NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

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ST PHILIP’S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

The children are settling in well and there is a lovely atmosphere around the School.

**Colour and light**

This term we will be working with the children on the theme of colour and light. The children will be learning about autumn and seasonal changes, bonfires and fireworks and the Christian celebration of Christmas. The children will also be learning about mixing colours and experimenting with a range of art techniques.



**Primary School Applications**

Please remember that the deadline for applying for a Reception Class place for your child is 15 January 2018. The Council are requesting that this is carried out on line where possible at [www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions). Please record your choices on the sheet in your child’s class.

**Language Group Parent Drop In**

Mrs Derham will be offering a termly drop in session for parents who have children attending Language Group. The first drop in will be held on Tuesday 5 December between 8:30am and 9:30am. This is an opportunity for you to talk about your child’s individual needs or have a general discussion with Mrs Derham about the types of activities your child will be doing during the session and how you can support this at home. There is no need to book just let Hazel or Maggie know on Reception. The drop in group will be held in the garden room.

**Donations**

The school provides free milk for all children. We do, however, rely on donations of fruit, vegetables (e.g. carrot sticks, cucumber, peppers) and other healthy snacks (e.g. cheese, bread sticks) for your child to share at snack time in the morning and afternoon. If you could bring in a small amount each week it would be greatly appreciated.

It is the time of year for cold viruses and we would also appreciate donations of **boxes of tissues** for the children’s use.

We are also extremely grateful for donations of other items which the children regularly use e.g. beads, buttons, pebbles, fir cones, conkers, shells, paper, pens, glitter. A donation station has been set up the foyer.

**Public Engagement Survey**

Bristol City Council is remodelling its Children’s Centres following a significant reduction in Government funding and are inviting families to help shape the future offer for Children’s Centre services across Bristol, by offering feedback on current services. You are strongly urged to complete this survey, either a paper copy which is available in school, or online [**https://bristol.citizenspace.com/people/bristol-childrens-centre-public-engagement-survey/**](https://bristol.citizenspace.com/people/bristol-childrens-centre-public-engagement-survey/)by 1 December.

**Friends of St Philip’s Marsh Nursery**

A group of parents have recently set up Friends of St Philip’s Marsh Nursery fundraising committee and details are attached.

**School closure**

We always endeavour to keep the school open and plan carefully for all eventualities. However, on occasions we have had to close because of severe conditions. This is usually snow related and because of Health and Safety or staff shortages. If we are in a situation where we cannot open the school it will be announced on Local Radio Stations (Radio Bristol 95.5FM), and published on the Local Authority and School Website.

[www.bristolcity.gov.uk](http://www.bristolcity.gov.uk)

[www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk](http://www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk)

**Clothing**

As the weather is getting colder, children will need appropriate clothing and footwear. We go into the garden in all weathers. All clothing and footwear must be labelled. It would be helpful if you could show your child to put their hats and gloves into the sleeve of their coat when they take them off to prevent them being lost.



‘All weather’ suits are also a very good way to keep children dry and can be purchased quite reasonably.

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**Sickness**

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea please remember that they must stay off school for at least **48 hours** from the last time that they were ill. Also it is the time of year where coughs and colds are occurring. If your child is unwell keep them at home and telephone the School on 0117 977 6171 to report the absence. We can only give prescribed medication at school that has a pharmacist sticker on the bottle or box with your child’s name on it – we cannot give any medicines that you have bought over the counter.

**Website**

The School website ([www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk](http://www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk)) is regularly updated and has lots of information about the School, activities the children are engaged in, upcoming events, urgent news, the latest menus and much, much more! Please also check out our Facebook page.

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**Car seats**

It has come to our attention that some children in cars are not being seated in car seats and/or are not being strapped in. The safety of your child is paramount and we would be grateful if parents/carers could familiarise themselves with the law regarding child car safety. A useful website is <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>.

**New menu**

The lunchtime menu has changed. Please see the new menu displayed outside your child’s classroom or on the school website. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals please see Mrs Luton in the office.

**Forthcoming events**

**Winter Fair**

The Friends of St Philip’s will be holding a Winter Fair fundraising event on Friday 1 December 3.30-5.00 pm at the Nursery School. Please bring your family and friends. There will be stalls, face painting, raffle and tea/coffee and cakes available. We would extremely grateful for donations of bottles (any liquid), pre-loved but saleable toys/books and unused items which can be sold as gifts.

**Christmas parties**

All classes will host two parties:

Party 1 – Tuesday 12 December - AM
Party 2 – Thursday 14 December - PM

Further details to follow in the December Newsletter.

**Christmas dinner**

Christmas dinner is going to take place on **Wednesday 13 December**. If your child does not normally attend on this day they can attend for Christmas dinner. Further details will follow in due course.

There will be a list available in each key group that you will need to sign so that we can order the correct number of turkeys (this needs to be done by the beginning of December). The cost of a school dinner is £2.25 and this is payable **in advance** (unless you are entitled to Free School Meals).



**Christmas sing- alongs**

We will be hosting Christmas sing-alongs this year on **Monday 11December at 9.00 am and Friday 15 December at 2.30 pm**. Please come along. Following the sing-along on Monday 11 December, the Friend of St Philip’s will be holding a coffee/tea and cake sale.

Please see your child’s key person if you have any questions or queries regarding any of the above arrangements.



**Friday 15 December 2017**

Last day of term – all sessions as normal.

**Tuesday 2 January 2018**

Return to School.

Hello from The Friends of St Philip’s Marsh Nursery!

We’d like to introduce ourselves.

We are a group of local parents of children who come to this nursery. We decided that we want to raise some money to buy new things for our children to learn and play with. With the government cuts in spending every little helps!

So, we decided to help them!

At the moment we are planning a cake sale with tea and coffee alongside the Christmas sing-along and a Winter Fair. At the Winter Fair, there will be lots of fun activities, games and a chance to win prizes, alongside a bring and buy table and homemade craft stall. Why not pop by and see if you can nab a Christmas bargain or maybe win a bottle of booze in our Bag a Bottle stall.

The meetings will be ongoing and so will the planning of fun activities. If you would be interested in joining in our fun and informal meetings or, equally importantly, would like to help out in any way such as on the day or donating a cake/homemade crafts/good quality toys/books etc., please speak to one of us or a member of staff. You can also contact us by email (stphilipmarshfriends@gmail.com). We’d love to hear from you!

See you soon! The Friends of St Philips Marsh Nursery,

Tia, Ruth, Sarah, Sarah Jane, Fran, (Staff members) Hazel and Heidi