



Primary School Newsletter

3 November 2017

Clubs Due to staff safeguarding training, there are no clubs on Tuesday 7 Nov.

Winter is coming! Please remember to send your child in with jumpers and coats so that they are prepared for chillier journeys to and from school and break times. As it gets colder, we are happy for children to have hats or gloves during PE lessons and you may also wish to send in tracksuit bottoms rather than shorts. Please make sure all items are clearly labelled as this helps to reunite them with their owners. Thank you!



Please could we remind children to be aware of the way they arrive and leave school by scooter. Scooters should be **walked** directly to the storage space from the gate in the mornings and **walked** to the playground gate when leaving. With so many parents and children in the playground at the same time, we want to try and make sure we can avoid any accidents.

Making new friends!



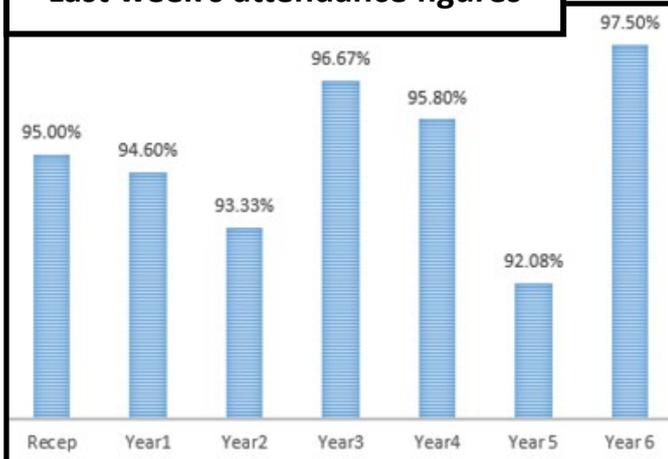
Reception class welcomed the **school tortoises** into their classroom this week. The tortoises usually reside on the green roof outside one of the school corridors, but need to spend the colder months of the year inside. Reception class were very excited to meet their new class companions and enjoyed examining their shells!

Zumbathon sponsorship
Congratulations to all those who have managed to collect their Zumbathon sponsorship money this week! We have been amazed by how much has been raised already, but we have only had around 40 children returning their forms this week—less than half the school! So if your child is still collecting their sponsor money (and we know there are quite a few), please make sure it comes in early next week so we can announce the grand total as soon as possible.

‘Save the Air’ project Well done to our 'Save the Air, Walk There' team from Year 4, 5 and 6 who have been working hard over the past month to learn about the causes, problems and solutions around the issue of air pollution in our local area. They carried out an investigation to identify how far they could walk in 5 or 10 minutes and created a map to illustrate the distances. This will be sent out as a leaflet, with the purpose of encouraging people to walk/scoot/ride to school as much as possible, rather than arrive by car. As part of the project, we have had an air quality monitor installed outside the school entrance, and will be presenting information and data on a screen, every day, at the top of the playground. The team did a great job presenting the project to the rest of the school and were joined by BBC weather presenter Helen Young to tell us about the importance of clean air and how we can help improve the environment around us. Thanks to Rosie, Adam, Tristan, Gwen, Stacey, Vadim, Yaser, Ellie and Samiah



Last week's attendance figures



We will **highlight** new dates added in to the newsletter as events are booked in. Please check to keep your diary up to date!

Dates for your diary

November

Mon 6 - Year 4 trip to Horniman museum

Mon 6—Book sale in the playground after school

Tues 7—Year 5 & 6 Millfield Theatre trip 11.00 - 1.00pm

Thur 9—Year 1 Parent lunch 12.15pm

Thur 9—Year 5 Sayer's Croft meeting 5pm

Fri 10—Year 2 class assembly - 3pm

Wed 15—Year 2 Parent lunch 12.15pm

Fri 17—Phonics workshop for parents with PTSA coffee morning—9am

Fri 17— Year 1 class assembly—3pm

Tues 21—Reception Class Parent lunch 12pm

Thur 23—Phonics workshop for parents – 3.45pm

Fri 24- Year 5 class assembly - 3pm

Wed 29 - Flu vaccine Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4—return consent forms please asap.

Thur 30—Year 6 trip to The Guardian

December

Fri 1 - Year 4 class assembly—3pm

Tues 5—Year 3 Parent lunch 12.30pm

Thur 7—PTSA Christmas Fair after school

Fri 8 - Year 3 class assembly—3pm

Thur 14 - Christmas Show for children - Cinderella

Fri 15—Reception, Year 1 and 2 Nativity in Secondary Hall—times TBC

Tues 19—KS2 Carol Concert at St Mary St Mary Magdalene Church—5.30pm

Wed 20—Christmas Church Service at St Mary Magdalene Church—2.15 pm

Maths - Key Instant Recall Facts

Beginning a new half term means starting a new Key Instant Recall Fact! Your child's teacher will be sending home their objective for this half term with some ideas on how to help at home. Each class have done their first lesson on the objective and will be continuing to learn and practise this at a pace appropriate for them. The aim is that the children can recall the facts being learned promptly without the need to spend a lot of time calculating the answer. **Miss Eastlake—maths lead**

Phonics workshop Teachers from Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be delivering two phonics workshops in the next few weeks. Dates and times are highlighted in the diary. The purpose of these is to introduce what is taught in each year group and how it is taught through the Sounds Write programme we follow. Phonics is just one aspect of how we deliver reading provision in the school, but an essential skill in early reading. All welcome.

PTSA News:

The PTSA is all about building our school community and raising funds to enrich our children's education. We have just had our annual AGM and elected new joint chairs—Leah Wells and Jo Richards.

Please come and join us for coffee mornings every Friday after drop off. Come for a chat with friends, to find out what's going on, and how to get involved. We'll also be having a few slots from the teachers on different, useful topics to help us support our children's learning.

This year's PTSA focus is raising money for the playground improvements.

The **Christmas fair is coming up on 7th December**, and we're planning an **auction of promises for 2018** so start thinking about what you might be able to offer. Keep up to date through our **Facebook page - search SMMA Primary - PTSA.**

Book sale On Monday, after school, we shall be selling a range of books in the playground. There will be a variety of books for children of different ages, as well as some books that parents may be interested in. ALL the proceeds from the sale will go towards our funds to improve our playground