



## School-Wide News

### **Year 6 Secondary Transition Meeting**

We are going to host a Zoom meeting for all parents and carers of year 6 children to support you with your applications to secondary schools. **This will be held on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of September at 4pm** (Zoom link to be emailed nearer the time). In this meeting, we will go through the key aspects of how to apply for secondary schools as well as talk through what your options are and how you might approach your decision-making to give you the best chance of getting a school you are happy with. It would be great if as many of you as possible could be there as some of the advice is useful for everyone to hear, even if you feel confident that you have already made your decisions.

### **Food and Drink Reminders**

Please remember that we are asking all children to bring a clean, full water bottle to school each day. We are sending children home with these each day to be cleaned and refilled as part of our enhanced hygiene expectations. The water fountains are currently switched off and we don't want children using the classroom sinks to refill their water bottles at the moment due to the risks of cross-transmission.

Please also remember that we have a 'No Nuts' policy for all food that is brought into school. This is to protect some of our children who have serious allergies from being inadvertently exposed to something that can be very dangerous for them. We also have a 'No Sesame' policy for the same reason, so please don't send your child with hummus into school.

### **Mental Health Badge**

In March 2020, we were awarded the Mental Health and Wellbeing Badge from Bristol Healthy Schools. We are really pleased that we successfully achieved this reward in recognition of the work we do with all of our children. Thank you to all of the staff who helped put together our application for this award, in particular Hayley Hayes, who leads on lots of our Healthy Schools work.

Here is the write-up from Bristol Healthy Schools:

*Southville Primary School has worked hard to create a culture that supports good mental health. This can be seen in their work to tackle bullying, including engagement in anti-bullying week campaigns and ensuring that bullying is included as a standing item on the school council agenda. They have consulted staff and pupils about their mental health and put things in place following feedback, including worry boxes, a quiet room and lunch clubs to offer a range of safe and stimulating activities. The school engages well with parents and promotes resources to encourage parent's awareness of the mental health of children, including drop-ins, mental health support evenings and parent gym.*

### **Communicating with Staff**

We have received feedback from some parents and carers that some of you are finding it tricky not being able to quickly pass on messages to class teachers in the mornings. We're sorry that things aren't as fluid as they normally are and want to make sure that we keep communicating with you about your children. If something is a quick message, e.g. a change to who is collecting your child that day, you can tell the member of staff who is on the gate and ask them to pass it on to the class teacher. If you would like to have a chat with your child's class teacher or have a question that you'd like answering, please email [Southville.p@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:Southville.p@bristol-schools.uk) and ask for the teacher to give you a call. We'll get back to you as soon as we are able.



### **Families in Focus Parenting Courses**

Please find attached information regarding Families in Focus parenting courses that will be starting this term. Each course has a different focus depending on the needs of a particular child or family. Most courses are being held over Zoom for the time being, with a small number of face-to-face ones. Please do take a few minutes to see what is available. We have had really positive feedback regarding these courses in the past.

### **Food Bank**

We are still operating our school Food Bank to support as many families in our school community as we can. If you would like to donate, we're currently short of pasta, pasta sauces, tuna, cereal, long-life milk, tinned veg (sweetcorn is always good), coffee, tea, washing-up liquid, shampoo and shower gel. Please drop any donations on the table outside the school office at Myrtle Street for us to add to the Food Bank. We can also take financial donations but would prefer supermarket vouchers if at all possible.

If you would like to access the Food Bank for your family, please contact Paula Mathias by emailing [paula.mathias@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:paula.mathias@bristol-schools.uk) or by calling the school mobile on 07745 954 213.

### **Flu Vaccinations**

Our annual flu vaccinations for children are booked in for Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of November at both sites. We have sent out consent forms with the children this week. Please return them as soon as possible, but no later than Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2020.

## **Reception News**

We have been so impressed with how well the children have settled over this last week. We would like to say well done to all of them for coming in to the classroom, putting their things away and sitting on the carpet ready to start our morning. You are all superstars! We've been so lucky with the weather this week and the children have had lots of fun exploring our outdoor area.

### **Morning drop-offs at the gate**

Next week will be the last week that parents will be able to come onto site to drop off the children in the morning. We would recommend encouraging them to begin coming through the gate by themselves next week in preparation for the week beginning the 28th September. Well done to those children who are already doing this! If your child is finding this difficult, we recommend that you take them for a walk or to the back of the line to try again. A member of staff will then be able to assist them through the gate. We ask that any messages are emailed to the office for the attention of the class teacher so that the members of staff on the gate can focus on bringing the children in.

### **Afternoon pick-ups at the gate**

We will now be holding up class pictures alongside calling names, as we appreciate it has been difficult for parents at the back of the line to hear when their class is being called. The order will remain the same: Starfish first, then Jellyfish, followed by Octopus.



### **Snacks**

Our school fruit and milk scheme is now underway. This means that you do not have to send your child to school with a snack, as there will be food available for them. If you would still like to send snacks from home, please make sure it is only one, healthy snack i.e. one piece of fruit, one cereal bar, one packet of raisins etc.

### **Tapestry**

Please inform your class teacher if you have not yet had a permission form for Tapestry. We are currently uploading all the new children to the system, so we will let you know when you can access their observations.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Reception Team

## **PTA News**

Welcome back everyone, especially all new parents and carers. As a parent/carer, you automatically belong to the Southville Primary PTA. We are parents, carers and teachers who work together to raise funds to support every child in the school. The money we have raised in the past has funded things like playground equipment, library computers and books, music workshop and the school chickens...and many more.

**PTA meetings:** We usually meet once per term. This term, our meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 7:30pm (more details next week).

**Plans for this year:** At the moment, our plans for this year are the Christmas cards, tea towels and possibly some online events such as balloon racing.

**Cash donations:** Some parents have asked if they can make donations to the PTA. We are currently looking into this (fees on different platforms).

**Class reps:** Each class has a class representative who passes on PTA information to their whole class. If anyone would like to be the class rep for each Reception and Preschool class, please contact the PTA. Also, if someone would like to step down as class rep, please let us know.

**Contact:** [Southville.primary.pta@gmail.com](mailto:Southville.primary.pta@gmail.com)

Please join [Southville Primary PTA Facebook](#) page to keep up-to-date.