



Welcome back!

We are very pleased to welcome children back on Monday this week. They've all been working hard and showing renewed commitment to their learning, impressing staff throughout the school. Staff had come back the previous INSET day for staff training where we explored lessons that can be learnt from early years practice, the new phonics programme that begin last half term and expectations in writing across the school. It was an unexpectedly busy start to the year with Ofsted visiting us on Tuesday. Staff were well prepared for the day which ran smoothly. As expected, the inspectors were very impressed with lots of what they saw, especially the children's attitudes and behaviour. Further details will follow in the weeks to come as Ofsted prepare their paperwork. There are a number of letters going out today and early next week, so please check book bags carefully.

Ms Luzmore

Clubs and boosters

Letters are going out today. Please return these as soon as possible at the latest Tuesday by 10am as Donna will be preparing clubs lists then. You will be notified by the end of the week if your child has a place.

Medical

Many thanks to everyone who has returned the forms sent out last year. Mrs Baker-Spencer has been in touch with many of you to clarify any issues. Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter.

Nut Allergy

A reminder that we have a number of children in school with significant allergies and as such we would insist that all products brought into school are nut-free. Thank you.

Curriculum letters

These are going out today. Please read through to see what your child will be working on and don't hesitate to contact teachers if you have any questions.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance at school is a key factor in ensuring all children here at SMMA have the best opportunities to fulfil their potential. Good attendance means, where possible, an overall attendance of **96% or above**. After a bout of ill health in the second half of term, our current overall attendance figure is 95%. We are confident this will pick up over the term, but please be mindful of regular missed days. Remember an attendance figure of 90% is the equivalent of one day off every two weeks and there is a risk that children will underachieve. Mrs Baker-Spencer will be in touch with any families whose attendance is low and meetings may be arranged to discuss how we can support improving attendance.

Assembly themes

This week **Ms Luzmore** told us the story of Misery Moo – a cow who changed her miserable ways and spoke about resolutions for ourselves, our school, the local community and globally. **Rev April** spoke about the helped children relate the story of the journey of the Magi to our golden values. **Mr Nutch** told the story of Abraham and Isaac and led us all in song to finish the week!



Dates for your diary for Spring Term

Dates for class assemblies and church services to follow in the first week back.

Friday 6 January	INSET day (no pupils)
Monday 9 January	First day back of term for pupils
Wednesday 18 January	Year 6 SATs info evening – 4.30pm
Thursday 19 January	Year 5 cake sale
Wednesday 25 January	Year 2 SATs info evening – 4.30pm
Monday 23 January	Clubs start
Tuesday 31 January	Year 5 – trip to London Zoo
Tuesday 31 January & Wednesday 1 February	Parents evening
Thursday 2 February	Parents Evening Year 3 only
Friday 3 February	Year 4 trip to Natural History Museum
Friday 10 February	Last day of half term
Monday 13 to Friday 17 February	Half term
Monday 20 February	First day back after half term
Tuesday 21 February or Wednesday 1 March	Bring a Parent to Lunch – Reception class
Wednesday 22 February or Tuesday 28 February	Bring a Parent to Lunch – Year 1 class
Tuesday 28 February	Year 6 trip to synagogue
Thursday 2 March	World Book Day (dress up)
Tuesday 7 March	Bring a Parent to Lunch – Year 2 class
Thursday 9 March	Year 3 trip to Science Museum
Thursday 23 March	Year 5 & 6 The Tempest Production
Thursday 23 March	Rec, 1,2,3,4 The Tempest Dance Production
Thursday 23 March	Year 3 cake sale
Friday 7 April	Last day of term