

St George's Lower School Newsletter

January 2017

Happy New Year!

It was lovely to welcome the children back after their winter break. They all appear well rested and ready for another term of hard work! Most children have returned looking very smart in their winter uniform, which should be worn for the duration of this term.

May we remind parents that we expect all children from Years 1 – 6 to wear a blouse/shirt and tie during the winter months – these may be long or short sleeved. A polo shirt and tie is not acceptable.

Lost property:

We have a large amount of lost property without name labels; and therefore impossible to return to their original owner. Some of the lost property has been with us for several months. We simply don't have the space to store lost property items indefinitely. From now on, all non-uniform items (coats, hats, gloves, shoes etc) will be donated to charity shops if unclaimed at the end of each half term. Uniform items will be washed and added to our second hand uniform stock.

Staff changes:

We would like to welcome Mr Nasar Razaq to St George's. He replaces Ms Tracy Perry as our Finance Manager and can be contacted via the main school phone number (0121 625 0398), or email: RazaqN@sgse.co.uk

Ms Perry has taken up the post of Admissions Manager and can be contacted via the main school phone number, or email: PerryT@sgse.co.uk

Ms Regina Masterson (who covered our Reception desk in the afternoons) has moved to provide admin support for our Finance Manager, and is replaced by Mrs Wendy Nash. Many of you know Mrs Nash already as she has worked at St George's for many years in both administrative and classroom support roles.

Finally Ms Leanne Anderson has moved from supporting in our Reception Classroom to our Year 3. She has already worked with this cohort of children and is really pleased to be joining them again!

Language of the Month:

This Half Term we will be focusing on Danish!

Swimming:

Swimming is part of the school curriculum, and not optional. If your child arrives at school without a swimming kit, they will be provided with a 'spare' swim suit and towel rather than them missing the lesson. They will not be left in school, nor will pupils be provided with supervision and work.

We do have some flexibility if a child is genuinely unwell or has a medical condition, however we do not provide an alternative curriculum at a time when the rest of the class are participating in the lessons set out on their timetable. A child will only be excused from swimming for medical reasons, and parents must communicate this in writing, or directly with Mrs Dodd.

Bad Weather Procedures:

A letter was sent home on November 21st detailing the school procedures for alerting parents as to closures in times of poor weather conditions. This letter is stored on the website under the 'Letters and Newsletters' header. Spare copies can also be obtained from the Lower School office.

Right Click Workshop:

Thank you to all the parents and children who attended our e-safety Right Click Workshop. It was well attended, and we hope you found it both useful and informative. Raj and Kam who delivered the workshop emailed us to say they were 'very impressed with the knowledge your pupils' had on e-safety awareness and that you cover the subject within the curriculum. This was shown throughout the workshop, the children responded well. Credit to you, your colleagues and the school with the focus in this very important area.' Well done everyone!

School Meals:

As of February 27th we will be working with a new catering company. Dolce are a family owned business who provide quality catering for schools across the country. They are fully conversant with the Food Standards. Their system allows us to publish menus on line, and offers a pre-ordering service for parents. This means you can talk to your children about what food is available each week and help them to make appropriate choices. A letter and leaflet explaining the service will be sent home shortly.

Dates for Diary:**January 2017**

Friday 13 th January 2017	Year 1 trip to Warley Woods
Monday 16 th January to Friday 20 th January 2017	Annual Review Week
Monday 23 rd January 2017	Year 2 trip to Nature Centre
Wednesday 25 th January 2017	Year 6 trip to Black Country Living Museum
Friday 27 th January 2017	Reception Class to Sea Life Centre
Tuesday 31 st January 2017	Year 2 trip to Birmingham Museum/Art Gallery

February 2017

Friday 3 rd February 2017	Year 3 trip to Birmingham Museum/Art Gallery
Wednesday 8 th February 2017	Year 4 Class Assembly
Friday 10 th February 2017	Year 5 trip to Think Tank
Thursday 16 th February 2017	Reports to go out to Parents

Year 4 trip to visit Cadbury World – Date to be confirmed.