



St Mary's C of E Primary School, Timsbury

e-mail: stmarystimsbury_pri@bathnes.gov.uk

www.stmarystimsbury.co.uk

24th May 2017

Dear Families and Friends of St Mary's

Well done to all of the children who took part in the instrumental concert last week. It was fabulous to see so many children enjoying the opportunity to share their musical talents and perform to an audience. The Orchestra had clearly been working very hard in rehearsals so that everyone knew their part and could play in time with everyone else. You were all AMAZING! Thank you to parents and Mrs Munro for enabling this to happen.



Well done to Ducklings who were *so* confident when leading Collective Worship this week! You were brilliant at speaking clearly in front of the audience and helped us understand that justice is about being fair.

Staffing Update We are very sad to be saying farewell to Miss Thorne at the end of the academic year, as she is relocating. She is a fabulous member of the team who will be very much missed. As a result we are currently reviewing our staffing and planning on recruiting a class teacher for September. We will update you as soon as an appointment has been successfully made.

Attendance

Congratulations to everyone for ensuring your children are at school and on time. Our school attendance rate to the end of Term 4 is a fantastic 96.18% which is *just* below the B&NES average of 96.2%!

We know that attendance has an important impact on your children's achievements and experiences in school. **Thank you** for keeping medical appointments in school time to a minimum; and for supporting the importance of good time keeping and attendance. It is very much appreciated.

A reminder about treats to share

It is school policy that pupils do not bring in gifts including sweets, cakes or biscuits into school to distribute to the whole class to mark events such as birthdays. There are a number of reasons for this including: inclusion of pupils with specific dietary needs, healthy eating and food hygiene. As soon as one child brings treats in to share, others feel a desire to do the same and very quickly it gets to the point where on most days, there are sweets, biscuits and cakes to distribute! Please respect this policy as it is upsetting for pupils when they are unable to share their treats with classmates and awkward for teachers when they have to return well-intentioned gifts to you. You are welcome to include a special treat in your child's lunchbox to mark their birthday.

After the May break we will begin the countdown to our Summer Fair, which is on Friday 16th June.

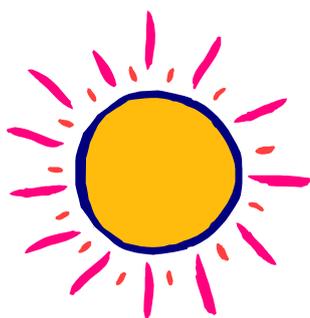
During the build up, each class will be completing creative work around the theme of

"South America"

The PTA are delighted to be able to fund SAMBA workshops again - which will culminate in a Samba procession to open the fair. PTA volunteers are also offering Family Instrument making workshops on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th June, after school in the Year 6 classroom. All are welcome - but children must be accompanied by an adult who will take responsibility for them!

The day of the Fair itself will be a non-uniform day.

Bright and colourful clothes are suggested, to match the South America theme - but please think carefully about footwear. I know it can be tempting to let children wear more casual shoes on dress-down days, especially if it is hot, but we ask that sensible school shoes are still worn to help protect feet whilst running around on the playgrounds please. Thank you for your understanding.



As summer appears to have finally arrived, please remember to send your child to school with:

- * a water bottle
- * sun screen
- * a hat

Thank you.



Wanted - Summer Bedding Plants

If after planting up your pots and baskets, you find yourself with bedding plants to spare, the school would be extremely happy to receive these when we return to school in June! Donations will be planted in our pots and borders to provide a riot of colour, to be enjoyed by the school community during our Summer Fair and Term 6.

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays. You can sign up at your local library, and then read six library books of your choice to complete the Challenge. There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it's FREE to take part!

The Summer Reading Challenge website helps you keep track of your reading all year round: find new books to read, take part in competitions and play games. Libraries are great places for children to discover reading for pleasure and there is no better time to do this than during the long summer holidays.

The Summer Reading Challenge is designed for children between the ages of 4 and 11. It is completely free and last year over three quarters of a million children took part.

Every year the Challenge has a new theme. **This year's Summer Reading Challenge is Animal Agents**, illustrated by the UK's best-selling children's illustrator Tony Ross.

For 2017, there's something peculiar happening at the local library – and that's where the Animal Agents come in! It's a detective agency manned by all kinds of clever animals – furry, scaly and slippery – and these guys are out to crack the case with a little help from their friends.

As children read library books on the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a host of stickers, some with mysterious smells. By collecting the stickers on their collector folder, young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes!

Animal Agents is a must for all eagle-eyed kids and will test their skills and ingenuity along the way. With the Agents on their side, solving these mysteries comes with a large helping of fun!

For more information follow this link: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

School Shoes

Teachers have noticed an ever growing number of children wearing white or brightly coloured trainers/footwear to school. We appreciate that there are times when it is necessary for children to wear an alternative pair for a short while – perhaps the sole is worn through and you can't get to the shops until the weekend – and appreciate when families share the reason with us so we can be sensitive in handling this.

However, please remember that such occasions should be exceptional.

Our uniform code states that school shoes should be **plain black**, low heeled/flat and sturdy enough for outside play. Crocs, strappy sandals, trainers or brightly coloured shoes are not permitted. Please bear this in mind when you next need to buy school shoes. **Thank you.**

However, please hang on to any old pairs of children's shoes! Mrs Humphries and Miss Thorne are organising an event to support a charity called "Sals Shoes" in Term 6. More information will follow after the break.

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) or **Mrs Brewer/Mrs Heather Humphries** (Deputy DSLs). The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

DIARY DATES 2016-2017

Monday 5 th June	INSET Day 5 - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 6th June	First day Term 6 for pupils
Monday 12 th June	Statutory Phonics Screening Week (Y1 and 2)
Tuesday 13 th June	Class Photographs (Tulip). Extra smart uniform please - with school jumpers and school shoes!
Tuesday 13 th Wednesday 14 th June	PTA Instrument Workshops after School - come along as a family and get ready for the Samba Procession!
Thursday 15 th June	SAMBA Workshops
Friday 16 th June	SAMBA Workshops, Procession and Summer Fair Mufti Day - "South America" Theme Please do ensure that your child has appropriate footwear for school though please - i.e. no heels, strappy sandals, crocs or flip-flops! Thank you.
Saturday 17 th June	Timsbury Fun Day!
Thursday 22 nd June	New Intake Welcome Evening (Reception 2017 intake) Please note change of date
Friday 30 th June	Sports Day
Monday 3 rd July	Sports Day (Reserve)
Monday 10 th July	Year 5/6 Performance - afternoon to whole school
Wednesday 12 th July	Year 5/6 Performance - early evening to families
Friday 14 th July	Term 6 AWARDS, Family Picnic and Open Afternoon
Friday 21 st July	Leavers' Service Last Day of Term 6 - school closes 2pm.
Friday 1 st September	INSET day - school closed for pupils
Monday 4 th September	First day of school for pupils in Y1 to Y6. (EYFS parents are provided with induction arrangements as part of the Welcome event in June)

TERM DATES 2017-2018

	INSET DAYS	Start for pupils	Finish for pupils
Term 1	Friday 1 st September	Monday 4 th September	Friday 20 th October
Term 2	Tuesday 31 st October	Wednesday 1 st November	Friday 15 th December
Term 3	Three Further INSET Days yet to be set	Tuesday 2 nd January '18	Friday 9 th February '18
Term 4		Monday 19 th February '18	Friday 23 rd March '18
Term 5		Monday 9 th April '18	Friday 25 th May 2017
Term 6		Monday 4 th June	Tuesday 24 th July

Please note these differ very slightly from the dates on the B&NES website as we will have a slightly longer October break.