St Laurence Church Infant School

Newsletter Issue 19 July 2021



The end of term is rapidly approaching and we have some sad goodbyes to say:



■ Mrs Sarah Brown, our Chair of Governors will be stepping down at the end of term. She will be remaining on our governing board until Christmas, to help ensure a smooth transition to our new chair.

Sarah has been chair of the governing board for over ten years, working alongside three headteachers during her tenure. The chair's role has a great deal of responsibility and it is time consuming, involving board meetings, training and liaison with the school.

Unlike other roles with a similar level of accountability, there is no renumeration and is completely voluntary.

Sarah's strong sense of commitment to the children past

and present of the school, including her own children who attended over 15 years ago, has been driven by her personal faith and desire for social justice. We have been very fortunate to have her leadership of the strategic direction and vision of the school for so long.

The governing board will elect a new chair from the existing governors.



■ Ms Barbara Jackson, our School Business Manager, has been with the school for four years and is retiring at the end of term, having delayed her retirement by a year to support the new headteacher.

Not only has Barb ensured the day to day smooth running of the school and been a friendly face for visitors in the main office, but more importantly, her financial efficiencies have helped ensure the school can balance its books despite the real terms budget cuts schools have faced year on year.

Her can-do attitude, pragmatism and sense of humour will be greatly missed by us all!

Mrs Joanne O'Brien

We look forward to welcoming Jo as our new SBM in September.





■ Mr Stephen Farrell, our Building and Site Supervisor is retiring after almost ten years service at the school.

Steve has ensured the site is always clean and safe for the children, staff and visitors. He was often busy collecting fallen leaves in autumn, gritting the playground in the winter, spray cleaning the playground over the summer and fixing broken taps and unblocking toilets all year around!

Most recently he has rarely been seen without a disinfectant spray and huge bottle of hand sanitiser, topping up all our entry point sanitisation stations to keep us all Covid safe!



Mr Dale Rollings ➤ will be joining us as our new BSS. You might see him in school on the last few days of term.



■ Mrs Abi Dickeson stepped in temporarily to help out when the school needed an extra teaching assistant two and a half years ago and has been with us ever since.

She has strong links with the school having had two children go through, and been a dedicated member of the PTA. She quickly found her feet and has become a valued member of the staff team.

We will miss Abi's expert organisational skills and the sound of her recorder club from the library at lunchtime!

We wish her all the best as she moves into personal tuition using her teaching qualification and experience.



Frances Goodwin

Miss Goodwin
will be joining us as
a class teacher in
September.

Frances is an experienced teacher, a St Laurence mummy and a PTA regular.

She will be working Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and will be teaching 1R.



Joy Hudson

Mrs Hudson
is our new teaching
assistant.

She joins us with lots of infant experience having run a nursery class at a local school as well as supporting learning in KS1.

Joy will be working full time in RY from September.

Covid-19

If you or your child has any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 which are

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

You must book a PCR Covid test using this website: https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or phoning 119.

If you have any of these symptoms you should NOT take a home LFD test.

Please continue to let us know if your child is ill or isolating by phoning school or school: enquiry@stlrnci.bham.sch.uk

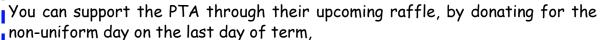
Thank you PTA

Thanks to all of the donations which families make during PTA fundraising, the PTA have been able to give the school £3000 towards new equipment for the playground.

The children have looked at some ideas for what we could spend it on and are writing letters to Mrs Smith to persuade her of their choices!

Very popular so far are more bikes, different styles of bikes such as taxi bikes and chariots and small equipment such as balls and hoops. There have been some persuasive arguments for a mud kitchen too!

The PTA are also providing Year Two class leavers' parties and a leaving gift for all our children moving on to the Junior School.





This Term's Diary Dates:

Wednesday 7th July Change Over Day (Reception and Year One children spend some

time in their new classroom, Year Two children will stay at school

and meet their Year Three teacher virtually through Teams)

5-6pm Year Two Parents meeting with Mr Murphy (Teams)

Friday 16th July Year Two PTA leavers' parties (wear party clothes)

Monday 19th July Year Two Leavers' Assembly (Worship Channel on Teams)

Tuesday 20th July Last day children attend

Non—uniform day bring £1 for PTA

Summer Picnic—All classes will eat a picnic lunch together in on the field. Class bubbles will be kept separate, picnic food

provided as the school dinner for that day

Wednesday 21st July Teacher Training Day

Change to Term Dates 2021-22

You will have no doubt have heard the announcement made confirming that an additional bank holiday has been agreed on Friday 3rd June 2022 in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Birmingham schools will already be on their summer half-term holiday on this day. The additional one day holiday will therefore be taken on Friday 22nd July 2022, meaning that the Summer Term 2022 will now end on Thursday 21st July 2022.

As this day was originally planned as a teacher day, there is now one further teacher day to be agreed. This will either be in Spring or Summer 2022 and we will notify parents early in the Autumn Term to allow plenty of time to arrange childcare.

School Term Dates 2021-2022

We hope these dates for next 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 2021

Monday 6 September 2021	to	Friday 22 October 2021
Tuesday 2 November 2021	to	Friday 17 December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Wednesday 5 January 2022	to	Friday 18 February 2022
Monday 28 February 2022	to	Friday 8 April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Monday 25 April 2022	to	Friday 27 May 2022
Monday 6 June 2022	to	Thursday 21 July 2022

There are 5 Teacher Days for the academic year 2021—22 when children do not attend.

We have agreed these with the Junior School.

Thursday 2 September 2021
Friday 3 September 2021
Monday 1 November 2021
Tuesday 4 January 2022
One further Teacher Day to be agreed.

Grass Bank Opposite Bunbury Road Gates

We have had a letter of complaint from the residents living in the flats along Bunbury Road, opposite the school gates.

The letter indicates that children are playing loudly and running along the grass and urinating on the trees and in the hedges surrounding the homes, while they are under the supervision of parents.

Can we ask that parents are considerate when waiting to collect children at the end of the day.