



*The PTA*

### PTA

Thank you to this lovely lot!

The PTA Welcome Parties were a huge success and the children had a lovely time at what might be one of the only parties with their friends that they get to go to at the moment!

If you would like to get involved you can email [pta@stlrnci.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pta@stlrnci.bham.sch.uk)

### Parents Prayer Group

We are planning to restart the parents prayer group in November.

We meet monthly to pray for the school, the staff and pupils and we would love you to join us! We usually meet on the 2nd Friday of the month at 2.15pm in the rainbow room.

We have put things in place to ensure we have minimised the risk of Covid transmission. So if you would like to come along please do let me know.

If you would like more information or would like to request prayer please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Planned dates are

13th Nov, 11th Dec, 8th Jan, 12th Feb, 12th Mar,

23rd Apr, 14th May, 11th Jun, 9th July.

Claire Ambridge [claireambridge@gmail.com](mailto:claireambridge@gmail.com) 07813 985 968



### **COVID-19**

A reminder not to send your child to school if they or anyone in your household have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 (coronavirus). These are:

- **A high temperature**
- **A new continuous cough**
- **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**



Public Health have reported that Most of the covid transmission in Birmingham is due to mixing in the community so please help keep everyone well by socially distancing on the school site and following the local lockdown guidelines by not having private gatherings in houses or gardens.

# St Laurence Church Infant Newsletter

Issue 3 October 2020

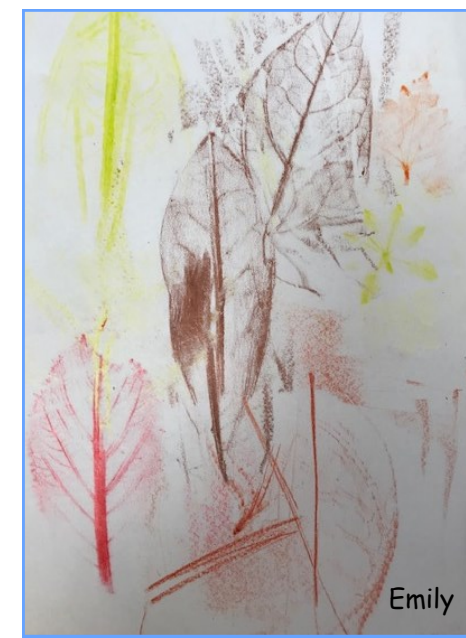


This half term is whizzing by and it certainly now feels like summer has ended. Early Autumn is the loveliest time of year for natural finds.

Lots of children have been showing me their seasonal treasures: spiky conkers, shiny acorns and a whole array of beautifully coloured leaves like the ones in these fantastic leaf rubbings by Year One:



Isaac



Emily



Brennan

### Heath Road South Entrance

I have been made aware that there are some parents who are not following our one way system and are attempting to go back through the Heath Road South gate instead of exiting onto Bunbury Road. A careful risk assessment is in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission and a one way system is recommended in government guidance and is one of the key aspects of protecting our school community

If this continues to be an issue we may have to look at increasing the staggered start and end times of the day or banning parents from the school site which will be inconvenient to everyone

Can we also ask parents to park considerately on Heath Road South. Cars should not be parked blocking driveways or on the grass verge. Some of our neighbours have been upset because they have been blocked in their driveways making them late for work.

Newsletters and other messages from school will now be emailed on **Mondays**



## Arrangements for Parents' Evenings

This week we are starting our parents' evenings.

Please follow this guide to keep everyone as safe as possible.



- DO NOT come to your appointment if you have any symptoms of Covid-19, or if you have had close contact with someone with a positive test in the last 14 days. If you need to isolate, we will arrange a telephone appointment on another day.



- Please wear a face mask when inside the school building.



- Sanitise your hands on entry to the building and following your appointment.



- No more than two adults should come to the appointment.



- Please do not bring any children (except babies under 12 months) with you. If you cannot arrange childcare we will arrange for a telephone appointment on another day instead.



- Please arrive promptly at the time of your appointment. There will not be an opportunity to look at your child's books, so you do not need to come beforehand. *If you are more than 5 minutes late for your appointment the teacher will be unable to see you and we will arrange for a telephone appointment at another time.*



- Once your 10 minute appointment is finished, please leave the site promptly. If you have more to discuss with your child's teacher, they will arrange a follow up telephone appointment.



- Entrance is through the Office Foyer doors. The Heath Road South gate and Bunbury Road gates will both be open. You do not need to follow the one way system on this occasion, but please be respectful and allow plenty of room to let other parents pass.



- Teachers will also be wearing face masks.



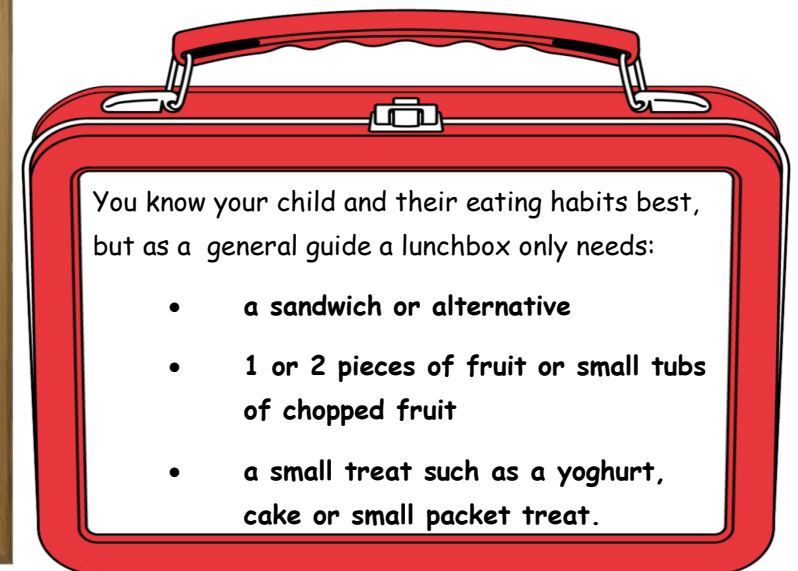
- If you would prefer a telephone call to a face-to-face appointment, please let the school office know and we will arrange this for you.

## Lunch Time

### Lunch Boxes from Home

Some children with lunches from home have a large amount of food which is taking a long time to eat, and this is causing delays to our bubble system at lunchtime.

At the moment there is a morning and afternoon snack time in school so children will not go hungry!



## Menu

Mrs Slater and the kitchen team have devised a new two week lunch menu which is starting from today. (Monday 5th October). A copy of the menu is in the email and on the school website.

The menu has many of our old favourites as well as hopefully giving children a little more choice of lunch options.

## Lost Property

We have amassed quite a collection of lost water bottles, jumpers, cardigans, and snack boxes.

Please can you check that names haven't faded, or fallen out or come off the things your child brings into school.

The Lost Property rail will be available during parents' evening.



## LET'S HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

NHS  
Test and Trace

We now have a school QR code to check in using the NHS Covid-19 APP. There is one available at each entrance point to scan if parents wish to.

## INCLUSION

Mrs McFall, the SENCO, is hoping to catch up with parents of Year One and Two children on the SEND register at the upcoming parents' evenings.

She will also be available if any other parents have any questions about your child's individual needs.



### Christmas Cards

It feels far to be early to be saying the "C" word but it will be here before we know it.

#### Cauliflower Cards

The PTA have organised for a company called Cauliflower Cards to produce Christmas cards, mugs gift wrap etc. from children's designs. This year we even taken the hard work out for you, as each child has created a handprint card in school. They should be bringing their order form complete with design home in the next few days.

As well as getting some wonderful individual cards to send, you also know that you will be helping raise much needed money for the school! Instructions for ordering online are on the form and if you decide to order, the form needs to be returned to school by **Monday 12th October**.

#### Christmas Card Competition



Gary Sambrook, the MP for Northfield, has asked for school children to design the Christmas Card he will send out this year. The design can be anything associated with Christmas.

If you would like your child to enter this competition, please send a design on a single side of A4 paper with your child's name and class written on the back into school by **Monday 9th November**. If you would like a sheet of A4 paper to use, just let us know.



### Wraparound Care

We have increased the capacity of our **before school club** and **after school club** to 45 and still have a few places available for wraparound care.

If you would like more details or a place for your child, please email or phone the school office.

### Harvest

This is the time of year that we are thankful for the food we have, and think of helping those who are not in such a fortunate position.

We are now collecting food to be given to the **South Birmingham Young Homeless Project**.

They have told me that this year, due to the affect of coronavirus on the economy, there are more people than ever needing foodbank parcels to keep them going

We would like the children to bring their donations of **tins, jars and dried packet food** (not fresh produce please) to school to be displayed in the library.

We will have our in school **Harvest Festival** on **Wednesday 14th October**.



### Blended Learning

You should find a copy of our "Blended Learning" Policy in the email with this letter. This describes how we will support learning when children are out of school due to Covid-19 and gives you information about keeping children safe online. There is a section which describes etiquette for live online sessions.:

#### Live Online Session Etiquette

Online teaching will take place via Microsoft Teams.

Each child has been provided with an individual username and password.

Parents should ensure this is kept secure and not shared.



- Online teaching will always take place in groups. There will be no 1:1 sessions.
- Please make sure an adult is present in the room while the session takes place. They do not need to be in view of the screen.
- Staff and children must wear suitable clothing. School uniform is not expected but no pyjamas please.
- Any computers used should be in appropriate areas, for example not bedrooms, and care should be taken to ensure that what is visible in the background is appropriate for all to see.
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including of family members in the background.
- When the children log on they may have a few minutes to say hello to their friends, but must stay on mute when asked so that the session can begin.
- Staff may share their screen with children, they may ask the children to answer a question by using the chat function.
- All teams meetings will be recorded for safeguarding reasons, the head teacher will have access to all sessions.



Please will you reply to the email to stating that you agree to follow our Blended Learning Policy including the etiquette described in the policy.



Once you have agreed to follow the policy, we will be able to invite your child to participate in online sessions if their bubble or school closes.

Please let us know if accessing online learning will be difficult for your family.

#### Assemblies

From Friday 9th October if you have accepted our policy, you will also be able to use your child's login to watch live worship three times a week if you would like. On Monday we have "Amazing Attitude Award Assembly", on Wednesday Canon Janet leads our Church Worship and on Friday we celebrate birthdays at the end of our worship. We will email you to let you know if your child has a certificate or birthday celebration.