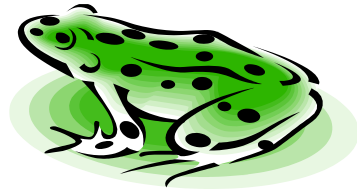


NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023



ST PHILIP'S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

Colour and light

We recently celebrated Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light. Photos will be available on the website and Facebook page shortly. This term we are 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 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. Please let us know when you have applied.

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.

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 should 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.



Please ensure your child's bag contains enough **nappies and wipes** for the session (if they are in nappies/pull-ups) and **spare clothes (labelled)** in case we have to change children after toileting accidents or from water play. If your child comes home in nursery clothes, please could you return them as soon as possible.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IN ALL THEIR CLOTHING/FOOTWEAR/LUNCH BOX TO PREVENT THEM GETTING LOST (many children have the same clothes, the same size and from the same shop).

Missing

A plastic rain cover for a Joi pushchair went missing from the outside buggy store recently. Please could you check to make sure you haven't accidentally taken it.

Also, a pair of dark blue Crocs wellies (size 9) are missing, please check you haven't taken them by mistake.

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 for coughs and colds. If your child

is unwell keep them at home and telephone the School on 0117 977 6171 to report the absence. **If your child has a high temperature this means they are unwell. Please keep them at home until their temperature is normal.** A normal temperature is 36.4°C but this this can vary.

We can only give prescribed medication at school that has a pharmacist sticker on the bottle/box with your child's name on it – we cannot give any medicines that you have bought over the counter.

The NHS have a useful website answering parents' questions 'Is my child too ill for school?'

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

In addition, please find attached to this newsletter the UKHSA advice flyer 'Should I keep my child off school?'

Woodwork

Finn (teacher in Oak Class) is taking children in small groups to work in the woodwork studio. Please see letter attached for further information.



To facilitate the sessions, we would be very grateful for **donations of soft medium/large buttons and beads, plastic milk bottle tops and any other loose parts suitable for hammering in to wood.**

Parking and 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. **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 also make sure you shut the gates behind you when entering/exiting the premises.

Please do not let anyone in the building (even if you know they are a parent) – it is important for security reasons that only staff let people in as we need to know who is in the building at all times.

School closure due to bad weather

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 website and School website and Facebook page. We will also send an email to you via ParentPay.

www.bristolcity.gov.uk

www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk

Staffing and Governor changes

We would like to welcome Aisha Sahi to the Governing Body as a Parent Governor.

We would like to thank Tracey Gudonis for her many years of support as she steps down as Governor. She first became a Parent Governor when her children attended St Philip's and then a Co-opted Community Governor. We send her and her family best wishes for the future.

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 are 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 ask Maggie on Reception.

Monday 1 January – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED

Tuesday 2 January – Return to School

Christmas

During the last two weeks of term, we will be celebrating the Christian festival of Christmas.



Parties

All classes will host two parties:

Party 1 – Tuesday 5 December – AM

Party 2 – Thursday 7 December – PM

If your child does not normally attend one of these sessions, they will be able to attend one party (please let your child's key person know which one you would like them to attend). More details to follow in the December newsletter.

Sing-alongs

We will be hosting two Christmas sing-alongs this year and the children are busy practising songs. Parents are invited to join the sing-alongs:

Tuesday 12 December 2.30pm for children in Elm and Fir Classes

Wednesday 13 December 2.30pm for children in Oak and Beech Classes

This is a very informal affair, not a performance!

Forthcoming events

Party – **Tuesday 5 December AM**

Party – **Thursday 7 December PM**

Sing-along – **Tuesday 12 December 2.30pm – Elm and Fir Class**

Sing-along – **Wednesday 13 December 2.30pm – Oak and Beech Class**

Menu change – festive roast dinner – **Wednesday 13 December**

Friday 15 December - Last day of term – all sessions as normal

School CLOSED for holiday – **Monday 18 December to Friday 29 December** (inclusive)



Winter Clothing



Now the weather has changed please remember to provide appropriate outdoor clothing for your child as we experience lots of learning when we go outside in all types of weather.

Also, please don't forget to label your child's clothes.

Thank you

Rainy Day



Wellington boots



Waterproof Coat & Trousers

Wintery day



Coat



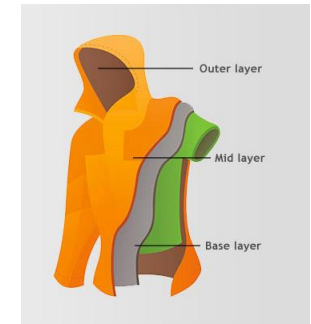
Hat



Gloves



Scarf



Layers of clothes

Dear Parents / Carers,

We're writing to let you know that the children have now started woodwork sessions. We believe this is a wonderful medium for children to work with, but I'm sure a few of you may be surprised that we allow the children to use real tools – such as hammers and saws! We wanted to take this opportunity to explain why we think woodwork is such an important activity and reassure you that safety is always prioritised.

Woodwork has a long history in early childhood education and has been embraced by many countries. It is one of those really special activities that truly engages children and encompasses all areas of learning and development. Children respond to the challenge and very much enjoy working with wood and real tools.

Woodwork is an empowering activity that develops children's self-esteem, resilience and confidence. The children will be encouraged to use their creative and critical thinking skills, problem solve and express their imaginations through wood and other materials. Working with wood is not always easy, and safety is prioritised at all times. We adhere to strict guidelines - the children must wear safety glasses at all times and sawing is only ever done with 1:1 adult supervision. Of course we cannot eliminate all risk, and there will be the occasional bruised thumb, but we want to support the children to manage risk and make judgements to protect themselves. This is an important part of their learning and development.

Children manage to get through a lot of resources with woodwork and our biggest challenge is keeping up with demand! We would very much appreciate it if you could donate any offcuts of soft wood, such as balsa and pine. Other resources such as bottle tops, corks, lids, beads, big buttons and loom bands would be welcomed. Thank you!

We very much look forward to the children showing you what they have created – but remember that what is really being made is the changes within the child! As children make with wood they are learning skills that will empower them to shape their world - encouraging them to become the innovators, makers, sculptors, tinkerers, engineers and architects of tomorrow!

Thank you for your support,

Finn & the St. Philips's Marsh Nursery Team



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.