

St Martin's C of E Primary School

Lower Church Lane, Tipton
West Midlands, DY4 7PG

Headteacher: Mrs R Rought

Tel: 0121 557 1543

Website: www.st-martins.sandwell.sch.uk

Email: office@st-martins.sandwell.sch.uk



'I can do all things through
Christ who gives me strength'

6th September, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your children have enjoyed the first week back, we have been very busy settling into our new classrooms and getting back into the swing of life in school. I thought I would write to summarise the first week and to let you know a few things that we have been up to during the holidays and in the first week.

The Big Picture News Assembly

Today, all of the children in years 1-6 took part in a nation-wide assembly, in fact over 501,000 children joined the online event! The children discussed diversity, acceptance and what makes us all special and unique. The assembly will be featured on Newsround today if you would like to watch it with your child.

Another Award

Because of the close relationship we have with Ryland View care home, we have won the Picture News Gold Impact Award! Our relationship with the care home is very special and we plan to take our year 6 pupils to visit before Christmas. This work also contributed to us becoming a Dementia Friendly School.

Our training day

On Monday all of the staff came together to complete their annual statutory training. We also discussed our school vision. We know our school is very special and want the vision to reflect this more, so watch this space whilst we work on it. We would love your views of the first draft, which I will send to you in the next week or so.

Our training also included how we can improve our art, PE and music curriculum, this follows on from our work on history at the end of summer term. I really hope to ensure that these subjects are as engaging and enjoyable as possible, ensuring that our children are able to shine in many different ways.

Building work

We now have a fantastic new reception classroom (where the old hub room was), which opens onto the nursery garden at the back of school and will also open onto the quad (once the scaffolding has gone for good). I will upload some pictures to Class Dojo for you to see the transformation.

We have also installed a kitchen into the old year 5 classroom, which is now a multi-functional room, where our wrap around care is based before and after school. It means we now have a great space for teaching cooking, for messy art and DT projects and an additional teaching space for groups of children to work with an adult.

We have completely de-cluttered school and all its cupboards. We have brightened up our corridor and classroom displays to inspire the children in their learning and to celebrate their fantastic work.

The roof is almost finished, I have been told today that the work will finish Monday, which means the scaffolding can finally come down next weekend. Thank you for bearing with us whilst this vital work is completed.

Uniform

Thank you all for complying with the expectations, the children look very smart and proud in their school colours. I reminded them all about jewellery and make up rules on Tuesday and shared how their hair is a way they can express themselves in school (there are no rules about hairstyles here!). A reminder that for PE children should still wear their school colours as a jumper, rather than a different coloured hoody or tracksuit jacket.

Clubs and wrap around care

Club places have now been allocated for this half term, we continue to work hard to provide you with quality clubs, which the children want to take part in. I will share the options for next half term nearer the time. Our wrap around care is now available to book directly with Community4trust, who are running this in our school. To book places, please contact them on 0121 752 5969.

Community Events

Following on from the success of the summer fair, which raised over £1300 for school! We are planning a Christmas Fair for Friday 13th December 3:30-6pm – more information to follow. We will need lots of help from parents to make a great event – we will be in touch soon about a set up meeting.

Newsletters and communication

We have decided to reduce the number of newsletters slightly, so you will now get to one per half term. This is to ensure we are not bombarding you with information. As a paperless school, please keep a check on Class Dojo, this is where we send you everything! It is worth enabling notifications, so that you do not miss anything.

Dates for this term

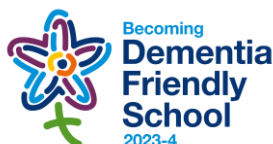
I know as a working parent, it is good to get dates in your diary nice and early. Below is a list of what we have planned already, there will be letters sent out to share the finer details nearer the time and of course, there are bound to be more things as we progress towards the end of term.

I hope that your children have enjoyed coming back to school as much as we have enjoyed seeing them and I cannot wait to see what amazing things we will achieve this year.

Thank you much for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mrs R Rought
Headteacher



Autumn Term Dates for your Diary

18th September – 9am Year 6 SATs meeting

26th September – 9am Reception phonics meeting for parents

30th September – Start of our Harvest collection

3rd October – 9am Year 1 phonics meeting for parents

10th October – Autumn Disco– years Reception -2, 3:30pm-4:30pm and years 3-6, 4:45-6pm

16th October - 9am Harvest Festival years 1-2

17th October - 9am Harvest Festival years 3-6

22nd October - Parents' Evening 3:30-5:30

24th October – Parents' Evening 3:30-5:30pm

25th October – break up for half term

4th November – INSET day – school closed to pupils

5th November from 9am – Parent event in reception, Festivals of Light

6th November from 9am and 2:15pm – Parent event in nursery, Festivals of Light

11th November – Odd Socks Day to launch Anti Bullying Week

15th November – Children in Need – Mufti Day

19th November – School Photo Day

12th December – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner day

13th December – 3:30-6pm – Christmas Fair

16th December – 9:15am – Years 1 and 2 Nativity

17th December – 9am – Rock Steady Concert

18th December – 9:15am – Reception and Morning Nursery Nativity

18th December – 2:15pm – Reception and Afternoon Nursery Nativity

19th December - 9am – Years 3 and 4 Christmas Carols Performance

19th December – Christmas Party Afternoon

20th December – 9am – Years 5 and 6 Christmas Carols Performance

20th December – Break up for Christmas holidays

