



ST. LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD CATHOLIC NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL
 SERVING THE COMMUNITY
 LICKERS LANE
 WHISTON
 KNOWSLEY L35 3SR
 Head Teacher: Mrs J Grundy www.stleossouthmead.co.uk
 Telephone: 0151 477 8410 stleo.de@knowsley.gov.uk

Monday 4th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Year 5

I am delighted to be returning to school after the summer break and I am very excited at the prospect of teaching your child. I am looking forward to a positive and enriching year, ensuring that your child has a very enjoyable experience.

Year 5 is a fun year and your child will continue to develop essential learning and life skills. On **Tuesday 12th September** and **Tuesday 19th September** your child will be trained to use their bicycles safely on the road. Further details will follow tomorrow. Throughout the year, your child will continue to enjoy our theme weeks/celebrations, have the opportunity to represent their school, visit The Walker Art Gallery and experience performing as part of their English learning. In July, the children will have the opportunity to visit Crosby Lakeside, where they will take part in raft building and kayaking. It will be a busy, challenging and rewarding year for all the children in my Class.

From time to time you may wish to discuss something with me and this is never a problem. Please either ring, e mail or write me a quick note to arrange a meeting at a time convenient to yourself.

Further information is given below about the coming school year. A copy of this welcome pack is available on our website www.stleossouthmead.co.uk.

Attendance

As part of our 'Achieve and Enjoy' we celebrate attendance with rewards and prizes. Attendance is reported on our school website and our class will have their own attendance celebration each Friday afternoon. Recognition, certificates and rewards will be celebrated on this day, including punctuality certificates.

We strive at St. Leo's and Southmead for every child to be happy and their voice be heard. It is so important that your child attends school every day. If you are in doubt whether their illness means they should stay off school, please send your child to school and we will contact you if needed. If your child is unable to attend school please contact school **on each day of absence** and **send a note** on their return to explain their absence.

Help and support is available within school if you feel there are any difficulties in you child attending regularly.

Punctuality

Please make sure that your child arrives to school on time (8.55am). The classroom doors are open at 8.45am. Lessons begin the minute your child enters the classroom. If you are experiencing any difficulties ensuring your child is punctual, please arrange a meeting with myself and I will do my best to support you.

Water

It has been scientifically proven that children having constant access to water helps improve their learning. Therefore, can you please provide your child with a water bottle daily. **The water bottle needs to have a sports cap.** Please do not send in flavoured water or juice. Please do not freeze the water as it can damage your child's learning books when it melts.

Uniform

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform and **has their name in everything , including their coat.** Missing school uniform is usually returned to its owner when their name is clearly identifiable. Their school uniform is a reflection on the class, especially when we are out of school or have visitors into the classroom. As in line with the school policy, the children should come to school wearing plain black shoes.

Money and messages

Please ensure that all money is put in an envelope marked with your child's name and what the money is for. Please do not hand me money at the door, as it can be confusing who has given me what and what for. Could I also ask that any messages are written in a letter/note, as verbal messages can be forgotten.

Book Club

Mrs Parry will be continuing Book Club on Tuesdays. This is a great opportunity for your child to become interested in books and lifelong readers! Children in Year 5 are chosen each week to assist in Book Shop, sharing their love of reading with younger children.

P.E.

P.E. is a compulsory lesson, just like English and Maths, that your child must take part in. Your child's P.E. lesson is on a **Thursday afternoon**. Please make sure your child has a full PE kit (plain black shorts, white T-shirt and pumps – **with their name on everything**) PE kits can be kept in school every day and sent home at half terms to be washed. It is important that your child wears the correct P.E. kit, as they might be asked to represent the school for specific sporting activities and visit other schools.

Spellings

Your child will be sent home every Friday with a list of spellings. They will be taught these on the following Monday on this day and would benefit from spending 5/10 minutes daily to practise them. They will be tested on these spellings on the following Friday.

Long Term plan and Curriculum

Information about your child's learning during their time in Year 5 can be found on the website. Tips are included to help you support your child at home. Your child could use this as a guide and maybe do their own research before a topic is taught. Each half term, I will send home a hints and tips guide for their learning.

Homework

This is offered to your child to reinforce their learning. Therefore, I think homework can be really valuable.

Your child will receive homework on a Friday and I ask for it to be returned on the following Wednesday, so I can mark it. It provides the opportunity for child to develop the habit of completing homework, which is compulsory when they start High School.

Your child has been given black school bag in a previous year. A school reading book will be sent home (in their black book bag). These books will be read by other children, so can I ask you to please make sure your child looks after it. Your children will be encouraged to read their book daily in school and an adult will listened to them read once a week. If possible could they please to bring their book every day, so that your child can continue to read with an adult in school and their book can be changed as often as is needed.

If there is any specific homework you would like your child to be given, please do not hesitate to contact myself at school.

If you have any comments regarding homework, please contact myself. I will then arrange a meeting or telephone conversation so you can discuss these.

Transition to High School

Although the children will not be transferring to High School for a couple of years, the transition programme begins in Year 5. They will attend a Quiz Day at The Prescott School (formerly Knowsley Park Centre for Learning).

Upcoming events

W/B 3 rd September	Geography Week
Fri 28/29 th September	Poetry Day
W/B 16 th October	Art Week
Thurs 19th October	Parents Evening 5pm- 8pm – Appointments tbc
W/B 30 th October	History Week
W/B 13 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Fri 17 th November	Children in Need- Cake Sale- contributions welcome
Fri 24 th November	Composer Day
W/B 27 th November	Maths Week
Thurs 7 th December	Year 5 Christmas Performance
W/B 11 th December	DT Week
Thu 14 th December	Whole School Christmas Film Night- 3.15pm – 4.45pm
Wed 19 th December	Christmas Dinner
Thur 20 th December	Christmas Party- food contributions welcome

I'm really looking forward to teaching your child this year and I am sure your child will enjoy their time in year 5.

Thank you

Miss Morris

Year 5 – 2016/17

Name of Child: _____

Could you please supply the school with an up to date contact number and emergency number.

Contact number and name _____

Emergency Number and name _____

Has your child got any allergies or other medical information you wish to disclose?
If so please give details below:

I give permission for my child to have their photograph taken or video taken, which may be used on the school website.

Yes No (please circle)

My child can walk home alone Yes No (please circle)

Preferred time for parent's evening appointments _____

Signed _____

Hints and tips to help your child at home

- It is important for your child's learning and well being that they are in bed and asleep at a reasonable time. It has been scientifically proven that watching television and playing on computers, tablets and games can hinder their sleep patterns.
- Encourage your child to watch Newsround on CBBC. This will inform them of local, national and world news. Talk about what is going on in the world and what their view is about it. Can they find the location of the country or city using a map, atlas or the internet? With Christmas coming up why not buy a map of the world for their bedrooms or maybe an atlas.
- Ask your child to read a book to you and talk about it. Would they want to be friends with one of the characters? Why/why not? If they are reluctant readers read a book to them, so they are still experiences stories.
- Practise calculating quickly using playing cards. The game "21" (Pontoon) encourages rapid addition, but can be extended to any number. Give out 4 cards. Who can make the largest total using each card once and +/·/× or ÷? Who can make the number closest to 37? (e.g., 5, 8, 6, 4 $8 \times 6 = 48$. $48 \times 9 = 432$.)

Useful Websites

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/ All subjects, interactive games etc. Lots of information to help your child's learning in all curriculum areas

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/> Lots of information on different ways to support your child.

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/> All subjects, interactive games etc.

<http://www.coolmath-games.com/> Lots of fun mathematics games

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/maths/games> Challenging mathematical fun games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=3> Search for a variety of interactive games

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html> Lots of fun science experiments using everyday materials