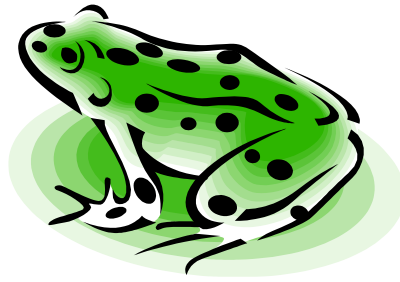


NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2021



ST PHILIP'S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

Welcome to all our new children and families and welcome back to our returners. I hope you enjoyed your summer holidays. The children are settling in well, making new friends, getting to know their key person and exploring their new environment.

We also appreciate your support during this time of induction. This has been carefully planned and thought out so that it is in the best interests of all children. Over the course of the next few weeks we will be settling in many new children to the school. It is important that the children feel safe and secure and that staff can build relationships with individual children and families. The purpose of children coming gradually is so that children can have more individualised attention and that the transition is handled sensitively. You visiting with your child is a really important part of this process as children will settle more quickly when they see you interacting within the environment. **Please ensure you bring your child's birth certificate/passport when you visit for your child's induction session.**

Staff changes

We would like to welcome Sharon O'Loughlin to the school. She will be supporting children at lunchtime.

INSET Days

The School will be **closed** for INSET days on **Monday 1 November 2021** and **Tuesday 4 January 2022**

Staff training includes introducing the new Early Years curriculum and safeguarding and child protection.

Colour and Light

Our focus up until half term is 'Induction', settling new children and giving plenty of opportunities for developing self-confidence, self-awareness and friendships. During this time, we have a particular focus on the three Prime Areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage: **Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development**. We also plan activities between now and Christmas around the theme of 'Colour and Light'.

Rhymes of the Term

Throughout the school we have 'Rhymes of the Term' which the children learn. The rhymes for this term are:

Incy Wincy Spider
Two Little Dickie Birds
Frère Jacques

COVID-19

Please continue to follow the measures to help reduce the spread of the virus:

Do NOT come to Nursery if you, or anyone that you have contact with, has symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, fatigue, loss/change of sense of taste and/or smell, vomiting, diarrhoea). Follow government guidelines.

If your child displays symptoms of COVID-19 they should self-isolate and you should arrange a PCR test for them. They can only return to school if the PCR test is negative. We cannot accept negative lateral flow tests.

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 how 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.



School Library

The school library is open. Please use it! The best way you can help your children learn to read is by enjoying reading books with them in a relaxed and comfortable way.



There are book bags available. These can be purchased from Reception for £2.00. **We are missing books from our library, therefore please could you check at home if you borrowed books last year and forgot to return them.**

Dinner Money

The cost of a school dinner is £2.10. Please pay **in advance** on ParentPay. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals or pupil premium, please inform Reception.

Water bottles

The children have access to drinking water throughout the day, however, if you would like to provide your child with a water bottle, please make sure it is named and brought into the classroom. **Please do not put squash in the bottle.** This is because children are allowed to drink from their water bottles throughout the day and sipping on squash

throughout the day is known to cause tooth decay.

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.



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 DO NOT PARK IN THE CAR PARKS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES (e.g. Grundons, Fox Storage).** Not only is this very dangerous but you may well get clamped. Please ensure you keep a close eye on your child whilst walking in and out of the school.

Froglets and wrap around care

We still have places for wrap around care (morning and afternoon sessions) and also in breakfast club and after school club. Please see Hazel at Reception if you require a place and the relevant paperwork will be provided. Sessions must be booked in advance.

Children who are due to start wrap around or Froglets for the first time need the paperwork completed in advance of them starting.

Wrap around care is £22 per session (am or pm).

Breakfast club is £5.00 per session and includes a healthy breakfast.

After school club is £11.00 per session. There will be a charge of £2.10 for a hot meal during this session. Alternatively, you can provide a packed lunch.

School Uniform

School jumpers and polo shirts can be purchased from the school office.

Sweatshirts	£8.25
Polo shirts	£6.75

Application for primary school

Please remember that the deadline for applying for a Reception Class place for your child is 15 January 2022 (if your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018). The Council are requesting that this is carried out on line at

www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Applications are now open. Some primary schools may be arranging open mornings/evenings or have virtual tours available on their websites.

If you require any help with this, please ask at Reception.

Special thanks

We would like to extend our thanks to the Quartet Community Foundation (Wessex Water Environmental Fund) for their generous donation to the school. The donation will be used to replace the playhouses in the garden.

New parent governors needed

Our Nursery School Governing Body is made up of community, parent, staff and Local Authority Governors. Our Governors may come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community it serves. We are currently looking for new parent governors.

Being a Governor can be enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding. Please don't be put off by thinking that you have to have

specialist expertise or knowledge. Enthusiasm and interest is much more important to start with and there is tried and tested training and support available to help you throughout the four years' term of office. Please remember you will be joining a long-established Governing Body and will be supported by fellow Governors with many years of combined experience.

If you would like more information, please contact myself (Simon Holmes) or Maggie.

Forthcoming events

Half term - School **CLOSED** from **Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October (inclusive)**

School **CLOSED** for INSET day - **Monday 1 November**

Return to school – **Tuesday 2 November**

At St Philip's Marsh Nursery School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This is our safeguarding team.



**Simon Holmes – Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead**



**Denise Draper – Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



**Sharon Cutler – School Business Manager
Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



**Tracey Gudonis – Governor
Named Safeguarding Governor**