



St Margaret's Anfield

Church of England Primary School

Term: Autumn 1 | October 2019 Issue

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Tuesday 8th October at 10:30am, Y3 will be leading a Harvest Festival in Church. Please feel free to join us for this celebration. Please note that the Juniors will attend Church for the Service, the Infants will have their Festival in School.

We are inviting donations of non-perishable goods such as tinned food and dried packet food, which will be stored in Church and used for those who need support in the Parish.

STAR SESSIONS

As part of our school's ongoing focus on developing reading we have already had a couple of sessions which have been very enjoyable for parents and children alike. Please see the dates for your diary for Years 1, 2 and 3.

Year 3—**9th October**

Year 2—**15th October**

Year 1—**22nd October**

Reception sessions will be a little different this half term.

We are inviting parents and carers to a Reception Reading Workshop on Wednesday 16th October at 9:00am to look at how we teach and promote reading here at SMA.

SHOE BOX APPEAL

Please join us in supporting the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal. You can support this worthy cause by making a shoe box gift, bringing in spare shoe boxes or Christmas paper, or simply donating £2.50 towards the cost of transport.



PARENT/ CARER EVENING

You will soon receive a letter inviting you to attend a Parent/Carer meeting with your child's class teacher on:

Wednesday 23rd October 3:30pm – 6:30pm.

Please make every effort to attend to discuss how your child is settling in to his/her new year group.

'BEING SMA' MOBILE DISCO

Each week, I take my 'Mobile Disco' to a class who has demonstrated 'Being SMA.'

This means that the winning class have shown that they are kind to each other, they try hard to be in and on time and do their best in all they do. We get to have a dance and a drink of juice and celebrate our amazing pupils here at SMA.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am every morning. The cost is £1 and all children from Reception to Year 6 are welcome. A wide variety of food is available.

Children are NOT allowed to bring their own food.

INFORMATION

BIRTHDAY TREATS

We all know how excited children are about their birthdays and how much they want to share the celebrations with classmates. If you choose to send in a treat to celebrate your child's birthday, we will ask that pupils take them home for consumption. We suggest no more than a small packet of soft sweets, or something comparable. It must be remembered that some children in SMA have allergies/other medical conditions, religious or ethical beliefs and certain foods might be difficult for everyone to have. This is taken from page 7 of the Food & Nutrition Policy on our Website.



DINNER MONEY

School meals are available at a cost of £1.90 per day, (£9.50 per week). Since non-payment for school meals affects the quality of service we offer the children, we need to ensure that all payments are up to date. Governors have adopted the Liverpool City Council Policy with regard to dinner money debt. Letters will be sent out accordingly if parents fail to pay in a timely manner. You may be asked to provide a packed lunch for your child until the debt is cleared. Dinner money should be sent to school every Monday, in the green envelopes provided, and passed in to the school office. Thank you. May we remind you that trips, dinner monies etc. can now be paid for using SIMS Pay. For more information on the use of SIMS pay please visit <https://stmargaretsanfield.co.uk/simspay> or contact the school office.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

From 1st September 2013, the Department for Education changed the regulations regarding requests for family holidays during term time.

This means there is NO legal entitlement for parents to take their children on holiday during term-time. The new regulations also make it clear that Headteachers may not authorise the leave during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All exceptional requests for Leave of Absence in term time must be made on the form obtained from the office. Unauthorised forms will be submitted to the LA for consultation and a Penalty Fine may be issued.

BIKES

Many children bring their bikes to school which is a super healthy mode of transport. Please ensure that bikes are locked up securely in our bike shed. SMA cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage. If parents/carers choose to travel to school on their bikes also, we would respectfully ask them to dismount their bike once on site for the safety of our children, parents and staff.

DOGS

A reminder that apart from guide dogs, dogs (even those being carried/transported in another way) are not allowed on city council premises. Thank you for your co-operation.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

SECONDARY APPLICATIONS

You should have now received your letter for Year 6 to Year 7 transition to apply online through Liverpool City Council for a school place. Please note the deadline for Year 6 to Year 7 is 31st October. Please be aware that some Secondary Schools are already holding open evenings and their closing dates are sometimes earlier than LCC closing date of 31st October.

NURSERY – JANUARY INTAKE

Is your son/daughter eligible for our free 15 hours Nursery place or do you know somebody who would like to register their child? If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st December 2016, then please come along to our office and we can help you complete an application form so they can join us in January 2020. We will be holding a drop-in session on Wednesday 6th November between 2:00pm and 3:30pm to allow parents and children to visit our lovely nursery, meet our super team and enjoy coffee and cake. If you have any questions, please ask one of our Nursery or office staff for more details.

HEALTH & SAFETY

May we remind you that school opens at 8:00am. If you do arrive a little early please stand under the bike shelter and refrain from blocking the entrance door.

ROOFING UPDATE

Thank you so much for your patience during the roofing project. I am afraid that due to the weather, we have experienced significant delays.

RE UPDATE – PRAYER SPACES

Your son/daughter might talk to you about prayer spaces that we are creating in classrooms and around the school. These are special places where children (and staff) can go to be still, slow down, reflect or pray. Watch out for photographs of our lovely spaces which will be uploaded on our website soon.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Thursday 10th October is World Mental Health Day, To support our continued work with mental health and wellbeing our children will be participating in a range of fun activities to promote awareness of mental health and ways to help ourselves feel happy. Don't forget to ask your children what they have done throughout the day.

#HelloYellow

YOUNG Mi MINDS

Here are some useful links to resources:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/make-it-count-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/make-it-count-guide-for-pupils>

