

TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2016



Welcome back!

I hope that you all had a glorious summer break and enjoyed some special times with your children. A very warm welcome to all our new families that have joined us for the first time. We hope you will soon feel very much part of the Templemoor community. We are thrilled with how well the children in Nursery and Reception have settled in and are enjoying their new environment both outside and in. Key Stage One children have settled quickly into their new classes too and are looking forward to the Autumn Term ahead, full of enjoyable, challenging learning activities! We have 211 children on roll and everyone seems so excited to be back at school!

Year 2 Dinosaur Dome

On Friday 9th September, Year 2 were lucky enough to have a Dinosaur Dome come and visit our School. The children got to handle real life fossils and pretend to be palaeontologists! Then they got to go inside the amazing dome where images were projected all around them. The film the children saw was brilliant! Here are some of the children's favourite parts...

"I enjoyed it when the huge asteroid hit the Earth.

It felt as though you were really there". (Martha)

"When you went into the Dome it felt like a big world around you. The meteor storm was spectacular". (Matthew)

"I enjoyed holding the dinosaur pooh fossil!" (Francesca)



Individual Photographs

On Wednesday 19th October, the school photographer will be in school taking individual and sibling photos. Please do not bring siblings from other schools without the permission of their Headteacher. Children who are not on our school roll may be brought to have photographs taken at 8:30am.

Gardeners Required

If you would like to give up some of your time to do a bit of pruning, weed pulling or general tidying of the garden areas then please contact the school office. Thank you!

Assemblies

On a Tuesday we have a Celebration Assembly to celebrate the good work that goes on outside of School. It is a lovely opportunity for children in Year One and Year Two to bring in certificates or trophies from any out of School activities to share in this assembly. We look forward to seeing what the children have been up to!



School Fund

We are grateful to the many parents who contribute to the school fund, some via the classrooms, Billy Bank and some by Standing Order. These funds are used for many purposes including, but not limited to, consumables for classrooms such as salt, compost, sand, touch screen computers for the Reception class, small games equipment, supplies for gardening etc. A growing number of parents donate by Standing Order, if you would like to donate to school in this way please collect a form from the office.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to all our parents and carers that attended our meet the teacher sessions. We do understand that not all parents were able to make these sessions so we are currently in the process of uploading all the information from the meetings onto our school website.

Volunteers in School

We are always grateful to parents/grandparents who offer help on a regular basis. If you would like to help in school please let your child's class teacher know. If the company you work for have any resources, schemes or projects which you think would benefit our school please get us involved!

Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all the children who completed Trafford Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge, 'The Big Read'. If your child has not yet brought his or her reading certificate into school to show us, please send it into school on a Tuesday ready for the Celebration Assembly.

Postcards

We have all enjoyed reading the many postcards that were sent to school over the Summer holidays. Thank you for taking the time to write and post them. It sounds as though you all had a fabulous time!

Christmas Performances

Due to the success of last years performances, and the positive feedback that we received, the children in the Early Years and Key Stage One will each perform a separate Christmas Performance. Separating the EYFS and KS1 shows and holding them on different days, ensures that you can enjoy watching the children in a calm and less busy environment. Dates of the shows can be found at the end of this newsletter. We hope that we will be able to film the Christmas shows and produce DVDs to sell. Please contact the school office if you can recommend a company that could do this.





Harvest

In celebration of Harvest we have once again decided to collect gifts for a local food bank. Harvest gifts can be sent into school from Monday 3rd October until Wednesday 19th October. We hope that you will support our collection and talk to your children about the need to help people who will benefit from our support. Thank you.

Parent Focus Groups

We are always looking for ways to involve parents as much as possible in the life of the school and in the decision making process. Parent Focus Groups play a central role in evaluating current school procedures and proposed new initiatives and are extremely important to the development of the school. A letter will be sent home by the end of this week giving more information about how you can get involved.

Parking

Can I politely remind parents that our staff car park should not be used for dropping off or picking up children. The car park is for staff and visitors only.

Year 2 Assembly

All parents and carers of our Year 2 children are invited to join us in the school hall on **Thursday 13th October at 9:05am** for our Year 2 Assembly.

Staff Training

Please note that school will be closed on **Friday 21st October** for staff training. You must make suitable arrangements for your child on this day. A full list of term dates and holidays is published on our website and at the end of this newsletter.

Playing on the field before and after school

The play areas are for and about children. We are very happy that children enjoy playing for a little while before and after school. However staff will not be there to supervise so we ask that parents make sure that their child follows the playground rules which are necessary to ensure everyone's safety. Your child knows the rules - if in doubt please ask them.

Children can build with larger sticks and play with sticks which are about the length of their arm. These are to be played with only on the side of the Trim Trail where they are kept. Children must not take sticks home with them but can add to our collection at any time! No sticks are allowed in the willow igloos.

The large wooden climbing frame at the edge of the playground must not be climbed.

PLEASE LEAVE THE GROUNDS BY 3.45PM. on a Wednesday and Friday. (This is to ensure the safe supervision of children attending The X Club). PLEASE LEAVE THE GROUNDS BY 3.30PM. on a Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. (This is to ensure the safe supervision of children attending our after school sports clubs). If your child does something which you think looks dangerous please talk to him/her about what might happen and what they could/should do to make themselves and others safe whilst at the same time enjoying the freedom we are offering. Thank you for your continued support.

That Poetry Bloke!

We love language and word play at Templemoor. So it will be no surprise to hear that teachers and children are looking forward to celebrating the joy of poetry on National Poetry Day, which is on Thursday 6th October. From sharing a poem with a friend to reading them aloud as a class, the whole school will rejoice with verse! We are also very excited to announce that we will be having a visit from Craig Bradley, (AKA 'That Poetry Bloke!') Craig will be visiting school on Tuesday 4th October to explore the world of words through songs and funny poems. Why not take a poetry book out of the local library!



Keeping in Touch

In order to keep parents as informed and updated as possible we encourage you to regularly check our website, templemoorinfants.co.uk.

We tweet, through our Twitter feed @TemplemoorINS. We also text/email and send letters home in book bags and we produce our monthly newsletter which is uploaded to the website and is emailed to all parents. All class 'Home Links' are posted on our website, and can be found under the children's section.



Punctuality and Attendance

As ever, we are keeping a careful eye on attendance at school and working closely with our Education Welfare Officer. While we are pleased that our attendance rate is above the national expectations we always strive to do better and improve on the previous year. Please note that, in line with the Department for Education guidance on absence, requests for holidays in term time will not be granted. The guidance makes it clear that headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your child is absent from school please let the office know before 9:30am and provide a written explanation on their return either in letter form or via email to admin@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk. For further information, our Attendance and Punctuality Policy can be found on our website.

Violins

The children in Year 2 are currently being taught music by specialist teachers from Trafford Music Service. They are learning to play the violin. The lessons will run each Monday for one term, finishing with a special concert in the school hall for parents and carers on Monday 5th December, time to be confirmed. Throughout the year all of the children in school will have the opportunity to be taught music by a specialist music teacher.

Parents Evening Dates

We will be holding Parents Evening this term on two evenings - **Tuesday 1st November** and **Tuesday 8th November**. Appointment times will be 10 minutes. This year we will be using an electronic booking system, which will allow you to view available time slots online and securely book appointments. Further information will follow soon.

Year 1 Cake Sale

Our very first cake sale of this new academic year will take place on **Friday 7th October** when it will be the turn of our Year 1 children to bring in some delicious cakes to sell.

Year 1 and 2 Handwriting Information Evening

We will be holding a Handwriting Information Evening at school on Tuesday 18th October at 7pm for parents of children in Year One and Two. This session will last for approximately one hour. We will showcase our new scheme, Nelson Handwriting, and you will have the opportunity to discover the key benefits of the scheme to your child's learning; find out how you can support your child at home; and ask any questions you may have about handwriting. We very much hope you will attend and look forward to seeing you on the night.

PE in School

This year, we are investing some of our Sports Premium Money in the provision of a professional PE / Sports coach from 'The PE & Sports Hub'. Mr Garside will be working alongside teachers helping them to deliver high quality PE lessons. He will be working in school on a Tuesday and Thursday and will be working with every class throughout the year. He is also running several after school clubs this half term. During a lunchtime he will be working with Y2 children, training them up to become playground leaders. The PE Sports Hub also works in association with the Beth Tweddle Total Gymnastics Programme, so our children in Year 1 and 2 will be taught gymnastics by a qualified gym instructor.

Booking Deadline - Holiday Club

The deadline to book for October holiday club is **Thursday 13th October 2016**. Requests received after this date will only be considered based on staffing ratios.

The Golden Book

Every Friday each Year 1 and 2 teacher chooses two children in their class who have demonstrated exceptional effort, achievement, kindness etc. to be entered into the Golden Book. A special certificate is presented to the children whose names are put in the book. The children then have a delicious hot chocolate and marshmallows with Mr Hodgson. The Golden Book is kept in the school foyer. Take a look in the book the next time that you are in school to see just how hard all of our children have worked and how sensible and kind the children at Templemoor are. Children in Reception start to come into Golden Book Assembly in the Summer Term.



Some Gentle Reminders

Some gentle reminders for everyone's safety:

- Please do not bring dogs into the school grounds (tie them up at the gate).
- Please do not smoke in the school grounds.
- Always close gates behind you.
- If your child/ren come to school on bikes/scooters they must dismount at the main gate, and walk the bike/scooter along through the pedestrian gate to the bicycle racks. Children must not scoot or ride around the playground at the beginning or end of the day.
- Football is not allowed in the playground at any time.

Thank you for helping to make our school a safe environment for everyone.

Reception Information Evening

We will be holding an Information Evening at school on Thursday 20th October at 7pm for parents of children in Reception. During this evening you will find out about:

- our new handwriting scheme
- how we teach phonics
- ways in which you can support your child at home with reading and writing

This session will last for approximately one hour. We very much hope you will attend and look forward to seeing you on the night.

Debra the Zebra

After weeks of being photographed and admired by thousands of people, our very own Debra the Zebra has finally returned home! Having taken part in the magnificent Sale Art Zoo, Debra is now having a well earned rest before she ventures out again into the Templemoor grounds. Keep a look out for her in the next week or two!

And finally...

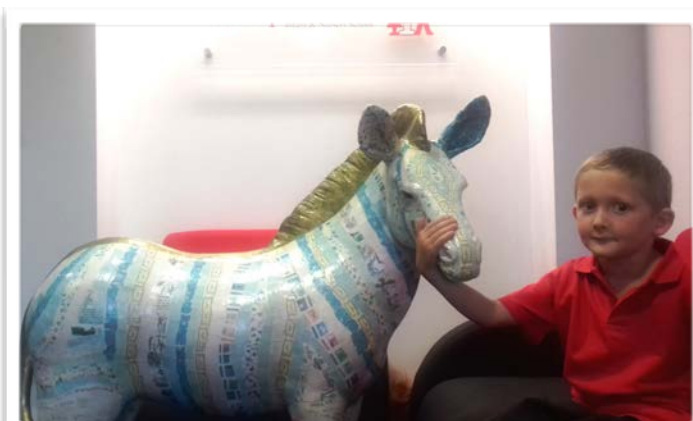
We have been working very hard to bring you our new look newsletter. The ultimate aim is to show parents and carers just what happens both in and around school. If you have any suggestions or ideas you would like to see in our newsletter, then please drop us a line. I do hope you find it informative and useful.

On the next page you will find some diary dates that we hope will be useful to you as you start the new term. If there is anything else you need to know, please do come and ask. I am often in the playground in the morning and after school, so do come over and say hello.

We look forward to another productive and successful year ahead, working together in partnership.

Very best wishes,

Stuart Hodgson - Headteacher



Pupil Premium

Please remember that even though children in Reception and Key Stage 1 receive Universal Free School Meals, we still need parents whose children are eligible for Pupil Premium Funding in all year groups to apply for the status of Free School Meals. This is extremely important as the school can get extra Pupil Premium funding of up to £1,320 per child per year if your joint family income is less than £16,190, and we can use this funding to provide additional opportunities for your child. Please contact the school office for further information or take a look at the Pupil Premium section of our website.



Dates for the Autumn Term 2016

From Monday 3rd October 2016	Harvest Donations can be brought into school
Thursday 4th October 2016	That Poetry Bloke Visit
Thursday 6th October 2016	National Poetry Day
Friday 7th October 2016	Year 1 Cake Sale
Thursday 13th October 2016	Year 2 Assembly at 9:05am - all parents and carers of Year 2 children are welcome to attend.
Friday 14th October 2016 (To be confirmed)	Wine Tasting Evening
Tuesday 18th October 2016	Year 1 and 2 Handwriting Meeting at 7pm
Wednesday 19th October 2016	Individual Photographs Last Day for Harvest Donations
Thursday 20th October 2016	School breaks up for half term at 3:15pm Reception Phonics/Handwriting Meeting at 7pm
Monday 31st October 2016	Back to school!
Tuesday 1st November 2016	Parents Evening
Friday 4th November 2016	Year 2 Cake Sale
Tuesday 8th November 2016	Parents Evening
Friday 18th November 2016	Year 1 Assembly at 9:05am - all parents and carers of Year 1 children are welcome to attend.
Saturday 19th November 2016	Family Fun Night at 5pm
Thursday 24th November 2016	Year 2 Assessment Meeting at 7pm
Friday 2nd December 2016	Nursery Cakes for the Christmas Fair
Saturday 3rd December 2016	The Christmas Fair
Monday 5th December 2016	Year 2 Violin Concert - Time TBC
Thursday 8th December 2016	Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance at 2:30pm for parents of children in afternoon Nursery and Class 5.
Friday 9th December 2016	Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance at 9:10am for parents of children in morning Nursery and Class 6.
Wednesday 14th December 2016	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance at 2:30pm for parents of children in Class 2 and Class 3.
Thursday 15th December 2016	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance at 9:10am for parents of children in Class 1 and Class 4.
Tuesday 20th December 2016	Christmas Dinner for children
Wednesday 21st December 2016	Last day of term and Christmas Party Day (Party Dress please!)
Tuesday 3rd January 2017	Start of the Spring Term

Term Dates 2016 to 2017

Autumn Term 2016

Opens	Tuesday 6th September 2016
Closes	Thursday 20th October 2016
Opens	Monday 31st October 2016
Closes	Wednesday 21st December 2016

Spring Term 2017

Opens	Tuesday 3rd January 2017
Closes	Friday 10th February 2017
Opens	Tuesday 21st February 2017
Closes	Wednesday 29th March 2017

Summer Term 2017

Opens	Tuesday 18th April 2017
School Closed - Bank Holiday Monday	Monday 1st May 2017
Closes	Friday 26th May 2017
Opens	Monday 12th June 2017
Closes	Friday 28th July 2017

Staff Training Days – School will be closed to children

Monday 5th September 2016
Friday 21st October 2016
Thursday 22nd December 2016
Friday 23rd December 2016
Monday 20th February 2017