



St Laurence Church Infant School Newsletter



Issue 1
Autumn 2013

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.

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 **Thursdays** 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 only**. 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 have 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.



Artwork by Smooth: 07958 181 550.

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.



Parents' Evenings

Tuesday 24 September 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm and
Thursday 26 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 16 September 2013. Please note this evening is for parents/carers and children should not attend.

Healthy School Week

Monday 21 October - Friday 25 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.

Harvest Celebrations

Our **Harvest Festival** will be on Thursday 24 October 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 Whitehouse's class, 1Y, 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.



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.

School Term Dates 2013-2014

Children should attend on the following days:

Autumn Term 2013

Wednesday 4 September 2013 to Friday 25 October 2013

Monday 4 November 2013 to Friday 20 December 2013

Spring Term 2014

Tuesday 7 January 2014 to Friday 14 February 2014

Monday 24 February 2014 to Friday 11 April 2014

Summer Term 2014

Monday 28 April 2014 to Friday 23 May 2014

Monday 2 June 2014 to Friday 18 July 2014

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

Monday 2 September 2013

Tuesday 3 September 2013

Friday 8 November 2013

Monday 6 January 2014

Monday 21 July 2014

Monday 5 May 2014 [May Day] is a Public Holiday - **school will be closed.**

Thursday 22 May 2014 is Local and European Election Day - **school will be closed.**

Photographs

Wednesday 25 September 2013

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 2013

Classes

YR

Mrs McFall [Year Group Leader]

Red

Mrs Anyanegbu

Yellow

Mrs Hodgkiss &

Mrs Meara

Blue

Y1

Miss Douglas & Mrs West [1 day]

Red

Mrs Whitehouse [Year Group Leader]

Yellow

Mrs Wallach & Mrs West [1 day]

Blue

Y2

Miss Hancock

Red

Mrs Griffin

Yellow

Miss Murphy [Year Group Leader]

Blue

Dates

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

Tuesday 24 September

Parents' Evening 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Wednesday 25 September

School photographs

Thursday 26 September

Parents' Evening 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm

Friday 4 October

PALS Reception Disco 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October

Healthy School Week

Thursday 24 October

Harvest Celebration at

St Laurence Church 9.15 am

Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November

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 will not be authorised during term time.

If your child is absent, please telephone the School Office before 9.00 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.

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.

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 Drive. In addition, please note that parents should not use the YMCA car park when dropping off or collecting children.

