



St Laurence Church Infant School Newsletter



Issue 1
Autumn 2012

Collective Worship

An act of Collective Worship takes place each day. Parents are invited to attend on **Mondays** for our **Star Award Assembly** when children's special achievements during the previous week are celebrated and on **Tuesdays** when **Father Charles** joins us and we congratulate children with **birthdays** for the week from Monday to Sunday.

Water is Cool in School!

We would like the children to bring a named water bottle to school each day filled with fresh drinking water. Research has shown that when children drink more water they:

- become less tired
- have fewer headaches
- are more receptive to learning
- have better concentration

At morning break, children may buy a drink of fruit juice or milk, or bring a small carton of fruit juice from home. Children who have sandwiches for lunch may either have water provided by school or bring a small carton of fruit juice from home to drink with their meal.



Welcome Back!

We do hope you had an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to a happy year ahead.

May we extend a warm welcome to those children and families who are new to our school.



Harvest Celebrations

Our **Harvest Festival** will be on Thursday 18 October 2012 at St Laurence Church at 9.15 am. Father Charles will be welcoming us into the Church and we would love parents to join us. Mrs Wallach's class, 1R, will be leading our worship at Church. It would be extremely helpful if parents could wait whilst the children are registered in the morning and then walk to Church with us. Please note there is usually standing room only for parents at the Church.

We will be collecting food to be given to the South Birmingham Young Homeless Project and would like the **children to bring their donations to school on the day of the Harvest Festival** [tins, jars and dried packet food - not fresh produce please]. Please send the food in a carrier bag, which your child will be able to manage themselves on the walk to Church. Each child will take their food to the front of the Church where it will be blessed by Father Charles.

Session Times

Early Years Foundation Stage [YR]	Morning Session	8.55 am to 12.15 pm
	Afternoon Session	1.05 pm to 3.05 pm

Key Stage One [Y1 & Y2]	Morning Session	8.55 am to 12.30 pm
	Afternoon Session	1.20 pm to 3.10 pm

At the beginning of the school day, a bell is rung at 8.50 am for the children to line up in the playground with their teacher. **Please ensure your child arrives at school on time.** The children then walk into school with us, ready to begin the day at 8.55 am. **Please encourage your child to line up on their own to avoid congestion.** In addition, please be aware of class lines walking past as they go into school, as it is sometimes difficult for the children to get through the parents who are waiting.

Please wait until you are happy your child has gone safely into school before you leave the playground. At the end of the day staff hand over the children to parents in the playground. Please stand towards the back of the playground, behind the road track, to enable us to see that each child has gone safely to their parent. **Children are not allowed to leave the site unless a parent or other known adult [18 years or over] is there to collect them.**

Children must not use bicycles or scooters in the playground either before or after school. Our playground is very busy and we are concerned that a child, either of school age or a younger sibling, may get hurt.

Healthy School Week

Monday 15 October - Friday 19 October

We have organised a week of fun activities designed to support our work in the four key areas of the National Healthy School Standard - healthy eating, physical activity, PSHE & C and emotional health & well-being. All of the children will also be visiting the **Life Education Caravan**, which will be at school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Parents' Evenings

Tuesday 25 September 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm and
Thursday 27 September 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm

Our Parents' Evenings this term are an informal opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet their class teacher in the hall. Parents are invited to make an appointment by signing the sheets, which will be displayed on classroom doors from 8.50 am on Monday 17 September 2012. **Please note this evening is for parents/carers and children should not attend.**

School Term Dates 2012-2013

Children should attend on the following days:

Autumn Term 2012

Wednesday 5 September 2012 to Friday 19 October 2012

Monday 29 October 2012 to Friday 21 December 2012

Spring Term 2013

Tuesday 8 January 2013 to Friday 15 February 2013

Monday 25 February 2013 to Thursday 28 March 2013

Summer Term 2013

Monday 15 April 2013 to Friday 24 May 2013

Monday 3 June 2013 to Friday 19 July 2013

There are **5 Teacher Days** for the academic year when children do not attend:

Monday 3 September 2012

Tuesday 4 September 2012

Monday 7 January 2013

Monday 22 July 2013

Tuesday 23 July 2013

Monday 6 May 2013 [May Day] is a Public Holiday - school will be closed.

NB Additional Closure Thursday 15 November 2012 Police & Crime Commissioner Elections

Food in School

Children receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable each school day under the **Government's School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme**. This initiative is to encourage children to eat more fruit/vegetables and help towards their 5 a day!

We have a nut free policy in school and to support this we would like to ask parents who give their children a packed lunch to only include food which does not contain nuts. Many thanks for your help.

It is essential that you inform us of any allergies, including nut allergies, your child may have so that we can ensure they are not given anything that might harm them. An official **Diet Request Form** is available from the School Office for those children who have school meals and require a special diet.

Photographs

Wednesday 26 September 2012

Individual photographs will be taken of all children at the Infant School on this day. In addition, photographs of Infant family groups will also be taken [ie brothers/sisters in YR, Y1 and Y2]. Proofs will be sent home and there is no obligation to purchase.

September 2012 Classes

YR

Mrs McFall [Year Group Leader] Red

Mrs Baban Yellow

Mrs Hodgkiss &

Mrs Meara [Miss Douglas] Blue

Y1

Mrs Wallach & Mrs Meara [1 day] Red

Mrs West & Mrs Meara [1 day] Yellow

Mrs Whitehouse [Year Group Leader] Blue

Y2

Mrs Griffin Red

Miss Murphy [Year Group Leader] Yellow

Miss Pugh Blue

Dates

NB Dates for individual Year Group events will be notified separately.

Tuesday 25 September

Parents' Evening 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Wednesday 26 September

School photographs

Thursday 27 September

Parents' Evening 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm

Friday 5 October

PALS Reception Disco 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

Monday 15 October to Friday 19 October

Healthy School Week

Thursday 18 October

Harvest Celebration at

St Laurence Church 9.15 am

Monday 22 October to Friday 26 October

Half term holiday

Attendance and Punctuality

Please report to the School Office if you bring your child to school late or need to collect your child early. It is important for us to have an accurate record of all children who are in school for Health & Safety reasons.

Parents/carers sign our **Home-School Agreement**, which states:

**AS A PARENT/CARER
I WILL
DO MY BEST TO...**

Ensure that my child attends school and that my child arrives and is collected on time.

Not take holidays during term time.

Holidays should not be taken during term time. In **exceptional circumstances**, permission to withdraw a child from school for a holiday must be applied for in advance. Please apply in writing to the Headteacher, Mrs Hickman.

If your child is absent, please telephone the School Office before 11.00 am on the same day. If you know in advance that your child will be absent, perhaps for an appointment, please inform the class teacher.

Safety

We would like to remind you to take great care when parking and manoeuvring at the beginning and end of the school day. Our priority is the safety of our children and the Police are aware of the dangerous parking which frequently occurs on Heath Road South, Innage Road, Bunbury Road and Rectory Road. In addition, please note that parents should not use the YMCA car park when dropping off or collecting children.



Playground Equipment

Thank you for respecting our request that the playground equipment is for supervised use during school hours only. Please note the signs: Children may only use this play equipment whilst being supervised by St Laurence Church Infant School staff.