



# 2020 Newsletter

*'Live together, pray together, learn together  
and grow together in Christ'*

Twitter: @StEdmundsJ\_I

Website: [www.stedmund.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stedmund.bham.sch.uk)

## Harvest prayer

Dear God,

Each season brings something new for us to see and enjoy,

With sunny days and rainy days,

Our crops grow larger,

Fruit and vegetables ripen, ready for us to harvest.

Thank you for all of the food we have to eat,

Let us remember people who may not have enough.

Help us to be kind to others in our thoughts, words and deeds.

Amen

## Thought for the Month

"Every soul is beautiful and precious; is worthy of dignity and respect, and deserving of peace, joy and love." Bryant McGill

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October: Harvest Celebration

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Black History Lunch

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Black History Costume Day

Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> November: Autumn Term Parent Consultations

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November: School Photographs

16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November: Anti-Bullying Week

23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> November: Attendance & Punctuality Focus Week 1

**Half term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

School opens again on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Reminder: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November is now a Teacher Day**

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Please help support the school by following the procedures we have in place to keep all our children and staff safe and adhering to Government guidelines.

### 1) TIMINGS

Nursery 9.00am and 3.00pm (Wed/Thurs and 12.30pm Fri)

Reception 8.45am and 2.45pm

YEARS 2 and 5 timings are 8.45am and 2.50pm

YEARS 1,3, 4 and 6 timings are 8.55am and 3.00pm

Siblings must wait with their parent/carer until it is their time to go to their waiting areas or leave the school site.

### 2) ONE-WAY SYSTEM

The School is operating a one-way system to support social distancing and keeping 'bubbles' apart. Please make sure that you follow the arrows to prevent crossing with other parents.

### 3) P.E KITS

P.E kits should be brought in on a MONDAY and taken home on a FRIDAY to be washed ready for the following week. Therefore there is no need for any child to bring any additional bags into school (except for packed lunch bags). Water bottles can be carried into school.

### 4) DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

We would be very grateful if these sheets could be returned as soon as possible to ensure we have each child's up-to-date details. Thank you.

## ILLNESS

Please note that if you phone the School to report your child's absence through illness can you please state the exact nature of the illness and not just say 'unwell' or 'ill'. We need to be accurate how we record absences for the Local Authority on the School's system and this requires precise information especially if Covid -19 related. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## ASTHMA-URGENT

On the advice of Asthma UK, we need to update our Asthma Register on an annual basis. There was an 'Asthma Letter' attached to September's newsletter for any parents/carers of children diagnosed with asthma to complete and return to school. We have only had a couple of letters back. Only these parents need to complete the form and return it to school. **PLEASE DO THIS NOW AND RETURN IT TO SCHOOL.** It is very important for us to have an up-to-date list.

## HARVEST CELEBRATION

Our annual Harvest Celebration will take place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October which is also World Food Day. Due to Covid-19 restrictions our class bubbles cannot take part in a whole school celebration. Therefore, all classes will visit the hall separately and bring their donations to add to a whole school display. Each class will have a Harvest collective worship in their classroom. We hope you'll be your usual generous selves and donate items of food that will be distributed to the needy of the Parish and St. Chad's Sanctuary.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As you are aware October is Black History month. With the action of the Black Lives Matter movement following too many unacceptable acts of racism around the world we are moving to ensure that Black History becomes an integral part of our children's learning as well as the opportunity to discuss racial equality in our world today. It is through education that we have the opportunity to make a difference. The staff are having training to discuss and plan further for this in November. We have ordered more resources for our classrooms to reflect this.

We are going to mark Black History Month with our traditional Black History Lunch on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Children who usually have a packed lunch can order a lunch for £2.40.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October will be our Black History Costume day. Children can wear traditional costumes from your country of origin or the colours of the flag from that country.

## PARENT CONSULTATION WEEK

This will be directly after half-term, week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We are currently planning that this will be a telephone consultation updating you on your child's progress. However, if you need to speak to your child's teacher before this time please call the School Office and your child's teacher will return your call.

## TRAINERS

A reminder to parents - trainers **are not** part of school uniform. Please ensure that your child is wearing a sensible pair of school shoes after half-term. If there is a problem regarding shoes please make contact with the school.

## SECONDARY TRANSFER 2021

Parents of children in Year 6 are reminded that secondary preference forms should be completed online by **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**.

## RECEPTION 2021

Parents can now apply online for their child's Reception Class place by using the online service at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2021** is the final closing date for acceptance of online applications

Contact details for admissions if you have any problems:

- Telephone: **0121 303 1888 Press 1**

## NURSERY

Places are available at our Nursery (Wed, Thurs all day and half-day Friday). If you have a child born between September 2016-August 2017 and would like a place please contact the School Office on 0121 523-7274.

## POPPY APPEAL

After half-term we hope to be selling poppies and other British Legion merchandise in school. If you would like to support this cause then please send a small amount of money in with your child (minimum 20p) to purchase a poppy.



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November

A photographer from Aperture Photography will be in school to take your child's picture. In light of Covid-19 the company and school are following recommended guidance.

Unfortunately, family pictures with younger siblings not at school or pictures with siblings in school will not be taken this year due to restricted access to parents and keeping children in their own 'bubbles'. Therefore, children will just have their own individual photograph taken.

Aperture Photography will be doing online sales only and parents will be given log-in details. However, to support parents who may have difficulty with ordering online the company will also take orders across the phone.

### **STAYING SAFE ONLINE**

We all want to ensure a good balance of pupils having access to new technologies but ensuring that they are accessed and used in a safe way.

We have been made aware of a very useful app that you can have on your phone which enables you to monitor the sites and time that your child is spending online.

This app is called 'Nannynet' and can be downloaded from the app store or Google play.

At school the pupils have lessons about staying safe online each half term. Please take time to talk to them about this to reinforce the importance of these messages.

On our school website there are several links to websites that give excellent advice about internet safety that will support you keeping your child safe.