

Dear Parent / Carer,

The start of the new school year has been particularly busy this year and we are delighted with the way the children have settled into the school. Many of our new recruits are so settled that they look like they have been here for years!!

We are very happy to announce that Bush Babies are now settled in their new home in the bungalow by the front gate, it is very exciting that we are now able to accommodate children from the age of 7 months to 2 years and then they can move on to Chimps and Monkeys as they grow. They will truly be "Monkspath Children" by the time they have progressed right the way through to Year 6!

It is always good to see parents coming into school in the mornings particularly when settling the younger children into class, however now the children are more confident we are asking ALL PARENTS if you could help us to ensure a sharp start to the day at 9 am. prompt by:

- Getting your child/ren to school punctually for a prompt 9 am. start in the classrooms. The doors to school open at 8.45 am. to give you plenty of time to settle them.
- Helping your child/ren to be independent by encouraging them to put more of their own things away in the cloakroom and classroom. Once you have done 'busy work' with your child, make sure you leave the classrooms and corridors before 9 am. so that the teacher can be ready to call the register at 9 am. prompt.
- Make sure that you leave the building by the side doors and not from the front door as a matter of routine.
- Make sure you **DO NOT** open any locked doors.
- Perhaps if your child has now moved onto Juniors he/she could come into school independently as this would ease the congestion in the corridors. Obviously if you need to see the teacher you are always welcome.

We appreciate your co-operation in ensuring the school is a happy, welcoming and safe environment for all of our children and staff.

W J Hutchinson

Headteacher.



We are particularly pleased with the recent addition of the lockers for children in Years 3, 4 and 6 which means children can keep all of their belongings together in one place and the additional storage which has been created in all areas of the School.

This has been a very big project that we have been saving hard for and which has been funded in part, by the PTA and the Years 6 Enterprise activity. We thank them for their efforts in raising funds for this project and look forward to being able to introduce more lockers around the school for additional year groups when funding permits.

As a school we take the safety of children very seriously and with this in mind have extended our Bikeability courses to include Years 3 & 4 details of which have already been circulated. Year 5 will take part in their usual course later in the year.

As part of the promotion of bikeability and to ensure children who attend any of the courses and maybe ride outside of school the Road Safety Team have compiled a promotional video to explain the areas that need checking to ensure the bike and the trainee are safe to ride.

Please follow the link below:

<https://youtu.be/iLGXp6Rm0aE>



The Greener Solihull Schools Award.

The Greener Solihull Schools Awards challenge children and staff to learn about the environment locally and globally, and make their school more eco-friendly.

Pupils are challenged to raise awareness and improve their schools' Environment and the school has engaged in three local or national Awareness Campaigns linked to sustainability.

We are delighted to say that we have achieved all three levels of this Award.

Well done to all involved.



On Friday 21st September, our Eco group left school very early to travel to London for the National Water Explorers Celebration event.

We were one of the top three schools in the country whom were invited to this event.

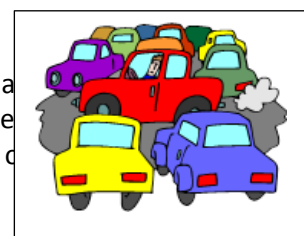
After talking to the judges and making a presentation of all the work we have been doing we are delighted to say that **WE WON the National Water Explorer Award!** This also means that we will be going forward to represent the whole of the UK in the next International round. This means that the team will be back to London in a month's time for the International event with the representatives from 11 other countries. Well Done Monkspath Water Explorers and huge thanks to Mrs O'Keefe too.

Parking

We are constantly receiving complaints from our neighbours and concerned parents about the way in which our parents park or drop children off in Shelly Crescent and the surrounding roads. Some parents are parking across driveways and then being particularly rude to the home owner when asked to move along so they can access their driveway. Shelly Crescent is a particularly busy road during the early morning drop off and afternoon pick up times. All this additional traffic combined with the normal bus route traffic is making crossing the road particularly hazardous for families walking to school. We have been advised by our Police Liaison Officer that anyone "parking in a way that will cause a danger to pedestrians or causing an obstruction on the highway" **will be prosecuted.** Please also take care of the Car Park and ALWAYS follow the arrows when travelling around the Car Park. Many of our children are very little and are very difficult to see when parents are reversing into or out of spaces.

NEEDLESS TO SAY DO NOT PARK ON YELLOW LINES OUTSIDE SCHOOL.

Please help us keep our children safe.



No Nuts

May we remind parents / carers that the school operates a NO NUTS Policy. Many of our children are allergic to nuts, indeed we have had an incident in the past when a child had to go to hospital suffering from Anaphylactic Shock as she accidentally came into contact with a product containing nuts, even though she did not actually eat them. Even Peanut Butter and Nutella/chocolate spread can cause problems for children with a nut allergy. Please help us keep our children safe by ensuring that all food sent into school is nut free.



P.T.A. A.G.M.

**May we remind you that the PTA AGM will be held tomorrow
27th September in the Library Area.**

Please enter school via the Main Office Door.

We do hope you can come along and help support the school.

SCHOOL TERM HOLIDAY DATES 2018 – 2019

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Monday 3rd September – Friday 26th October
Half Term Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November
Monday 5th November – Friday 21st December

SPRING TERM 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 15th February
Half Term Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February
Monday 25th February – Friday 12th April

SUMMER TERM 2019

Monday 29th April – Friday 24th May
Half Term Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May
Monday 3rd June – Monday 22nd July

In-Service Training Days – Year 2018 – 2019

Monday 3rd September 2018
Tuesday 4th September 2018
Monday 7th January 2019
Friday 28th June 2019
Monday 22nd July 2019

We have also attached a further copy of the School Calendar for your information.