



Somers Park Primary School Malvern Vale Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mr. Chris Hansen BEd (Hons) NPQH
Head of School: Mr Byron Williams BEd (Hons) NPQH



Newsletter: Autumn 1
Friday 6th September 2019

Dear parents and carers,

It is such a pleasure to welcome you all back to our schools, they're very quiet places without the children! An especially warm welcome to our new starters in nursery, pre-school, the reception classes at Somers Park and Malvern Vale Oak, as well as the other children who have joined us in other classes for the first time. We are looking forward to a brilliant year.



Settling into Malvern Vale Oak

You may have noticed a bit of the work which has been done around school: we had two successful grant bids so have been able to replace the entire fire alarm system, as well as the flat roofs which have been letting a fair amount of water in over the last few years.

The Key Stage 1 playground has also had a bit of a makeover, with thanks to Friends of Somers Park (FOSP), our parents' association who funded it. The markings are bright and vibrant and in great use during playtimes; as well as after school, where the zig zags and dots are very popular on the way home! The new wall posters are also going up at the moment to brighten up the environment.

Congratulations

We've had two weddings and a baby over the summer!

Congratulations to Miss Shepherd, who returns to Somers Park as Mrs Beasley.

Congratulations to Miss Marshall-Jones, who returns to Malvern Vale as Mrs Holdham.

Congratulations to Miss Warry-Smith and her husband Mark, on the birth of their first child, George.

Wraparound at Malvern Vale

We are now up and running with our before and after school wraparound care at Malvern Vale School. If you would like to take up the offer for your child, please contact Mrs Holdham in the Malvern Vale office. This care runs from 8am until 6pm, and is based on site.

Tanzania- Chumbageni

Our partnership with Chumbageni school remains a strong one. During the week before Half Term, Miss Ward and I will be travelling to Tanzania to work with our colleagues in Chumbageni School. As mentioned previously, we have been very fortunate to receive a British Council Grant to fund this and the reciprocal visit this year.

Box of Pencils Appeal

In 2018, we also took over £100 of your donations to spend on stationary for the school. Resources such as chalk and pencils, are kept locked in the headteacher's office, and rationed carefully to ensure there are enough of these basic items to deliver an education.

We would like to give you the opportunity to donate 'a box of twelve pencils' as well as other essential stationery items. If you would like to do so, please pop £1 in an envelope and drop it to the school office, labelled with your name and 'Box of Pencils Appeal' - we'll keep you posted on how much you manage to raise!

Particularly well received last year, were the kind donations you made towards sanitary items for the girls, following the appeal by Mrs Russell. If you would once again like to contribute to the fund to buy sanitary protection for the older girls at



Chumbageni, please give donations to the school office or Mrs Russell in a clearly marked envelope.



Veronica, one of the Chumbageni teachers who visited us in 2017, distributes washing powder to the girls, purchased through your donations to last year's sanitary appeal.

A few reminders

Uniform

The children look incredibly smart in their uniform at the start of term- I hope it's all named so it keeps coming home with them! May I remind you that hairstyles which include hair colouring, shaved tramlines or very short hair (less than Grade 2) are not acceptable as part of our uniform.

Parking

This is so tricky around our schools, but may I remind you to be respectful of our neighbours, avoid junctions and residents' driveways, and please turn your engines off to reduce emissions. The school car park is not to be used by parents at normal drop off and pick up times, however it may be used for wraparound collections.

In addition at Malvern Vale, we have been asked to inform you by the YMCA, that if parents would like to use the Community Centre car park, please can they park at the far end (near Sainsbury's) as not to obstruct the parking for their own users.

Staffing update

We have sadly said goodbye to Mr Robertshaw, who has moved onto a new sports role at Dyson Perrins. Mr

Robertshaw has been an important part of driving improvements in sports at Somers Park and we wish him the very best of luck.

We have a skilled and committed team of teachers who will continue to prioritise high quality teaching and extracurricular provision in PE and sport. The list of clubs for this term will be coming out today.



Getting the balance right in Year 3

Year 6 secondary school applications

On the first day of term, Year 6 children were sent home with letters about application for secondary school places. Please can you ensure you received this and let us know if you need another copy.



#WeLoveReading! Class 5ZMs book swap is up and running...

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed or you think you may be eligible for Free School meals, please contact the school office who will be able to give you the necessary forms and information. This is just as relevant if your child is in Key Stage 1 or Reception because, although you may already



receive school lunches for free, it unlocks a significant amount of funding for the school to benefit your child directly.

School Leadership

Your first point of call for any questions or concerns you may have about your child's education is their class teacher. However, in their absence or if you would like to raise something further the next port of call should be the Phase Leader- these are the teachers on our Senior Leadership Team:

Phase Leaders

Early Years- Mrs Gemma Simpson
Year 1 and 2- Mrs Anita Marsh
Year 3 and 4- Mrs Deb Russell
Year 5 and 6- Mrs Michelle Everett
SENCO- Miss Laura Edkins
Malvern Vale- Mrs Jen Price
Assistant Head- Mrs Michelle Everett
Head of School- Mr Byron Williams
Executive Head- Mr Chris Hansen

Safeguarding

We take the safety and welfare of the children with the greatest importance. We have a duty of care to ensure that we work closely with families, and have a legal responsibility to share any concerns with the necessary agencies.

Our key staff are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Byron Williams

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Mrs Michelle Everett
Mrs Jen Price (Malvern Vale)
Mr Chris Hansen

Safeguarding administrator
Mrs Claire Evans

Walking home from school

Children in Key Stage 2 will have brought home our Walking Home from School Policy with this newsletter. If your child walks home from school, you need to complete the attached permission slip, regardless of whether you have previously

completed one. From 15 September 2019, any child without an updated form will not be allowed to walk home alone.

Although not a set rule, the school's recommendation remains being that children in Year 3 and 4 should be dropped off and collected from school by an adult.

If you intend on your child walking home from school, please return the permission slip by Friday 13th September.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Chris Hansen

Community Links

This Saturday, Emma Durant (mother of Agatha in YR3) and our very own Mrs Rendall are doing a 26 mile hike across the Wye Valley, raising money for Macmillan Cancer Research.

Here is the link to the Macmillan Mighty Hike website

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising-events/event-detail/1725/wyevalleymightyhike2019>

Here are the links to our fundraising pages

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jen-rendall>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/emma-durant>



Thinking scientifically in Year 6

Autumn Term 2019 Dates	
Tuesday 3rd September	Term begins today
Monday 16 th September	Year 4 Parents West Malvern Information Evening 6pm-7pm
Monday 16 th September	Clubs begin today
Tuesday 17 th September	Year 3/4 Hockey match against The Downs
Wednesday 25 th September	Year 5/6 Hockey match against The Downs
Wed 2 nd to Fri 4 th October	Year 4 West Malvern Residential
Monday 7 th October	Year 4 visit to Cheltenham Literature Festival
Tuesday 8 th October	Year 6 visit to Cheltenham Literature Festival
Thursday 10 th October	Year 3 visit to Malvern Library
Mon 14 th to Fri 18 th Oct	No clubs this week
Monday 14 th October	Malvern Vale Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm
Tuesday 15 th October	Somers Park Parents' Evening 5pm-8pm
Wednesday 16 th October	Somers Park Parents' Evening 3:30pm-6pm
Wednesday 16 th October	Malvern Vale Parents' Evening 6pm-8pm
Friday 25th October	Break for Half Term
Half Term	
Monday 4th November	Term begins today- children return to school
Friday 8 th November	Year 1/2 Boys and Year 3/4 Girls Football @ Dysons 1pm-4pm
Friday 8 th November	Year 6 Young Shakespeare Company workshop
Tuesday 12 th November	School Photographs
Friday 15 th November	Year 5/6 Netball and Football League @ Dysons 4pm-6pm
Monday 22nd November	INSET Day- School closed to children
Wednesday 27 th November	Flu Immunisations in school
Friday 29 th November	Clubs finish today
Friday 29 th November	Christmas Decorations Day
Thursday 5 th December	Somers Park Reception Nativity 10am and 2pm
Friday 6 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 9 th December	2pm Malvern Vale Nativity
Tuesday 10 th December	10am Malvern Vale Nativity
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 3/4 Christmas Service- time to be confirmed
Thursday 12 th December	Nursery and Pre-school Nativity
Monday 16 th December	Castle Point Winners Non-uniform Day
Tuesday 17 th December	KS1 Christmas Nativity 2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 5/6 Christmas Service- time to be confirmed
Friday 20 th December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 20th December	Break for Christmas Holidays
Monday 6th January	Term begins today

There will be additional dates added as we move through the term and on occasions some amendments. Please read the weekly newsletter, which comes out via email, to keep up to date with events of the term.