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Old Church C.E. (C) Primary School  
School Street  
Darlaston  
Wednesbury  
WS10 8DL  
0121 568 6329  
Headteacher: Ms D Clacy



Dear Parents

### October 2018 Newsletter

I cannot believe that we are only two and half weeks away from half term. May I remind parents that next Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of October, is a Teacher Training Day. We usually try and attach these to holidays but the trainer was unavailable for these days. The focus will be on raising standards in handwriting across the school.

#### Building work

It has been a difficult start to the term with the aftermath of the flood. I need to thank the staff for their hard work and the positive manner they have approached the incident.

During Half Term there will be building work going on in two areas of the school. The Nursery and Reception toilets and the toilets in the annex are being refurbished by the local authority. This is in preparation for our expansion. This work should be finished by the start of the new half term.

We also have problems with our roof. Somebody has attempted to steal the lead off the roof. This has caused all the Ridge tiles to dislodge. We have had the dangerous ones removed but this has left us with gaps in the roof and water coming through into the hall in particular. They urgently need repairing and we have no alternative but to start this work over the half term holiday. Unfortunately, this will not be finished in a week and will mean that there will be scaffolding around the school after half term. I have had reassurances that this will not interfere with the day to day running of the school and is totally safe. The local authority will oversee the work. Although not ideal, there is no real alternative as bad weather will dislodge the tiles further and make the roof unsafe.

#### Staff Absence

Unfortunately, we have had several staff absences this year. This is rare at Old Church but they have all come at once! Mr Spittle has snapped his Achilles tendon and will be in plaster for about 10 weeks. Mrs Morris and Mrs Swinbourne are off sick for at least the rest of the half term. Their classes are being covered by Mrs Hollins and Mrs Williams. They are both very experienced teachers and we are lucky to have them in school.

#### Parents' Evening

Sign up lists will be going up for Parents' Evening this week. If you are unable to make these times please see your teacher for an alternative time.

#### Lates

We are seeing a rise in the number of children being collected late from school. We appreciate that on the odd occasion parents may get held up and we are happy to hold onto your child. However, we are seeing the same children being collected well after 3:10 pm on a daily basis. This is very



upsetting for the children and causes them great distress. Please make sure that your children are collected promptly at the end of the day.

### **Playground Drop Off**

A huge thank you to parents for working with us with the drop off of children in the morning and picking children up after school on the main playground. We have put the cones out so that we can make sure that we can see the children clearly and have a clear path for children to walk into school.

### **Macmillan Coffee Afternoon**

We would like to invite you to our Macmillan Coffee afternoon on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm. Any donations of cakes are greatly received.

Kind Regards,

Davina Clacy

### **Autumn Term 2018 Dates**

- 15.10.18- Training Day- Writing. Staff only no children in school.
- 16.10.18- Year 1 and 2 Birds of Prey demonstration
- 18.10.18- Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
- 23.10.18- Parents' Evening 3:30- 6pm
- 25.10.18 Parents evenings 4pm- 7pm
- 29.10.18- 2/11/18- Half Term
- 12.11.18-15/11/18- Darryl Wakelam (artist) to work with Year 5 and 6
- 12.11.18- Anti Bullying Week
- 21.11.18- Black Country Museum Visit Year 2
- 29.11.18- Year 5 and 6 trip to the Theatre
- 6.12.18- Tea with Ms Clacy for Golden book children Th.B.
  
- 07.12.18 Wear your own clothes day in return for an item for the homeless

### **Christmas Activities**

- 7.12.18- KS1 Dress rehearsal
- 11.12.18- 9:30 am Y1/2 The Nativity Play
- 12.12.18 9:30a.m. Y1/2 'The Nativity'
- 13.12.18 - 9:30a.m. Foundation- 'The Nativity'
- 14.12.18- 9:30 Foundation Performance- 'The Nativity'
- 18.12.18 Reception party pm
  - Nursery Parties am
  - KS2 Y5/6 Party pm
  - KS2 Y3/4 Party pm
  - KS1 Party
- 19.12.18 – School Christmas Dinner
- 20.12.18 –Carol service 2:00PM t.b.c
- 21.12.18 – Break up for Christmas holiday **at 1:30pm**

### **Spring Term 2019**

- 07.01.19 Training Day
- 08.01.19 – Children back to school
- 18.02.19 –22.02.19 Half term

