NEWSLETTER MAY 2018

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ST PHILIP’S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

**Summer safety**

When the sun begins to shine it is important to take certain precautions. Please make sure you child’s shoulders are covered, bring a sun hat (labelled with your child’s name) and, if you think it is necessary, apply sun cream before your child comes to school. It would be difficult for staff to apply sun cream to children due to the number of children attending the setting each day and due to allergies. There are sun creams available that last all day and this would be preferable. However, you can send in sun cream (labelled with your child’s name) and the staff will supervise whilst they apply it themselves. It might be a good idea for them to practice this at home first. Please do not leave sun cream in your child’s bag but ensure it is given to your child’s key person.

The children spend a lot of time outside: climbing; riding bikes and scooters; playing ball games; gardening and running around. Open-toed sandals, crocs and flip flops are not suitable footwear and can be dangerous. Please ensure your child wears suitable footwear to School.

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**School admissions**

For the children that are starting school in September you will now have been offered a place at a school. Please could you let your child’s key person know as soon as possible which school you have accepted (a list will be displayed in each class) so that we can start to arrange transition meetings.

**Speech and Language Therapists - Drop-in sessions**

The Speech and Language Therapy Service will be running the following FREE drop-in sessions:

**Thursday 17 May 10.00-11.00 am** – St Philip’s

**Thursday 21 June 10.00-11.00 am** – Barton Hill Settlement



**Times of sessions**

Please could we remind parents of the session times. The morning session starts at **8.45 am** and finishes at **11.45 am**. The afternoon session starts at **12.30 pm** and finishes at **3.30 pm**. We understand that the start and end of the sessions are extremely busy times of the day and the car park is often crowded and allowances should be made for this. If on the odd occasion you anticipate being late to pick up your child please could you phone the school to let us know. This avoids your child becoming upset.

Please note that Breakfast Club starts at **7.45 am** and due to insurance purposes children cannot be signed in before that time.

**Parent consultations**

Parent consultations will be held on:

**Thursday 14 and Tuesday 19 June**

This is a chance to talk to your key person about your child’s learning. Please note that this is for children who will NOT be returning in September. (Children returning in September will be able to attend parent consultations in October.)

**Staffing changes**

Following the local authority’s re-organisation of children’s centres and reduced early years funding, the Nursery School has had to restructure its staffing. This has been a very difficult period for all staff and I am immensely proud of their professionalism and focus on the children during this time. We are sad to be saying goodbye to both Maggie Venn and Karen Burfoot.

Maggie has worked tirelessly at the school as a support worker for over 25 years. Her professionalism, dedication and unique gift for engaging with and supporting children in a truly inclusive way is outstanding. Countless children have benefitted from her care and guidance. Maggie has made a positive difference to many young lives – the good news is that Maggie is going to be keeping her connection with the school with regular volunteering. So ‘au revoir’, rather than ‘goodbye’.

Karen has also worked at the school for more than 16 years, starting as a dinner lady (SMSA) and in more recent years as a Learning Support Assistant. Karen has also held many other roles in between, including family support, breakfast and after school clubs. Karen’s gentle nature, kindness and ability to empathise with the many challenges faced by children and their families has made her an invaluable member of our team and integral to the ethos of the school. I am, however, pleased to say that Karen has secured a position as a family support worker in the new Central Bristol Hub. We are hoping that in this role Karen will be supporting our Stay & Play Group in the Family Room.

I am sure all parents/carers will be wishing both Maggie and Karen the very best in their new roles and for the future.

**Parking and children’s safety**

Your child’s safety is our number one priority at all times. We ask you to make sure that this is yours too. Every school in Bristol has an issue with parking and we are no exception. We are fortunate that we have a small car park at the front of the premises that parents can use. This can get very congested and if you are in a hurry it is best to park in a nearby side street. Walking, cycling and lift sharing are all ways in which to reduce congestion. Please ensure you keep a close eye on your child whilst walking in and out of the school.

**Facebook**

We have a Facebook page for the Nursery. We look forward to receiving your ‘likes’ and comments. Please also share.



**Whooping cough**

We have had one confirmed case of whooping cough in the School. Please speak to a member of staff/phone the School if your child has been affected. Further information can be found <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/whooping-cough/>

**Dates for your diary**

**Thursday 17 May 10.00-11.00 am** – Speech and Language Drop-in

**Friday 18 May 1.30 pm** – Royal Wedding celebration picnic

**Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June** (inclusive) – School CLOSED for Half Term holiday

**Thursday 14 and Tuesday 19 June** – parent consultations

**Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 July** – School CLOSED (INSET days)