

TELFORD INFANT SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,
Since the last Newsletter we have celebrated National Teaching Assistant Day through an assembly where the children presented beautiful hand made cards to our Teaching Assistants and were able to say a huge 'Thank you' to each and every one of them. This was followed by tea and cake in the staffroom when the TAs were able to put their feet up for a short while and had a well deserved treat.

We have also welcomed two new TAs to the Telford Infant team. Our TA Apprentice, Miss Ellie Martin, joined us on 20th September and today we welcome a new TA, Mrs Sarah Camilletti, who will work on Thursdays and Fridays. We are delighted to welcome them both to the team.

We are all now looking forward to our Harvest celebrations.

Mrs Siân Oustayiannis – Headteacher



PTA AGM and Meeting

This evening at 7pm in the school hall.
All parents, carers and staff welcome!

3rd October 2019



BEHAVIOUR

Each July our School Councillors work with the other children in their classes to review our school rules and to set the rules for the following year. In line with our British Values statement we call these rules 'Rules Matter' and you will see them displayed all around the school. This year's rules are below and it would be really helpful if parents and carers could discuss these rules and what they mean at home too.

RULES MATTER

**We always try to make safe choices.
We help keep our school safe, happy
and caring.**

**We are kind and polite and look after
each other and our grown ups.**

**We take care of and share our things
in school.**

We move sensibly indoors.

Our Behaviour Policy and British Values Statement can be found on our website – the links are:

Behaviour Policy
[file:///C:/Users/oustayiannis.s1/Downloads/Behaviour_Policy_\(including_Anti-bullying_Statement\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/oustayiannis.s1/Downloads/Behaviour_Policy_(including_Anti-bullying_Statement).pdf)

British Values Statement:
[file:///C:/Users/oustayiannis.s1/Downloads/British_Values_Statement_17-18%20\(2\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/oustayiannis.s1/Downloads/British_Values_Statement_17-18%20(2).pdf)

DRIVING AND PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE



We are trying very hard to encourage sustainable travel to school. However, if you need to drive please drive and park safely and considerately around our school. This will help ensure that we keep congestion to a minimum, maintain a good relationship with our neighbours and most importantly keep our children safe. Last week two of our children and their mother had a very nasty near miss when a driver reversed without looking and nearly hit one of the children.

Please, please remember:

- **Do not park on the yellow zig zag lines.**
- **Do not park on junctions or on pavements.**
- **Do not double park and block the road.**
- **Do not block local residents' driveways.**
- **Use mirrors when reversing.**

WATER BOTTLES



Please remember to send a full, clearly named water bottle in with your child each day. **The children should bring home their bottles on a daily basis to be washed to help keep germs at bay.** We do have plastic cups available but water bottles are much more convenient for the children. Please send in a full water bottle each day as this eases congestion around the water coolers first thing each morning. If your child finishes their bottle then the water coolers are always available for top ups.



WARWICK DISTRICT FOODBANK GIVING HELP

Telford Infant School has an all year round collection point for the food bank in our main school entrance where parents and staff can drop off donations of long-life food and toiletries at any time.

GETTING HELP

The Foodbank works using a voucher referral system - Mrs Oustayiannis and our School Business Manager, Mrs Macfarlane, are authorised to issue vouchers to families in need. If you ever feel that your family needs support please speak to either Mrs Oustayiannis or Mrs Macfarlane who will treat all conversations in confidence – they know that anyone can find themselves in need of help for a number of different reasons at any time. They will need to take some basic details from you to complete the voucher. Once a voucher has been issued it can be exchanged for emergency food at your nearest foodbank centre.

Further details can be found by contacting the Foodbank website.

<https://warwickdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>

RECEPTION WELCOME MEETING

Thank you to those parents who attended the Reception Welcome Meeting last week. The powerpoint we used can be found on our website:

<https://www.telford-inf.warwickshire.sch.uk/web/curriculum /313531>

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY REALLY DO MATTER

Whole school attendance up to 3rd October 2019 is **97.5%**.

For your child to reach their full potential it is vital that he or she attends school and arrives on time every school day unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable, eg. illness. Every time your child misses school he or she is missing valuable learning.

- Parents/carers and school share the responsibility for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality. Parents/carers have a legal duty to make sure their child comes to school regularly and arrives on time. As a school we also have a legal duty to ensure children are in school and are safe and we closely track the attendance of every child. We aim to support families to ensure that any difficulties around attendance are quickly resolved as wherever possible we wish to avoid involving the Local Authority Attendance Service. If your child's attendance causes concern you will be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the matter in detail to see if we can put any help in place for you. Equally if you are finding it difficult to get your child to school please do speak to your child's class teacher or to Mrs Oustayiannis.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME 2019-2020 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

In September 2013, the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2019/2020). The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence. The amendments set out in Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, govern all requests for leave within term-time. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to 'holiday' and 'extended leave', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for. The Government has not defined 'exceptional circumstances' as referred to in the 2013 regulations. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days). Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996. Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices. We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

CHRISTMAS

Sorry to even mention Christmas at the start of October but we are aware that many parents appreciate lots of notice so they can arrange time off work to attend Christmas performances.



We are already planning for Christmas at Telford Infants! Here are the dates of our Christmas performances - further information about how to book performances for Reception and Year 1 will be sent out to you nearer the time and you are guaranteed the 2 tickets per child that you request, see below.

To clarify ticket allocation for families with twins – as we have the capacity to accommodate up to 2 guests per child in each year group all parents can request 2 tickets per child.

Please arrange for any younger siblings to be cared for whilst you enjoy your chosen performance.

✚ **Reception** will perform the Nativity Story at 9.15am in the School Hall on:

Tuesday 17th December

Wednesday 18th December

Each Reception family will be able to book 2 tickets for the performance(s) of their choice:

1 for Tuesday and 1 for Wednesday or

2 for Tuesday or

2 for Wednesday.

✚ **Year 1** will perform their Christmas Production at 9.15am in the School Hall on:

Wednesday 11th December

Thursday 12th December

Each Year 1 family will be able to book 2 tickets for the performance(s) of their choice:

1 for Wednesday and 1 for Thursday or

2 for Wednesday or

2 for Thursday.

✚ **Year 2** will perform Carols at Christmas at St Mary Magdalene Church, Lillington on:

Friday 13th December at 10am.

There is no need to book. 2 guests for each Year 2 child are welcome to attend – please do not bring more guests as the church cannot accommodate greater numbers.

✚ **Grandparents of children at Telford Infant School**

Watch this space for an invitation to come into school in late November for a special Grandparents' Christmas Glitter Extravaganza – a glittery, gluey Christmas craft experience with the children! Due to space in school we will be able to invite up to 2 grandparents per child for either the morning or the afternoon session NOT both.



DIARY DATES

Latest Update 03.10.2019

We will do our utmost to try to keep to these dates but please check future Newsletters for any changes

OCTOBER 2019

Thursday 3 rd 7pm-8pm	PTA AGM and Meeting
Thursday 10 th	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Friday 11 th morning	KS1 Harvest Festival at St Mary Magdalene Church, Lillington. (A small number of parents will be needed to help supervise, including walking to and from the church please. Unfortunately there is not enough space in the church to invite all parents to this event.)
Monday 14 th morning	Open Morning for parents of children due to start Reception September 2020 (please contact school office to book a slot)
Friday 18 th all day	PTA – Second Hand Uniform Sale
Friday 2.30pm	Reception Harvest Festival in school hall. (Parents invited)
Tuesday 22 nd 3.40pm-6.30pm	Learning Reviews (Details of how to book an appointment will be sent out next Thursday)
Wednesday 23 rd	School Photographs
Thursday 24 th 3.40pm-6.30pm	Learning Reviews (Details of how to book an appointment will be sent out next Thursday)
Monday 28 th to Friday 1 st (Nov)	Half Term

NOVEMBER 2019

Monday 4 th	INSET (teacher Training) Day – School closed to children
Tuesday 5 th	School reopens to the children for the second half of the Autumn Term
Tuesday 5 th and Wednesday 6 th	Year 1 Eye Tests
Thursday 7 th	Year 1 visit to War Memorial
Monday 11 th	Year 1 visit to the Library
Friday 15 th	Children in Need Day

Tuesday 19 th afternoon	Open Afternoon for parents of children due to start Reception September 2020 (please contact school office to book a slot)
Tuesday 26 th 3pm	Years 1 and 2 Celebration of Learning for parents (Invitation to pop into your child(ren)'s classroom(s) for a Celebration of Learning - for parents and carers of children in Years 1 and 2.)
Wednesday 27 th 6pm-7pm	Learning to Learn Evening for Parents

DECEMBER 2019

Thursday 5 th morning	Reception Visit to see Raymond Briggs' 'Father Christmas' at Warwick Arts Centre
Date to be confirmed with PTA	PTA Christmas Fair
Wednesday 11 th 9.15am Thursday 12 th 9.15am	Year 1 Christmas Play
Friday 13 th 10am	Year 2 Carols at Christmas at St Mary Magdalene Church (2 guests for each Year 2 child will be welcome to attend – please do not bring more guests as the church cannot accommodate greater numbers. No need to book.)
Monday 16 th	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 17 th 9.15am Wednesday 18 th 9.15am	Reception Nativity
Date to be confirmed with PTA	Christmas Party and visit from Father Christmas
Friday 20 th	Last day of the Autumn Term
Monday 23 rd to Friday 3 rd (Jan)	Christmas Holidays 

JANUARY 2020

Monday 6 th	INSET (Teacher Training) Day School closed to children
Tuesday 7 th	School reopens to the children for the Spring term
Thursday 9 th morning	Open Morning for parents of children due to start Reception September 2020 (please contact school office to book a slot)

TERM DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE:

https://telfordinfant.eschools.co.uk/web/term_dates/316881