NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

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ST PHILIP’S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

I am really pleased to say the new routine is working very well. The children are thoroughly enjoying using the additional space created by using the corridor area. There is a lovely, calm and purposeful atmosphere in the school. Thank you all for your support with the changes. Please do not hesitate to talk with your child’s key person or myself if you have any concerns at all about your child or if you would like to discuss any aspect of their education or wellbeing.

**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 2019. 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.

**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.

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

**The Friends of St Philip’s are holding a Winter Fayre on Friday 7 December**

**from 3.30 pm**. Can you help?

They need donations of any bottled item (from wine to bubble bath to a bottle of squash), donations of quality new or used toys, books, clothing and gifts, raffle prizes, handmade goods/gifts and cakes or food on the day. They would also very much appreciate extra help on the day e.g. could you possibly serve drinks or help run a stall? Unfortunately, if we do not receive donations/offers of help this important fundraising event may well have to be cancelled. Thanking you in anticipation.



**Thank you**

We would like to say a big thank you to **John Thornfield** (Wilf’s dad) for giving up his spare time to tidy our garden including clearing the back of the garden, digging up weeds, chopping back hedges and creating space for a new playhouse. We very much appreciate your help and it will make a huge difference to the children’s enjoyment of the garden. In addition, it is great for the children to see a parent working in such a positive way to help the community.

We would also like to say a big thank you to **Ewan Hamilton** (Norman’s dad) for making a ‘poppy’ curtain for our First World War commemorative stone plaque installed in the corridor.

**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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**Underwear Rule**

You’ve probably already talked to your child about keeping safe on many things like crossing the road and not talking to strangers. The **Underwear Rule** is a simple guide to help parents explain to children where others should not try to touch them, how to react and where to seek help.

The following websites give advice to parents on the subject:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/>

<http://www.underwearrule.org/underwear_en.asp>

**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.

**Governor news**

We are sorry to report that Jonathan Ross has resigned as a governor due to family/work commitments. We would like to thank Jonathan for his support over the last 8 years and especially his tireless campaigning against the proposed building of diesel generators near the nursery. We are also very sorry to lose Penny Norwell who has been a parent governor at the school for the last 2 years. We would like to thank Penny for her support at both Cashmore and St Philip’s and especially her representation on the Children’s Centre Advisory Board.

We would like to welcome Kate Webber as a co-opted governor.

We would like to congratulate Enza Phillips (Chair of Governors) on her well-deserved award from Easton and Lawrence Hill area’s “Up Our Street” to say thank you to local people who make our area a better place to live, work and visit. We would like to thank her for the continued support and commitment to the school community.

**Parent Governor vacancy**

As a result of the above, we now have a vacancy for a parent governor. It is a wonderful volunteering opportunity to use your time and skills to help make a difference to the lives of children in our school community. For further information, please see Simon or Denise.

**New menu**

We have a new lunchtime menu. Please see the new menu displayed outside your child’s classroom, in Reception or on the school website. The price of a meal is now £1.95.

**Forthcoming events**

**Winter Fayre**

The Friends of St Philip’s will be holding a Winter Fayre fundraising event on **Friday 7 December 3.30-5.30 pm** at the Nursery School. Please bring your family and friends. There will be stalls, raffle and tea/coffee and cakes available.

**Christmas parties**

All classes will host two parties:

Party 1 – Tuesday 18 December - AM
Party 2 – Thursday 20 December - PM

Further details to follow in the December Newsletter.

**Christmas dinner**

Christmas dinner is going to take place on **Wednesday 19 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 £1.95 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 17December at 9.00 am and Friday 21 December at 2.30 pm**. Please come along. Following the sing-along on Monday 17 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 21 December 2018** - Last day of term – all sessions as normal

School CLOSED for holiday – **Monday 24 December 2018 to Friday 3 January 2019 (inclusive)**

**Monday 7 January 2019** - INSET DAY – School CLOSED

Return to School – **Tuesday 8 January 2019**

School CLOSED for INSET Day - **Friday 15 February 2019**