

IMPORTANT DATES:

Explorer Dome visiting

~ Wednesday 16th and
Thursday 17th September

Skip2BeFit Workshops ~

Wednesday 23rd
September

INSET DAY

~ Friday 23rd October
2020

HALF-TERM

~ Monday 26th to Friday
30th October

TERM TWO BEGINS

~ Monday 2nd November

**History Learning Enquiry
Launch**

~ Monday 2nd November

**Parliament Week ~ 1st to
7th November**

**Children in Need ~ Friday
13th November**

**Odd Socks Day ~
Monday 16th November**

DON'T FORGET

**PE Kits to be
back in school
on Monday.**

Thank you

INSET days for 2020/2021

School closed for all pupils

Friday 23rd October 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Friday 12th February 2021

Friday 5th March 2021

Friday 18th June 2021

Dear Parent and Carers

Our first full week in school seems to have flown by and it has been so lovely to see so many exciting learning opportunities taking place across the school. We are also sending out our first edition of the 'Learning Week' today alongside the newsletter. It is full of information regarding our Learning Enquiry '**Here We Are**'. Over this half-term there will be a real focus on catching up in Geography, Art, Science and Physical Education as well as English and Maths.

As promised last week, I would like to share our new school values that were voted for by children, parents and staff last year. Our new school Values are **Joy, Kindness, Honesty, Respect and Forgiveness**. Over the year we will have a termly focus on each one. There has been a lot of joy at seeing everyone in school and meeting you all at the start and end of the day over the last 8 days. This half-term will be special as we will be looking at how as a school and wider community we will share and be true to all these values.

As you will understand there are many, many, many things that need to be considered in these COVID times and we are doing everything we can to make sure that we can give the children the best possible learning experience as well as trying to cause as little disruption to life as possible. On that note...

Next week we have the **Science Explorer Dome** visiting us over two days. Last year the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Human Body when they visited. On Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th children in Lemon, Oak, Pine, Aspen, Willow, Gold and Platinum Classes will be experiencing an **Earth and Space** workshops as part of our Learning Enquiry 'Here We Are'. As a school we have been given a kind donation towards the cost of this experience and therefore we are not asking for any contributions. The Explorer Dome is an inflatable structure which the children enter. Due to COVID-19, we have carefully considered the safety of all the children and staff with extra cleaning taking place between the corridor bubbles. **If for any reason you do not want your child to take part please let the office know by Tuesday morning at the latest.**

Please remember to bring your P.E kits back in on Monday as we are spending time outside as much as we can.

Have a great weekend; we can't wait for Monday!

Mrs Parfitt,
Head teacher and
Specialist Leader in Education

Lemon Class enjoying our new Balance Bikes



COVID 19 update

Last week alongside the newsletter we sent out a reminder about all our procedures for the school day which we have attached again. We receive daily updates from the Department for Education and Public Health. We are dealing with lots of new National Health systems and guidance and we appreciate your support with implementing these for the safety of all pupils and staff.

We are grateful to parents for their vigilance, where children are showing signs of COVID, in keeping their children at home and participating in testing when appropriate. We are aware, that in the coming weeks and months, with winter on its way, testing will become more common. We will always notify families and staff of any positive results and required advice around bubble closure.

The current guidance states that if anyone in an education or childcare setting becomes unwell with a:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) they must be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance.

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

PLEASE NOTE: We are doing our very best but particularly during these first few weeks, we will want all of the children to get to and from their bubbles safely and feel confident about where they are based which may take a little extra time particular initially so we would appreciate your continued patience and support of social distancing measures. At the end of the day we are ensuring children wash their hands before leaving and would like to thank you for your patience with any

Be a H.E.R.O. (Be Here, Everyday, Right On-time)

At St Martin's Garden we ensure that every child gets the best education, maximising opportunities for each pupil to achieve their full potential. This can only be accomplished if children attend school every day and on time. Thank you for your support with arriving on time. This week children will be coming home with their first attendance character card to collect. There are six to collect across the term.

If your child is late you will need to ring the office and a staff member will need to be come out of your child's corridor bubble, walk around the outside of the building to collect them. Please remember class room doors are open from 8.45 am onwards and close at 8.55am. Your continued help with arriving on time is very much appreciated.

Our **Breakfast Club** has reopened. It is **£1.00 per week and is open from 7.30 am**. Places are limited for each Bubble at the moment so please contact the office to see if we have a space in your child's Bubble.

Class Emails & Communication

We always have a member of the leadership team on the gates at Drop Off and Pick Up - so any important messages can be shared with them. We have set up **dedicated email accounts** for each of our classes this year which you can use to contact the class teachers if you need to pass on any information.

Class teachers, by nature, spend their days teaching their classes and then preparing lessons, resources, planning and assessing for classes and attend professional development meetings after school so may not get to their emails as promptly as they are rarely sat by a computer all day. Feel free to give the email a go though, just to say hello and share anything you think relevant for the year ahead or ask any questions you may have.

So please understand that teachers may not be able to respond immediately to an email that day and they will not be checking them at weekends. If you have more of an urgent query/question/need to share information, then please use the usual channels of calling the school office or emailing school@stmartinsgarden.org.uk. For quicker attention; the office team are present during the hours of 8.30-4.00pm and they will take any calls and answer emails. They will pass on the information to the class teacher.

Class emails are listed below:

Plum@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Oak@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Aspen@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Bronze@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Gold@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Lemon@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Pine@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Willow@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

Silver@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

PlatinumClass@stmartinsgarden.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS ~ Have you changed **your mobile number, email or address**?

Please let the school office know so we can update our records, either email

School@stmartinsgarden.org.uk or phone 01225 832112. Thank you.