



St George's School Edgbaston

November 2016

Photos

The School Photographer will be joining us on Wednesday 9th November. Please make sure your children are wearing their full winter uniform. There will be an opportunity for both individual and sibling portraits for pupils across the school.

School Prayer Competition

We had some outstanding entries into this competition. Congratulations to Esha (Y2) and Sienna (Y4), as their prayers were chosen by the School Council to be merged to form the new Lower School prayer:

Dear God,
Just as many hands build a house, so many hearts build a school.
Thank you for our parents and teachers, our family and friends.
Thank you for shelter and food, for everything in this world that is good.
Help us to respect each other, no matter who we are.
Help us chose the right path.
Help us tell right from wrong.
And keep us safe all day long.
Amen

Thank you to everyone who took part in this competition – all prayers will be displayed on our Prayer Tree which will be located in our new 'Zen Den'.

Children In Need

We are again supporting Children in Need on Friday 19th November. We will be joining in with the Big Spotacular with schools across the nation. For a donation of £1 children will be able to choose to either dress from top to toe in spots, or wear something spotty for the day. We hope that everyone is able to join in with this occasion and raise money for Pudsey!

Uniform

All children from Year 1 – Year 6 should now be wearing their full winter uniform. Items of uniform should be clearly labelled. Children should wear sensible black school shoes. Trainers are only acceptable for sporting activities. A winter coat should be worn during break times; please make sure this is a plain navy or black design.

Please ensure your child has outdoor PE clothing as some physical education activities will take place on the Sports Fields.

As the weather is changing, please make sure you send your child in with wellies, hats, gloves and scarfs. All these items should also be clearly labelled.

Zen Den

Mrs Girling and the School Council are developing an area for quiet reflection which the students have aptly named the 'Zen Den'! If anyone has any items of religious interest (any faith), old cushions, bean bags, pretty fabric, or candles that they might be willing to donate, please could you bring them in to Lower School as soon as possible.

Language Of The Month

We have introduced a 'Language of the Month' programme to celebrate the diverse range of languages we now have in Lower School. If the language of the month is spoken by a child or children in a specific class, we will try and celebrate this in class as much as possible. There is growing recognition that we need to encourage children for whom English is an additional language not to lose their 'mother tongue', and at the same time respect their culture and language. 'Language of the Month' simply involves choosing a language that is spoken by one or more of our children, and celebrating it for a set period through class assemblies, games, videos etc. There will be a designated space in each classroom to display words and pictures related to the chosen language, as well as a whole school display board to support the 'Language of the Month.' We feel that not only will this allow children to demonstrate the language skills they bring with them; it will broaden the horizons of our monolingual English speakers.

We will start with **Arabic for this half term**, as we have quite a few Arabic speakers as well as children who are exposed to Arabic at home.



Harvest

Thank you for your contributions to our Harvest. Each small act of kindness enabled us to send a generous amount of food, clothing and toiletries to the Fireside Centre for the homeless. Sister Sabina and her colleagues depend upon the generosity of schools like ours, and have asked us to extend their thanks and praise for a wonderful Harvest assembly. Over £100 was also raised through the cake sale, raffle and donations on the day. Well done everyone!

Poppies

Poppies are on sale in school, and we are asking for donations of at least 50p per poppy. We are expecting all children to wear a poppy on 11th November, when we hold our annual Remembrance Assembly for students.

Ash End Farm

Pupils in Reception and Year 1 will be visiting Ash End Farm on Monday 12th December 2016. This is a whole day trip, and the children will have the opportunity to join in with the nativity story in the stables, meet Rudolph and Dasher, feed the farm animals and wake up Father Christmas from his snooze in the old barn! Forms and further information to follow.

Beauty and the Beast

We have arranged a visit to the Palace Theatre in Redditch for pupils in Years 2 to 6, on Tuesday 6th December 2016. We hope to see all pupils attending this trip – it is a wonderful opportunity to participate in the great British Panto experience! Forms and further information to follow.

Christmas Cards

The 'Christmas Post Box' will be open from Thursday 1st December. Children can post their cards on arrival to school, and student volunteers will sort and deliver the cards on a daily basis. If you would like a class list please contact Mrs Dodd, Ms Masterson or Mrs Mortiboys in Reception.

Dates for Diary—November

Thursday 3rd November: Years 4 and 5 'Sparks' Fire Service, 2pm

Friday 4th November: SEND Afternoon Tea at 2pm

Tuesday 8th November: Year 3 visit to Hindu Temple

Wednesday 9th November: School Photos

Thursday 10th November: Year 1 and 2 New Street Odeon

Monday 14th November: Year 2 visit to Synagogue

Monday 14th November: Year 4 film trip to Vue

Tuesday 15th November: Year 2 visit to Aston Hall

Wednesday 16th November: Year 4 visit to Smethwick Gurdwara

Thursday 17th November: Year 5 to New Street Odeon

Thursday 17th November: Year 3 Cinema Trip/Year 5 Cinema Trip

Friday 18th November: Children In Need, Fire Service Talk Yr2

Tuesday 22nd November: Year 6 trip to Electric Cinema

Wednesday 23rd November: Years 1,2 &3 Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 24th November: Year 6 to Birmingham Central Mosque

Friday 25th November: Reception Cinema Experience 2pm

Monday 28th November: Reception Class Eye Tests

Tuesday 29th November: Years 3 & 4 Rock Up Climbing Centre

Multi Faith Trips

Multi Faith Month provides pupils with the opportunity to explore the rich diversity of religious faiths, not just within our school, but in our city as a whole. During November children will have the opportunity to visit places of worship, or to participate in a workshop in our school setting. This provides children with an opportunity to learn more about the religious beliefs of their chosen religion for this term, and to ask questions to extend their understanding. The children will attend:

Rec/Y1 – Bible Story Workshop with puppets (date tbc)

Y2 - Singers Hill Synagogue

Y3 - Tividale Mandir (Hindu Temple)

Y4 - Smethwick Gurdwara

Y5- Creation Story Workshop (date tbc)

Y6 - Central Mosque