**Welcome back to a fantastic new school year!**

A particular welcome to all our new **pupils** throughout the school, from Nursery to Class 6, and to a number of new **staff**: Miss Kilgore (Class 3); Ms. Soper (sharing with Mrs. Newland in Class 5); Ms. Peschel & Ms. Humphries, our two new (SMSAs) dinnerladies; and Mrs. Coombe (Clerk to Governors). Other than that, our staff remains basically the same, although they have moved around a bit over the summer and we have updated our class structure.

Little Acorns (Nursery) Dee, Val & Abbie

Little Oaks (Reception) Miss Hamblin, with Mrs Lock

Class 1 Mrs Roberts (Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays) & Mrs Martin (Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays), with Mrs Webb

Class 2 Mrs Adamson, with Mrs Clapperton

Class 3 Miss Kilgore, with Mrs Day

Class 4 Miss Mulroy, with Mrs Appleby

Class 5 Mr Newland (Mondays & Tuesdays) & Ms. Soper (Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays)

Class 6 Mrs Currey

Mrs Fenton & Mrs Gallimore will be supporting learning in a number of classes.

A reminder at the start of the year that we ask that parents wait outside at the end of the school day – the children will come out to you. There should only be a need to come in to school if you need to meet with a classteacher – we are encouraging the children to become more independent at the start and end of the day. We will all benefit!

**Term dates for the academic year**

 **Autumn Term 1 2018**

 Autumn break Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November

 **Autumn Term 2 2018**

 Begins Monday 5th November

 Ends Thursday 20th December

 [School closed INSET 2 Friday 21st December]

 **Spring Term 3 2019**

 Begins Monday 7th January

 Spring break Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February

 **Spring Term 4 2019**

 Begins Monday 25th February

 Ends Friday 5th April

 **Summer Term 5 2019**

 Begins Tuesday 23rd April

 May Day Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

 Whitsun break Monday 27th – Friday 31st May

**Summer Term 6 2019**

 Begins Monday 3rd June

 Ends Friday 19th July

 [School closed INSETs 4 & 5 Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July]

One more INSET 3 date to be agreed by governors, likely to be Friday 15th February OR Friday 5th April

**Notices & Reminders:**

**School diary dates:**

**September**

Mon 10th – Weds 12th Y5 & 6 residential camp (Great Wood)

Fri 14th 9.00 PTA welcome coffee meeting

Mon 17th am. Class 6 swimming starts (until

 Christmas)

Tues 25th 6.15 Governors AGM

**October**

Weds 3rd Harvest festivals

Tues 23rd & Weds 24th parent-teacher consultations

Fri 26th end of Term 1

**November**

Mon 5th end of Term 2

* All **lunches** for this term should have been ordered. We can no longer make changes mid-term, so these will stay in place until Term 2
* All children should have their basic **PE kit** (named) in school on their peg at all times:

Daps / trainers Black shorts White T-shirt

A basic kit in a school-logo bag is available – please ask at the office for details

* Next week, all parents will receive the **data collection sheets** we currently hold for your child. It is vital that you return these to the office ASAP as they are our master list of all contact details in the case of an emergency
* The children will be encouraged in class to stand as a candidate for their year group in the **School Council** election in the next few weeks. They will find out more in class lessons, but they will have a lot of important business to discuss this term!

**Ofsted**

This week we received our inspection report. The full report is available to read on our school website: [www.stmaryswrithlington.co.uk](http://www.stmaryswrithlington.co.uk) If you would prefer to read your own paper copy, please ask at the office, where staff will be pleased to provide a copy. A few headlines taken from the report:

* **There is no change in the school’s current overall effectiveness grade of good…**
* A strong feature of the school is its full and engaging curriculum.
* Pupils and parents are positive about how teachers help pupils to stay healthy…
* …pupils behave well and work hard.
* “The school atmosphere is positive and welcoming.”
* **Safeguarding is effective.**
* Pupils say that they feel safe in school and parents are confident this is the case.

School leaders will be compiling an action plan as part of the School Development Plan to address issues raised:

* Checking the impact of actions on raising standards
* Teaching more challenging maths
* Strengthening the quality of teaching in the Nursery
* Better communication of safeguarding procedures and our approach to tackling bullying