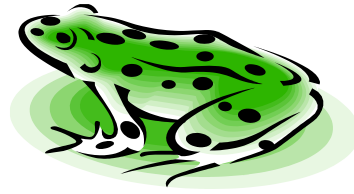


# NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023



## 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 Clare Morton who is the teacher in Fir Class on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

### This term

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.

### 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

### 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 in the foyer. 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 £2.10. 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.



### 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.

For the garden, we would appreciate donations of **bags of compost** to refill our vegetable beds.



We are also running low on some spare clothes and would appreciate donations of: **long-sleeved tops, socks, pants, tights, shorts and trousers.**

Do you have a **double buggy or a buggy board** which you would be willing to donate to the school to help a family in need? If so, we would be very grateful.

### Session times

Please could we remind parents of the session times. The morning session starts at **9.00 am** and finishes at **12.00 noon (door opens at 11.55 am)**. The afternoon session starts at **12.30 pm** and finishes at **3.30 pm (door opens at 3.25 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 in an emergency 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. This is particularly important at the end of the day pick-up.

**If you have to pick up your child before the end of the session, please pick up before 3.00 pm (afternoon session) and before 11.30 am (morning session).** At the end of each session we have story, song or sound and it is important that this is not disturbed. It is an important part of their **phonics and numeracy learning which needs to take place in a quiet atmosphere to develop listening and attention skills.**

### 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 and **close all doors/gates behind you.**

### Application for primary school

Please remember that the **deadline for applying for a Reception Class place for your child is 15 January 2024** (if your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020). The Council are requesting that this is carried out on line at [www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://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.

### School Uniform

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

Sweatshirts	£9.50
Polo shirts	£7.10

### New parent governor needed

Our Governing Body is made up of community, parent, staff and Local Authority Governors. Our Governors come from 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 a new parent governor.** 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 training and support available to help you. Please remember you will be joining a long-established Governing Body and will be supported by fellow

Governors with many years of experience. If you would like more information, please contact Maggie on Reception.

**Forthcoming events**

Half term - School **CLOSED** from **Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October (inclusive)**

**Return to school – Monday 30 October**

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**



**Charlotte Carter**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



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



**Tracey Gudonis**  
**Governor**  
**Named Safeguarding Governor**

## Packed Lunches



If your child is bringing a packed lunch to nursery school please remember the following points:

- Clearly label your child's packed lunch box with their name and key group on the outside of the box.
  - Remember that many pre-packaged items are adult portion sizes.
    - A child portion size is the size of their fist. A child may only need a half a sandwich - made from one slice of bread. A bag of crisps is an adult portion.
    - Beware hidden sugar. The NHS advice is children should have less than 19g a day for children aged 4 to 6 years old (5 sugar cubes or 5 teaspoons. A single miniature pot of yoghurt may have up 3-4 teaspoons of sugar.
    - Sweets and chocolate are not permitted because they contain unhealthy amounts of sugar.
    - Always include some fruit or fresh vegetables but remember that small tomatoes and grapes are a very common cause of choking in children, and should be cut in half **lengthways**.
  - Please do NOT include a drink in your packed lunch. The school provides water for all children (freely available all day). Current dental advice is that children aged 3 to 4 should not drink anything except water from a bottle. Fruit juices or squashes are highly acidic and high in sugar, and so cause serious damage to young teeth.
  - Please remember some children have allergies, we therefore request that you **do not** include nuts or nut products, such as Nutella, in your child's lunch box.
  - Please do not include cans or glass bottles/jars in your child's lunch box.
- If you have any queries about packed lunches or any issues relating to food at school or at home please talk to your child's key person and they will be very happy to help you or introduce you to another team member who can help.

**Thank you for your help.**

## St Philip's Marsh/Cashmore join the My School Fund initiative to help boost our budget

We're pleased to announce that St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre is part the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

### How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

### How to get involved

Visit [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org) to register for free and link to St Philip's Marsh Nursery School BS2 0SU. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org)

**Cashback for you and your school**

In association with

Sainsbury's Argos ESPO

1% 2%

Your chosen school £ You

**We're part of My School Fund**

Find out more