



St Mary's C of E Primary School, Timsbury

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20th September 2019

Dear Families and Friends of St Mary's

INSET DAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

THIS TERM: FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER

NEXT TERM: FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

Apologies for the relatively short notice on the November INSET day; and that this is mid-term.
This date reflects trainer availability.

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.

The Autumn Term **Parent Consultation Meetings** will be held on
Monday 30th September: 3.30 – 5.30 pm
Wednesday 2nd October: 4 -7 pm

SAVE THE DATE!

Please look carefully at the diary dates on this newsletter.

The EYFS/Year 1 NATIVITY performance will be on Friday 6th December, at 9.20am
(no evening performance)

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

Well done Eagles for a great trip to PGL. Many instructors commented on your great attitudes and behaviours. Thank you to Miss Morris, Mrs Barnes and Pascale for taking you.

THURSDAY 3rd OCTOBER

WHOLE SCHOOL SPECIAL MEAL DAY

We would like to encourage everyone to try a school dinner on this day, even if they do not usually have one. This is at no cost to families in KS1 or those registered as eligible for Free School Meals.

Our level of school funding varies according to the numbers of children in KS1 who are booked in for a dinner on that day, so if all children in Ducklings, Rabbits and Badgers could be booked in, that would be incredibly helpful to us. Your support with this is very welcome.

Booking Dinners Reminder

All meals should be paid for online and in advance please. If you have difficulties doing this please contact Mrs Hawkins so she can help sort out the problem. Remember to notify the office by 9am if the pattern needs to be changed for any reason to avoid being charged for dinners not taken.

Meals will not routinely be served without prior payment being received.

Children who have just moved to Year 3 no longer receive free school meals, unless you are eligible by benefit to do so *and* have had this confirmed by the LA

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.

SOUNDS-WRITE PARENT WORKSHOPS

Sue Russell, Soundwrite Trainer, will be at St Mary's to run two information sessions for parents.

SOUNDS-WRITE is a quality first phonics programme, acknowledged by the DfE as meeting ALL its criteria for an effective phonics teaching programme. It is a highly structured, multi-sensory, incremental and code-oriented, instructional approach to teaching children to read and spell. We are adopting Sounds-Write in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2, in order to improve children's ability to decode and encode words, and to improve their ability to spell accurately.

The first workshop will be held at **6pm on Thursday 26th September**; and the second will be on **Wednesday 2nd October at 1.30pm**.

The second workshop will have the same content: we are just offering two to maximise the number of parents who can attend

The National Curriculum notes: *Reading feeds pupils' imagination and opens up a treasure-house of wonder and joy for curious young minds.* We know that Reading is fundamental to academic success and we want all of our children to be fluent readers who are passionate about books. Your support is vital in achieving this aim – so please do plan on coming along to one of these workshops if at all possible, even if your child is in the later years of their primary education.

PTA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who came along to the PTA AGM on Wednesday evening; especially the new Reception parents! It was lovely to see you there. A number of members of the committee have stepped down as their children have now left the school; and we thank them for their significant contribution to the life of St Mary's. We also need to say thank you to Charlotte Higby who has chaired and co-chaired the PTA for a number of years. She is remaining as Deputy for a further year, to enable the committee to continue to benefit from her organisational expertise! This is much appreciated Charlotte – thank you!

Jill Clarke and **Chloe Bean** were elected as joint-chairs of the committee for this year; and I know that they are keen to encourage you all to get involved in events. Watch this space!

Raise Money for the PTA just by shopping online!

Users of Easyfundraising have raised £1000 for the PTA so far. Can you help get us to £2000 before Christmas? It doesn't cost you ANYTHING extra – and just involves a few extra clicks!



The website: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

How?

Click on the Green "Support a Good Cause"; type in Timsbury in the search box; chose St Mary's Primary (at the bottom of the list); Click 'Find' then "Support this Cause". This takes you to a registration page. When you then access online shopping sites via EasyFundraising to make a purchase, the PTA receive a donation. It doesn't cost you a penny more, your purchase details are not shared with anyone, and the PTA receives a monthly donation to spend in school on children!

TERM DATES 2019-2020

	INSET DAYS (School Closed to Pupils)	Start for pupils	Finish for pupils
Term 1	Monday 2 September Friday 25 October	Tuesday 3 September 2019	Thursday 24 October 2019
Term 2	Friday 22 November	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

TERM 1 and 2 DIARY DATES

Thursday 26 th September	6pm Phonics at St Mary's: SoundsWrite Workshop for Parents
Monday 30 th September	Parent Consultation Evening 3.30-5.30pm
Wednesday 2 nd October	1.30pm Phonics at St Mary's: Soundwrite Workshop for Parents (This workshop will be a repeat of the one run on 26 th September)
	Parent Consultation Evening 4.30-7pm
Thursday 3 rd October	School Harvest Festival – led by Year 2 and 3
Monday 7 th October	Individual Photos – Tulip Photography
Thursday 10 th and Friday 11 th October	Year 4 Residential
Friday 18 th October	Term 1 AWARDS; 9.05am All welcome. Please use crèche for younger siblings.
Tuesday 22 nd October	Lions Lead Worship. 9.05am. Y5 Parents welcome to join us
Thursday 24 th October	Last Day Term 1
Friday 25 th October	INSET DAY 2 – School closed to Pupils
Friday 8 th November	PTA Hot Dog and Sparklers – immediately after school
Tuesday 19 th November	Bees Lead Worship. 9.05am. Y3 Parents welcome to join us
Thursday 21 st November	Provisional - PTA FILM NIGHT after school for children
Friday 22 nd November	INSET DAY 3 – School closed to Pupils
Friday 6 th December	EYFS and Y1 Nativity 9.20am
Thursday 12 th December	Term 1 AWARDS; 9.05am All welcome. Please use crèche for younger siblings.