

St Martin de Porres Primary School

October 2024



Dear Parents/Carers

Macmillan Coffee & Cake Morning and non-uniform day

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It was great to see so many parents at the coffee morning that was held last month. Thanks to your kindness, the coffee morning, along with the money donated through the non-uniform day, raised £460.00. Once again thank you so much for your generosity.

Harvest Celebration

Thank you for your generosity of donations for the Food Bank. Thanks to you, many families will benefit from this. It is wonderful to see Jesus message of 'Love one another' is demonstrated so beautifully through these donations.

Free School Meals (not to be confused with Universal Infant Free School Meals)

If your circumstances have changed since last completing the form regarding Free School Meals, then please complete a new online form via your local council website to see if you are now eligible. **Not only will your child receive a school meal and other benefits, such as subsidised school trips, music lessons and food vouchers to be used over the school holidays, but the school will also receive some extra funding. (If your child is in KS1, Reception or Nursery, you can still claim for Free School Meals).**

The school also has some access to vouchers for the Foodbank, coats and shoes. Please contact Miss Williams, our family Worker, if you need any additional support.

Wrap around care

We provide a breakfast club from 7.30am in the morning for parents needing child care before school starts. Please be aware that we can accommodate up to 30 children Monday - Thursday and only 20 children on Fridays and this needs to be booked in advance.

Playtarium offers after school care and bookings for this need to be made through their website. [Home \(playtarium.com\)](http://playtarium.com)

If you need to meet with the class teacher or any other member of staff, please speak to the school office to arrange an appointment or send a message via help@smdpluton.co.uk

Please **do not** approach teachers on the playground at the beginning or end of the school day, as they need to be supervising the children.

Attendance

Please find below the attendance for each class for the month of September. Well done to 5M & 2P for achieving the highest attendance.

Class	Percentage Attendance
1M	95.9
1P	98.3

2M	96
2P	99.2
3M	99
3P	96.8
4M	97.5
4P	96.7
5M	99.2
5P	95.2
6M	98
6D	95.1
6P	97.6
Totals Average	97.3

Instagram

Remember to follow us on Instagram @smdpluton to be kept up to date of the various activities and events happening in school.

Illnesses

If you child has been sick or has diarrhoea, they must be kept off school for 48 hours following the last episode. Please notify us immediately if your child has chicken pox, slapcheek or scarlet fever.

Please report all absences to the school office 01582 617600

October Half Term

Please remember that we now have a two week October half term. The children break up on Friday 18th October at the normal time and return on **Monday 4th November**.

Black History Month

During October we celebrated 'Black History Month'

Each year group has spent some time focusing on a different person prominent in Black History

EY - Bob Marley

Year 1 - Matthew Henson

Year 2 - Mary Seacole

Year 3 - Martin Luther King & Alma Thomas

Year 4 - Anthony Joshua, Marcus Rashford, Kobe Bryant & Simone Biles

Year 5 - Chris Ofili

Year 6 - The Windrush Generation

A BIG Thank you to the parents who volunteered to come into school to talk to children about their heritage, it is greatly appreciated!



Social Media Platforms

We are aware that some children have their own phones and tablets and are using apps such as Snapchat, Discord, Facebook, Instagram and many more. We are obliged to tell you that the **legal age** for these apps is **13 Years old** with the exception being Whatsapp which is **16 years old**. If you do allow your child access to such applications on their devices, it is **parental responsibility** to ensure that usage is monitored. In school all children are made aware of appropriate use of technology in their computing lessons and through other areas of the curriculum.

Football

Our football team, made up of boys from years 5 and 6, had their first football match of the year yesterday against Pirton Hill Primary School and won 2 - 1 Well done, a good start to the season. Thank you to the coaches from Think Sport, who have helped them with their training.

A huge congratulations to our newly appointed Faith Ambassadors who, along with the support of our Head Boy and Head Girl, were officially commissioned by +Bishop David at the recent school mass at St Mary's Church in Dunstable. We are sure that you will all be great role models.

It was nice to catch up with our former parish priest, Father Simon, who in Canon Michaels absence, is pictured below with our Faith Ambassadors, Head Boy and Head Girl.



Dates for this term

PLEASE NOTE THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR A TWO WEEK HALF TERM!

Date	Event
18.10.24	Break up for half term – Children return Monday 4 th November
8.11.24	Year 5 Remembrance Prayer & Liturgy
11.11.24	Remembrance service led by Head Boy & Head Girl Faith Ambassadors
13.11.24	Parents evening 3.45pm – 7pm Booking details will be sent after half term
14.11.24	Parents evening 5.30pm – 8pm Booking details will be sent after half term
3.12.24	Nursery nativity to parents
12.12.24	Christmas Service 5pm
11.12.24	Year R nativity to parents
17.12.24	Christmas Pantomime in school – Jack and the Beanstalk
18.12.24	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

Have a peaceful half term break.

We look forward to seeing you at further events over the next half term.

Kind regards



Mrs. A. Barnaville & Mrs, H.Gallagher

Co -Head Teachers

Friday 18th October 2024

