



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

I am pleased and delighted to inform you that the children have continued this week in the very positive manner in which they returned to school last week. They are clearly relieved to be back and are enjoying their learning and being with their friends and classmates again. The children have also adapted to the measures that we have put in place in order to keep all our school community safe and have been very sensible in following them.

#### **Contact Details**

If you have recently changed your telephone number or home address then please contact the school office so that your details can be updated for our school records. If you wish to change the names of people on the pick-up list then should you also please inform the school office.

#### **Turn On The Subtitles Campaign**

We wanted to let you know how this brilliantly simple, free, small change to children's existing TV viewing habits can drastically improve their reading skills. Here is Stephen Fry to explain the benefits of turning on the subtitles in more detail. [www.turnonthesubtitles.org/parents](http://www.turnonthesubtitles.org/parents)

#### **Homework**

For the remainder of this term, homework will consist of reading and key skills. This will mean:

- A phonics activity, reading book and practical maths activity for Reception and Year 1
- A phonics activity, reading book and Mathletics/TT Rockstars for Year 2
- Spellings, a reading book and Mathletics/TT Rockstars for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Homework will be set on a Thursday and reading books will be sent home on a Friday.

#### **Parent Consultations**

Parent Consultation meetings for parents and carers of pupils in EYFS, Year 2 and Year 3 will take place via telephone on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th March. A very big thank you to all parents and carers who have already booked an appointment. If you have not yet booked an appointment, then contact your child's class teacher to do so.

#### **Parents and Teachers Association (PTA)**

A PTA is a great way to bring together parents, teachers and our local community to support the school. While we have a small but active and committed PTA at the moment, we are very keen to get more parents and carers involved. If you are interested, then please feel free to attend the next meeting of the PTA at school on Friday 26th April at 2.15. If you are unable to make this meeting we would still love to hear your suggestions and ideas and so you can send them to the email address we have set up specifically for this purpose: [PTA@marshill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@marshill.bham.sch.uk). Alternatively you can speak with the following staff points of contact: Mrs. Campbell, Ms. Williamson or Mrs. Mynett. All parents are welcome and wanted, and everyone will have skills that can help. We are grateful of any time that can be contributed, whether that is weekly or once per year.



## The National Census

The national Census is taking place on 21st March. The census is a survey that happens every 10 years in order to give a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. The information the government gets from it helps them to plan for the future and make decisions on planning and funding public services in your area, including transport, education and healthcare. You are required by law to complete the Census and every household must submit it. You can be fined £1000 if you do not complete the Census. This time, the Census needs to be completed online. You will receive a letter in the post with an access code that is unique to your address. Instructions on how to complete the Census are detailed in the letter. Every household should complete the census on or before Sunday 21st March, 2021 or as soon as possible after. There are a lot of resources available online to help at <https://census.gov.uk/help> If English is not your first language, you can access Census guidance in a number of different languages at:

<https://census.gov.uk/help/languages-andaccessibility/languages>

## School Dates

### Spring Term 2021

School closes for Easter: Thursday 1st April, 2021

### Summer 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19th April, 2021

School closes for Half Term: Friday 28th May, 2021

Return to school: Monday 7th June 2021

School closes for Summer: Tuesday 20th July 2021

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that school is shut Monday May 3rd, 2021 as this is a Bank Holiday; and on Thursday May 7th, 2021 for Local Elections, as school is required to be used as a Polling Station.

School will also be closed to pupils on Wednesday 12th May for staff training.

I wish you all a safe, peaceful and enjoyable weekend.

Head Teacher