



Dear Parents

Jackie Lee

Can I ask you to remember the Lee family in your prayers, as I have the very sad duty to inform you that Jackie, who was the Head Teacher at St Joseph's Primary School, passed away on 9th March following a battle with cancer. Jackie had worked in Luton for over 25 years and has contributed so much to the development of the Catholic Partnership of schools and has supported many other schools throughout Luton. I would like to share my condolences with her family and the staff at St Joseph's. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time. May Jackie rest in peace.

World Book Day Competition

Congratulations to all of our World Book Day winners. We all had a wonderful time dressed as characters from the books of Dr Seuss and Traditional tales.



Class	Name	Class	Name
Ladybirds	Sania	3M	Antonina
Bears	Jairus	3P	Sara
Tigers	Ira	4M	Oliver
1M	Nilah	4P	Reece
1P	Dawid	5M	Drew
2M	Jairon	5P	Inigo
2P	Lena	6D	Jakub
		6M	Nicola
		6P	Oliwia

Walk for Mrs Banville

On 30th March, the staff will be doing a sponsored walk to raise money for Headway Luton, the charity who have been supporting Mrs Banville in her recovery. In addition to this, some staff will be taking part in 'Race to the Tower', a 52 mile, 2-day sponsored run on June the 8th. The good news is that Mrs Banville will be returning to work after the Easter Holidays. Here is the website that you can use to make donations. Alternatively, place donations in an envelope labelled Headway and hand it into the office staff. Many thanks for your support in advance.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StMartinDePorres>

50th Anniversary Celebrations

On the 21st April 1969, St Martin's opened the doors to pupils. As part of our 50th Anniversary celebrations, please put these dates in your diary:

Saturday 22nd June 12-3pm: Family Fun Day – this is open to all current and former pupils, parents, staff and parishioners.

Friday 12th July 11.00 am: Mass with Bishop Peter followed by Picnic on the field – this is for current pupils, parents and invited guests.

We will be holding a planning meeting for these events on **Wednesday 27th March at 2.30pm**. Please come along to share your ideas.

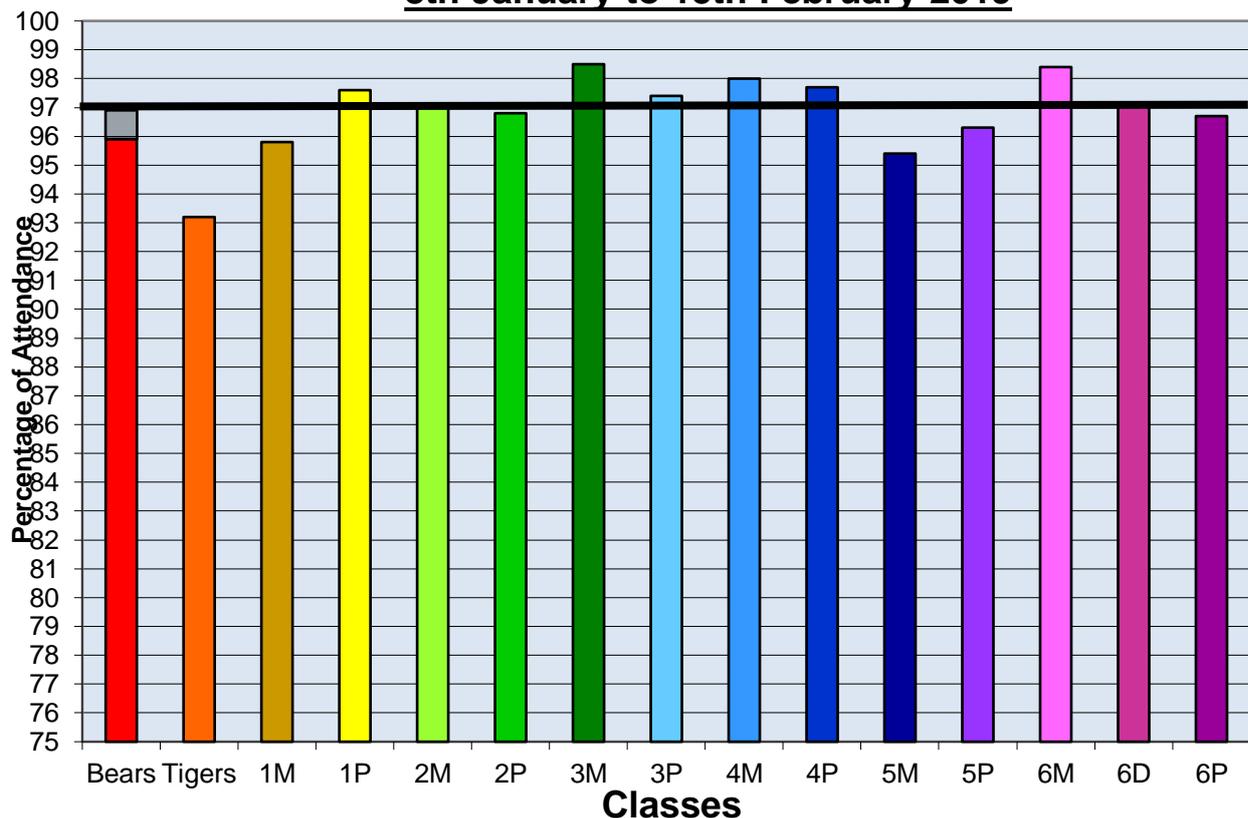
We have created a Facebook page where we will be posting regular updates.

If you have any photos or fond memories, please scan to admin@smdpluton.co.uk.

Paddington Bear – Attendance

As you can see from the chart below (first half of Lent Term) eight classes are at, or above, our target of 97% and a number are well below. Please ensure your child is in school and on time. Thank you. Congratulations to 1P and 6M the winners of our Paddington Bear awards.

St Martin de Porres Attendance Award Chart 8th January to 15th February 2019



Big Pedal

It is that time of year to get on your bike or scooter as the Big Pedal is back! From Monday 25th March until Friday 5th April we will be taking part in this nationwide competition. Last year we were ranked 2nd in Luton for the number of children who rode their bikes or scooters to school every day. Walking to school is also going to be included this year as part of the competition, so let's try to leave the car at home or park at the swimming pool and walk. As part of the Big Pedal there will be a Biker's Breakfast on Friday 5th April and we will also hold a "Superhero" half day on that day. More details will follow shortly.



FOSM Discos

On Thursday 4th April, Discos will be held in the afternoon for YrR & Yr1, Yr2 & Yr3, Yr4 & Yr5. Tickets are available to purchase and further information will be sent to you through Parentmail.

Nut & Fish allergies

We have a number of children in school with nut and fish allergies of various degrees. Can I please ask parents to be very careful about what goes into their child's packed lunch as even a trace of nut or fish can lead to a severe reaction for some. **Do not include tuna or sweets that contain traces of nuts; these include sweets such as 'Celebrations.'** Unfortunately, if you send these into school, we will remove these from your child.

Parking

We would ask you to park safely - not on the grass verges or pavements. **Some parents continue to park in an unsafe way and we have had several complaints from our neighbours as parents have parked across their drive.** We will report anyone who is parked illegally and we have asked our neighbours to contact the police on 101 if they have any issues with parking.

Rule 243 (from the Highway Code)

DO NOT stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property

Hair

Could I please remind parents of our uniform policy regarding hairstyles:

'Children's hair should be smart and tidy and long hair must be tied back using the school colours. Fashions involving patterns, or those similar to the mohican style, should be avoided.'

Meeting staff

It was great to see so many of you at parents' evening. We hope you found the consultations informative. If you do need to speak to your child's teacher, can we ask that you make an appointment through the office. Please do not approach staff while they are dismissing children as the children's safety is our priority. Most staff will be happy to meet with you once the children have gone home. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Kind regards

N. J. Morgan.

N J Morgan
Head Teacher

14 March 2019