



Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had a lovely Christmas break.

Welcome back to a busy term at St Philip's, where we look forward to lots of exciting things happening in school.

We welcome Miss Turner who has joined us this term to work with year 6 children and we welcome Mrs Whitehouse who will be working in EYFS for three days a week.



Uniform and PE Kits

Thank you for your continued support with our school uniform. Teachers have noticed that there are still children who don't have their **PE kits** in school. PE is an important area of the curriculum for the children to be involved in. Please check that your child has a white t-shirt and blue shorts and pumps for PE. If you have concerns you wish to talk about with a member of staff, please come and see our staff.

Swimming – Year 3 and 4

Year 4 and 10 of year 3 children go swimming on Wednesday mornings. This is an important life skill for all children. Please ensure that the children have their swimming costumes and towels for swimming as children have been forgetting them, if your child does not bring the items that they need they will miss out. All children are to participate in this wonderful activity! Please come and speak with your child's teacher, Mr Padotan or myself if your child is unable to participate in swimming for a specific medical reason.



Contact Details

If your contact details have changed since you have returned the pink forms, please ensure that you let the school office know of new numbers and other information for us to contact you directly. It is **very important** that we can contact you if your child is ill, had an accident or is late being picked up from school. **Lots of important messages are sent to you by the text message service.** Please let the school know your details if they have changed.



Parking/dropping off your child at school

Please take care as you approach the school in cars and by foot whilst you accompany your children into the building, the car park area at the back of the school is very busy in the morning and at home time. Please **DO NOT** leave younger children at the top of the road to walk into the school unaccompanied. We would like the children to get into school safely.

Money in School

At all times, please ensure that any money for lunch, school trips, nursery fees etc are popped into a sealed envelope with your child's name, class, amount and what the money is for on the envelope and given directly to the school office. Please do not pass money to teachers, only to the office. Thank you.

After school clubs

The Spring afterschool clubs have started with lots of exciting activities. Some clubs have had a small paying fee attached to them. If your child has signed up to clubs it is important that they are committed to the activity weekly. Please ensure that you pick up your child after the club is finished from the school office. If you are delayed, please make alternative arrangements to pick your child up and inform the school. If your child is collected late more than once, then his/her place will be allocated to children on the waiting list. Thank you.



Healthy Lifestyles

As part of our focus on keeping healthy, our school is involved in lots of activities within the week to help to achieve a healthy lifestyle. This term, the children are involved in swimming, Gym, and Competitive sports. Please ensure that playtime snacks and lunch boxes have healthy choices for children to enjoy.

NSPCC Online Safety Workshops

Thank you to all the parents that attended the NSPCC Workshops for online safety, we hope that you found it informative and beneficial. If you would like more information you can visit nspcc.org.uk/schools, nspcc.org.uk/pants or visit the NSPCC's web site nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe.

Safeguarding our Children

At St Philip's School we have a responsibility to ensure all children's safety with cyber, social, mobile phones and internet usage. Please ensure that, if your child has a mobile phone or access to the internet, as parents, you are able to monitor your child's usage. During this term there will be a focus on the safety of online and cyber usage at home as school is increasingly having to deal with home usage and comments that cause upset to other children.

We are here to help!

As a school we strive to resolve any problems and concerns that you as parents may have, please come and speak to us if you have a concern or need help. We will endeavour to help and support you in the best way we can.

Unforeseen School Closure

In the event of the school being closed due to unforeseen circumstances such as heavy snowfall you will receive a **text** as soon as a decision has been made to confirm that the school is closed. If no text is sent to you then the school is **OPEN AS USUAL**. Please rely on the text service we provide for you and **DO NOT** telephone the school to check if it is open. Excess telephone calls on these mornings stop other calls coming through from external agencies etc. Please also keep your contact numbers up-to-date to ensure we are able to make you aware of any important information. Thank you



Medical Evidence

We are aware children can be ill at times, especially this time of year. If your child is away from school due to illness please contact the school office and leave a message on the answering machine stating your child's name, class and reason for absence, where possible please supply medical evidence to support the illness. This medical evidence could be proof of the prescription medicine, a doctors appointment card, medical appointment letters etc that states the date of the appointment or administration of medicines. Where medical evidence is not supplied this could result in an unauthorised mark. Information can be found on the school website.

Date	Event
Spring Term 2018	
Tuesday 2 January	Teacher Training Day
Wednesday 3 January	Teacher Training Day
Thursday 4 January	Pupils return to school
Friday 16 February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 26 February	Pupils return to school
Thursday 29 March	Break up for Easter
Summer Term 2018	
Monday 16 April	Pupils return to school
Monday 7 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 25 May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 4 June	Pupils return to school
Friday 20 July	Pupils break up for Summer

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What goes up and down but does not move?

Answer: Stairs



Trivia

Have you ever noticed that apples float on water? This is because apples are made of 25% air.

Did you know your hands and feet have more than half of bones in your body!!

Did you know that Venus is the only planet in the solar system that rotates clockwise all the others rotate anti-clockwise!!

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Please keep it in a safe place for future reference.

Mrs Hinton