



St Laurence Church Infant School Newsletter



Issue 1
Autumn 2016

Photographs Monday 17 October 2016

Individual photographs will be taken of all children at the Infant School. 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.

SENCO drop-ins

Our Senco, Mrs Catherine Smith will be working on Mondays and Tuesdays this half term. If you have any concerns regarding your child's needs that you would like to discuss with her she would be very happy to arrange a time to talk with you. In addition Mrs Smith will be hosting regular parent drop-in sessions when she will be available to talk to parents informally. The first of these sessions this year will be on Tuesday 27 September at 9 am.

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 Canon Janet joins us and we congratulate children with birthdays for the week from Monday to Sunday.

Meet the Teacher

Monday 19 September 3.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Our Parents' Evening this half term is an informal opportunity to meet your child's teacher in the hall and visit your child's classroom. Parents are invited to make an appointment by signing the sheets, which will be displayed on classroom doors, or by sending a message to the class teacher. **Please note this evening is for parents/ carers and children should not attend.**

Harvest Celebrations

Our Harvest Festival will be on Thursday 20 October 2016 at St Laurence Church at 9.15 am. Parents may join us. 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 (tins, jars and dried packet food - not fresh produce please) to school during the previous week. The donations will be displayed in the Hall.

Welcome back!

We hope you had an enjoyable summer break and like us, are looking forward to the year ahead.

We would like to welcome the children and families who are new to our school.

I would also like to introduce two new members of staff, Mrs Raiken Opuku who is teaching in Reception and Miss Rebecca Lawler, who is teaching in Year 1.

Dates

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

Monday 19 September

Meet the Teacher 3.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Friday 30 September

PALS Reception Disco 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

Monday 17 October

Photograph Day

Thursday 20 October

Harvest Celebration at
St Laurence Church 9.15 am

Friday 21 October

Teacher Training day -
children not in school

Monday 24 to Friday 28 October

Half term holiday

September 2016 Classes

Teachers

YR

Mrs Meara and Mrs Mellor Blue

Mrs McFall Red

Mrs Opuku Yellow

Y1

Miss Lawler Blue

Mrs Anyanegbu and Mrs Grainger Red

Mrs Whitehouse Yellow

Y2

Mrs Griffin Blue

Miss Hancock Red

Mrs Wallach Yellow

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 and 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 or play football 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



Playground Equipment Safety

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.

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.

School Term Dates 2016 - 2017

We hope these dates for this academic year will be helpful to you. Please remember that holidays cannot be authorised during term time. Children should attend on the following days:

Autumn Term 2016

Tuesday 6 September 2016 to Thursday 20 October 2016
Monday 31 October 2016 to Friday 16 December 2016

Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4 January 2017 to Friday 17 February 2017
Monday 27 February 2017 to Friday 7 April 2017

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24 April 2017 to Friday 26 May 2017
Monday 5 June 2017 to Friday 21 July 2017

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

Monday 5 September 2016
Friday 21 October 2016
Tuesday 3 January 2017
Monday 24 July 2017
Tuesday 25 July 2017

Monday 1 May 2017 (May Day) is a Public Holiday - school will be closed.