



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.

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 year 3 children go swimming on Monday mornings. This is an important life skill for all children. Please ensure that the children have their swimming costumes and towels for swimming. All children are to participate in this wonderful activity! Please come and speak with your child's teacher, Mr Padoton or myself if your child is unable to participate in swimming.



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.



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. 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, in PE, year 4 and 10 children from year 3 are learning to swim. The school has also provided every child with a skipping rope to support them with their skills, which they use on the playground. Please ensure that daytime snacks and lunches have healthy choices for children to enjoy.

MEXICIAN THEMED LUNCH



On Thursday this week the school cook will be preparing a Mexican Themed Lunch for the children. If your child currently brings sandwiches for lunch and is in Yrs 3–6 they are welcome to purchase a meal for £2.10. If your child is in Reception—Yr2 and normally brings sandwiches just let the office now and he/she can have a free meal.

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 focussed week 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.



Unacceptable behaviour

The school staff strive to treat visitors and parents with due care, courtesy and respect. Our staff expect the public to show the same courtesy and respect. In the event of such incidents action will be taken by the school's Academy Committee, Sandwell Local Authority and if appropriate, by the police. As a school we strive to resolve any problems and concerns that you as parents may have, therefore, aggression, threats and verbal abuse are unacceptable. Thank you for your support.

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 so you don't miss out on important information. Thank you.

Spring Term 2017	
Friday 17th February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 27th February	Pupils return to school
Friday 7th April	Break up for Easter
Summer Term 2017	
Monday 24th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 1st May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 26th May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 5th June	Pupils return to school
Friday 21st July	Pupils break up for Summer
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July	Teacher Training Days

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What goes up and down but does not move?



Answer: Stairs

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

Mrs Hinton