



# St Martin de Porres Primary School

## Newsletter

## September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new school year and I hope you had a wonderful summer. The children have come back looking ready to learn and keen to do well. I spoke to them in our first assembly about high expectations around work, behaviour, respect for all and general attitude to life at school. They were all positive about this and I am confident the children will do their best to meet our high expectations.

### Welcome

I would like to give a warm St Martin's welcome to the new staff who have joined us. As Class Teachers we have Miss Doyle. As Teaching Assistants we have Mrs Witter and Mrs Foley. In Care Club, Mrs Sian Buckingham has joined us. I hope they are all very happy here and enjoy their time in our school.



### The Senior Leadership Team from September 2019

Head Teacher: Mrs N Morgan

Assistant Head Teacher: Yr1 – Yr2: Mrs M Button

Assistant Head Teacher: Yr3 – Yr4: Mrs Barnaville & Mrs Gallagher

Phase Leader: Yr5 - Yr6: Ms A Gherra

Early Years Leader: Mrs G Davies

If you have any concerns regarding your child, please make an appointment through the office. If you then feel that you wish to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team, please make an appointment to see the member of staff who is the Phase Leader. If you have any Pastoral Care concerns, then please make an appointment to see Mrs Jarvis.

### Head Girl and Boy

Congratulations to Eburn and Tia, who have been appointed as Head Boy and Girl for this year. They should be very proud to have been appointed to this role and I am sure they will be a great example to the rest of the school and carry out their duties with enthusiasm and pride.



### Term/holiday dates for the year

You will find the term/holiday dates for the year 2019-20 on the school website. Go to "The School" and then to "Term Dates". Please note there is a change to the dates that were published last year. **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January is now a staff training date and the end of the summer term is now the Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.** I apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause, but the January training has been organised by the Trust and all teaching staff are required to attend.

### Attendance and Leave of Absence Policy

The Attendance and Leave of Absence Policy is available on the school website. Go to "The School" and then "Policies". If you are intending to ask for leave of absence during term time for your child, then please read this policy first. **I am not able to grant leave for holidays.** I will be applying the policy very strictly throughout the year and would not like you to be disappointed or fined!

## Care Club

We hope that you are finding the new arrangements for the booking and payment for Care club through Parentmail useful. We know that there were a few teething problems, so thank you for your patience and understanding.

## Uniform

The children have all returned to school very smartly dressed in their uniforms. Could I please ask that **all uniform is labelled with your child's name and class**. 30 unnamed 'aged 5' sweatshirts or coats are not easily returned to the right owner and we already have lots of lost property!

## KS2 Dinner Money

If your child is in Year 3 or above and your child would like school dinners, please use your Parentmail account to pay for school dinners. Please use your credit/debit card to do this. If this causes you any difficulty, then please come into school to talk to one of the office staff.

If you have arrears from last term, can you please ensure that this is cleared by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September. We will be unable to provide a meal for your child if there is an existing debt and you will be asked to provide a packed lunch from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

Please see below the costs for dinner money this half term

This half term 3.09.19 – 18.10.19 (34 days)

Per Day	£2-10
Per Week (5 days)	£10.50
Half Term (6 weeks, 4 days)	£71.40

Please remember that if your child has a diagnosed food allergy, then if you have not already done so, you will need to complete and return the form that Edwards & Blake have sent to parents. Spare forms are available from the school office.

The Government's scheme for Universal Infant Free School Meals remains in force (for now!) so there will still be no charge for Reception and Years 1&2.

## Free School Meals

If your income is low or you are in receipt of benefits to supplement your income you might be eligible for Free School Meals for your child. To apply please contact Education Welfare, Luton Borough Council ([www.luton.gov.uk](http://www.luton.gov.uk) and search Free School Meals).



## Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy within our Care Club. Please contact Mrs Harris for more details.

## Collecting Children at the end of the day

Please remember that the person collecting your child from school needs to be aged 16 or over and to be known to the school. If for any reason you or the adult who usually collects is unable to do so, please let the school know in advance who will be collecting in your/their place.

If you wish your child to walk or cycle home from school without an adult and they are in Year 5 or Year 6, please send in a letter to confirm this.

When collecting from the KS2 playground, please keep younger children with you and do not let them climb on the playground equipment or ride bikes and scooters, as we do not want anyone to be hurt.

### Year Group Newsletters

Our year group newsletters, which provide an outline of what your child will be covering in each subject, will be on the school website ([www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk](http://www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk)) by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### Friday Activities

Thank you to the parents who have provided letters from their employers. Please can we remind parents that we require this information before offering a place for the activities. **This is only available for Yr1 - Yr6**

### Parents' Evenings

The dates for Parents' Evenings this term are as follows so please put them in your diary:

- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 4.00 - 6.30
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 6.00 - 8.30

Information will follow nearer the time about making appointments through Parentmail, so please do not call the school until this time.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are holding our annual coffee morning for Macmillan on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 9 - 11.20 am in the KS1 Hall. Come along and help us to raise funds to support this great charity. Please sign up via Parentmail preference.



### Key Dates

Please see the school website in the "Events Calendar" section for a complete list of events for this term - [www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk](http://www.stmartindepordesluton.co.uk).

Once again, it's great to see the children back to school (I'm sure you will agree!) and I look forward to meeting you all at various times over the term.

Kind regards

*N. J. Morgan.*

N J Morgan  
Head Teacher

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019

