in term 6 so far!						

Please remember that absence for holiday cannot be authorised unless the circumstances are truly exceptional. Families who persistently take their children out of school for reasons that have not been authorised will be referred to the CMES (Children Missing Education Service).

In addition, in common with other local schools, penalty notices for holidays are always requested from the Local Authority:

- when a child’s overall attendance is 95% or below for that academic year
- where a pupil has 10 or more unauthorised absences (which is equivalent to 5 days).

PLEASE NOTE: the school bell that rings at 8.43am in the morning is earlier than the gates/doors need to officially open. It is set deliberately to ring early so that staff know it is time to stop preparation and to ensure they go to their classrooms ... and it also gives the person opening the door/gate time to walk there! Your patience is appreciated.

**We know that the vast majority of parents understand the reasons for good attendance and support our policies. Thank you.**

### **A PLEA TO FAMILIES AND DOG OWNERS**

Please could families avoid gathering *en masse* around the entrance to the school at the main gate, especially with dogs, at school pick up time. Whilst your dog may be very well behaved, there is always an element of unpredictability and some children are feeling intimidated/scared by the presence of large dogs in this area.

It then puts their safety at risk as they are having to step out into the road to walk past.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## **IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS - EBB?**

Please register your child (**including** those in Reception, year 1 and year 2) for free school meals if you are in receipt of qualifying benefits. Registration will attract additional funding for our school for Pupil Premium (£1,320 per Primary pupil for the financial year 2019-20).

You can register your entitlement for Free School Meals - Eligible by Benefit (EBB) if you have children who attend a school in Bath and North East Somerset, and you are in receipt of any of the qualifying benefits listed below.

Qualifying benefits for Free School Meals:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, without any Working Tax Credit, and an annual household income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that is not more than £16,190
- Run-on Working Tax Credit which is only paid for 4 weeks after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

### **How to register – just call!**

**Call the Free School Meals helpline on 01225 394317 to make a telephone registration. We will need you to tell us your National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seeker Support Number when you call.**

Please note that the Local Authority will check your eligibility to qualifying benefits on your behalf using the DFE online Free School Meal Eligibility Checking Service. Your National Insurance or National Asylum Seeker Support Number and Date of Birth must be accurate.

## INDICATIVE TERM DATES 2019-2020

\*\*\* 2 INSET days still to be set so there may be a slight variation from the B&NES DATES listed below \*\*\*

	INSET DAYS (School Closed to Pupils)	Start for pupils	Finish for pupils
Term 1	Monday 2 September	Tuesday 3 September 2019	Friday 25 October 2019
Term 2		Monday 4 November 2019	Friday 20 December 2019
Term 3		Monday 6 January 2020	Friday 14 February 2020
Term 4		Monday 24 February 2020	Friday 3 April 2020
Term 5		Monday 20 April 2020	Friday 22 May 2020
Term 6	Friday 26 June 2020 Monday 20 July 2020	Monday 1 June 2020	Friday 17 July

## DIARY DATES TERM SIX 2018-19

Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 Trip
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	New Intake Evening 6 pm (EYFS Entrants 2019)
Week Beginning 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Bike-ability (Eagles)
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Reading Challenge Launch Assembly
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	MUFTI PTA Tombola Day Bath Philharmonia to work with Otter Class
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET Day 5 – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Eagles Performance – 5.30 pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Transition to Secondary Schools Day
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	New Intake Visit Day (EYFS 2019)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Advance Notice for Rabbit Class:</b> Miss Humphries will not be in school on 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> July. Miss Wylie and Mrs Jefferies will be teaching the children instead.
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	EYFS Lead Collective Worship. Duckling Families welcome 9 am <i>TBC</i> Bee Class Dance Workshop with Writhlington School specialist
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Morning (Provisional)
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Attainment and Attendance Reports Home
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	NSPCC Speak Out! Visit – Assemblies and Year 5/6 Workshops Y6 Crime and Consequences Workshop – with Rob Hendra (PCSO)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Bath Goblin Club Race Day – details for Goblin Club to follow
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	JAMBA SAMBA workshops (PTA funded)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Term 6 AWARDS JAMBA SAMBA workshops (PTA funded) PTA Summer Fair
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Gathering of Goblins - Race Day at Goodwood
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Sports Morning (Reserve)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church Last Day Term 6 – school closes at 2 pm