



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 9
Friday 9th November 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back after Half Term. This week has been a busy one, beginning on Saturday with the Choir's visit to the Genting Arena to sing in the Lest We Forget concert with over 2000 children (more about that later!). Then this week Year 5 had a really interesting visit to the Hindu Temple in Birmingham and today, Year 6 have had a fantastic day with the Young Shakespeare Company.

#MakeorBake

Our Children's Challenge this Half Term has been a huge success. The photographs your children have brought into school have been lovely to see; teachers have encouraged discussion and presentation about what they did and the pride the children have demonstrated is infectious.

Thank you also for your unprecedented interactions on Twitter. We have counted over 60 tweets from parents sharing their children's creations, from cakes to roast dinners, soups to bread and much, much more, teachers have really enjoyed seeing this mouth watering selection!



Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is National Anti-Bullying Week and your children will be undertaking work around this theme over the course of the week. To raise the profile, part of the national campaign is to have an odd socks day! With this in mind, for a donation of 50p, we would like to invite your children to wear either odd socks or bright tights to school on Monday. The donations will be given to the NSPCC who we have invited into school to talk to the children later in the week.



NSPCC

As mentioned, we are delighted to have the NSPCC in to talk to the children about keeping themselves safe next week. These age appropriate talks have been highly successful in schools for a number of years- if you would like any further information about the content, please speak to Mr Dowling (Phase Leader).



Malvern Vale Oak had a visit from Malvern Library

Malvern Vale Open Evening

Parents of children at Malvern Vale will agree that opening of the school has been hugely successful this year. The atmosphere in the school is delightful, the facilities are brilliant and the children are working so hard.

On Tuesday 20th November, we will be opening the doors for our Open Evening, to share what we do with prospective parents. If you, or friends of yours have a child starting school in September 2019, please come and have a look.

Applications for school places for Reception start in September 2019 need to be made online by 15th January. If it is either Somers Park or Malvern Vale you are interested in, please ensure you put both down as choices in priority order. We have heard that people don't put down our school as a preference because

they have been told it's impossible to get a place- this is a myth! For the last couple of years, due to lower birth rates there have been plenty of places and in fact on some occasions, spaces available when we begin in September.

At Somers Park our children's outcomes in Reception have been well above the national average for the last two years. In 2018 84% of our children reached a Good Level of Development, against a national figure of 71.5%. With Mrs Price moving to Malvern Vale, we are confident that both our schools will continue this successful introduction into school for your young people.

Welcome Back!

This week, following her maternity leave, Miss Edkins has returned to school. It's great to have her back in school where she returns part time, resuming the role of SENCO and as management cover for Mrs Everett in Year 6 on a Friday.



School Crossing Patrol

We are delighted that we still have school crossing patrols around our school. We now fund the zebra crossing patrol from the school budget as WCC have removed the funding, but we know how valuable this provision is.

Please encourage your children to use the crossing patrols to cross the roads adjacent to school. We have had reports of some careless crossing and we are very aware of the dangers of busy roads when people are rushing to get somewhere.

This reminder about road safety is particularly important if your child walks to school alone, which we know a number of our children do.



Year 5/6 Choir singing at the Genting Arena

Lest We Forget Concert

On Saturday 3rd November, 46 year 5 and 6 pupils travelled to the Genting Arena in Birmingham to participate in the national children's WW1 remembrance concert 'Lest We Forget'. The children sang with confidence and energy and thoroughly enjoyed performing with thousands of children from around Britain. Here are some comments from the children and audience about the concert:



Year 5/6 Choir singing at the Genting Arena

'It was an astonishing experience for us. Not many schools get the opportunity to sing at amazing events like this.' Harriet

'A brilliant experience!' Khaqan

'I absolutely loved it and enjoyed singing all the brilliant songs.' Noah

'The lighting was amazing. We felt like stars!' Tyler and Grace

'An unforgettable experience. I enjoyed singing with all the other children.' Ellie

'My most sincere and deepest thanks go to you all and to all of the children who took part in Saturday's Lest we Forget Concert. The feedback has been that it was successful, moving and memorable event which was a fitting tribute and commemoration of all those who died and suffered in that terrible war.' Ron Dawson

'It was truly humbling to watch all the children involved in the event and as a grandparent it was so inspirational to observe their attention to detail, this must have been such a long day for all of the children and teachers who took part.' Grandparent

Thank you very much to Mrs Marsh, Mrs McCracken, Mrs Goodger, Mrs Robinson and Miss Shepherd who gave up a very long Saturday to provide this opportunity to the children.



Year 5 PSHE work

Year 4 Synagogue visit

'Year 4 went to Birmingham Central Synagogue on Thursday 25th October. The boys wore Kippah (skullcaps) as a sign of respect. We had to spot how many Stars of David we could see. How many of you knew that a Torah scroll is as long as a football pitch? We learned about the destruction of a temple in Jerusalem by the Romans which is why Jews face east when they pray. Jewish people have a special prayer shawl called a Tallit and it has a prayer stitched onto it. We found the ark and the Torah scrolls beautiful and fascinating.'

Report by 4AC



Year 4 visit to Birmingham Central Synagogue

Year 5 visit to the Hindu Balaji Temple

On Thursday 8th November, Year 5 visited the Balaji Temple in Birmingham.

'I loved going to the Mandir because it was amazing seeing how all of the statues of the gods were dressed and decorated.'

Jackson
'I really enjoyed the trip to the Mandir Temple. My favourite part was the heated floor in the

temple because it kept us warm while we listened to the stories.'

Emmeline
'My favourite part was going to the main temple when the Priest blessed us.'



Inside the Balaji Temple- Birmingham

'It was fun to learn more about the Hindu Gods, for example we found out Ganesha had a brother called Murugan.'

Scarlett
'I enjoyed going around some of the different shrines and winning a mango for answering some questions!'

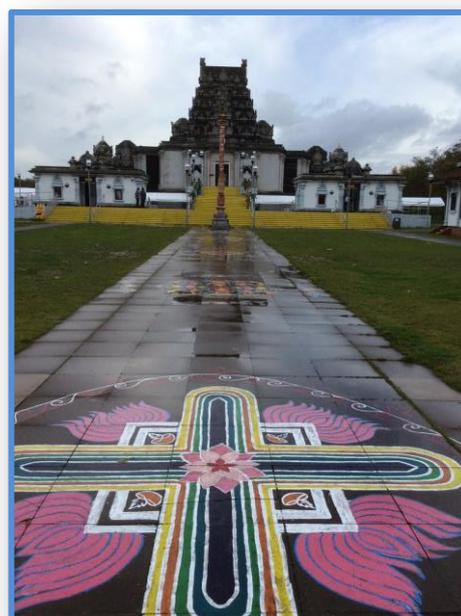
Finley
'We were able to see how they celebrate Diwali.'

Jasper
'The Mandir had Rangoli patterns, which I liked because they are very pretty.'

Winter
'I enjoyed seeing what the shrines actually looked like.'

Chanya
'My favourite part was the stories which our guide told us.'

Michael
'I liked seeing the Hindu's praying.'



Outside the Balaji Temple- Birmingham



Malvern Vale Oak Class Forest School

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you for your responses to this appeal. We hope you enjoyed putting the boxes together with your child- they looked magnificent wrapped in their bright Christmas wrapping paper!

Inset Day

On Friday 23rd November, we have one of our planned INSET Days. School is closed to children on this day as teachers are undertaking training.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Chris Hansen

Community Links

OPEN LANTERN-MAKING WORKSHOP
Saturday 10th November, 11am-1pm, Lyttelton Well, Church Street, Great Malvern (at the entrance to the Priory grounds)

Come along and make a Christmas lantern! All materials provided; lantern lights will be available to buy for £2.50 each. All ages welcome, but all children must be accompanied by an adult. Lanterns can be carried in the Malvern Christmas light switch-on parade on Saturday 24th November.

(Please note: Malvern Vale Primary School children will be taking part in this workshop during lesson time)

FOSP Adult Curry and Quiz Night

Friday 16th November
7pm for 7:30pm start.

Come join us and test your knowledge. Teams of 6 maximum. A thoroughly entertaining evening with a lovely curry too. Please bring your sense of humour, friends, snacks and drinks. Prizes for winning and bottom teams.

The slips came home in the book bags before half term.

PLEASE RETURN SLIP AND MONEY TO SCHOOL BY TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER.



Look at that concentration! Working hard in Reception



Year 4 English



Autumn Term Dates

Coming up at Somers Park Primary School

Date	Event
Monday 12 th November	All week: Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 13 th November	School Photographs
Thursday 15 th November	NSPCC assemblies
Friday 16 th November	4pm- Year 5/6 football at Dyson Perrins
Friday 23 rd November	INSET Day - School closed to children
Wednesday 28 th November	Year 1 Zoolab visitors
Thursday 29 th November	Reception Hearing Tests
Thursday 29 th November	Year 5 Viking Day visitors
Thursday 29 th November	Nursery and pre-school Christmas Craft Day
Friday 30 th November	Reception Christmas Craft Day- parents invited
Tuesday 4 th December	Nasal Flu vaccinations: Reception to Year 5
Thursday 6 th December	10am and 2pm: Reception nativity performances
Friday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper day
Friday 7 th December	Reception Hearing Tests
Tuesday 11 th December	10 am and 2pm Pre school nativity performances
Wednesday 12 th December	2pm and 6pm Year 3/4 Christmas Services
Tuesday 18 th December	Joint SP and MV Reception visit to Smart Trees
Tuesday 18 th December	2pm and 6pm- Key Stage 1 Nativity performances
Wednesday 19 th December	2pm and 6pm- Year 5/6 Christmas service
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 21 st December	Term ends today
Monday 7 th January	Term begins today. Children return to school.

Coming up at Malvern Vale Primary School

Date	Event
Monday 12 th November	All week: Anti-Bullying Week
	School Photographs
Thursday 15 th November	9am: Lantern festival workshop- Parents invited
Thursday 15 th November	NSPCC assemblies @ Somers Park
Friday 16 th November	School Photographs
Wednesday 21 st November	Reception Hearing Tests
Friday 23 rd November	INSET Day - School closed to children
Friday 30 th November	Am- Reception Christmas Craft Day- parents invited
Tuesday 4 th December	Nasal Flu vaccinations
Friday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper day
Monday 10 th December	Reception children visual screening
Wednesday 12 th December	10am and 2pm: Reception nativity performances
Tuesday 18 th December	Joint SP and MV Reception visit to Smart Trees
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 21 st December	Term ends today
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