



# St Martin de Porres Primary School

## Newsletter

May 2019

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### School Meals

I would like to let parents know about the difficulties that we are experiencing with the school meal provision at the moment. Since October half term, Edwards & Blake have not had a permanent kitchen manager or permanent assistant cook. This has led to us having a succession of temporary kitchen managers who have been of variable quality. Recently this has meant that there have been occasions when the quality of the food being provided by the kitchen has not been of an acceptable standard and on some occasions, children have had no choice as some of the food has run out before the end of service. On the days when this has happened, Edwards & Blake agreed that the children affected would not be charged for their meal and those parents were notified.

I would like to reassure you that I have been meeting weekly with the area manager to try to resolve these problems. I have been told that a permanent assistant cook has now been appointed and that the temporary kitchen manager is one of Edwards & Blake's experienced managers. The area manager has also offered to meet with parents to discuss their concerns.

Unfortunately, we are under contract with this company until January 2020 and we will need to source an alternative provider prior to this.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Please be assured that I will continue to work with Edwards & Blake to resolve these issues.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

Preparations are now well under way for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. We will be holding a meeting on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm** for parents to come along and support us with the organisation of the Family Fun Day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

In the KS2 & KS1 entrance you will see samples of t-shirts that can be ordered through Prestige Uniforms – more details to follow. They will also be supplying sweatshirts to commemorate the event.

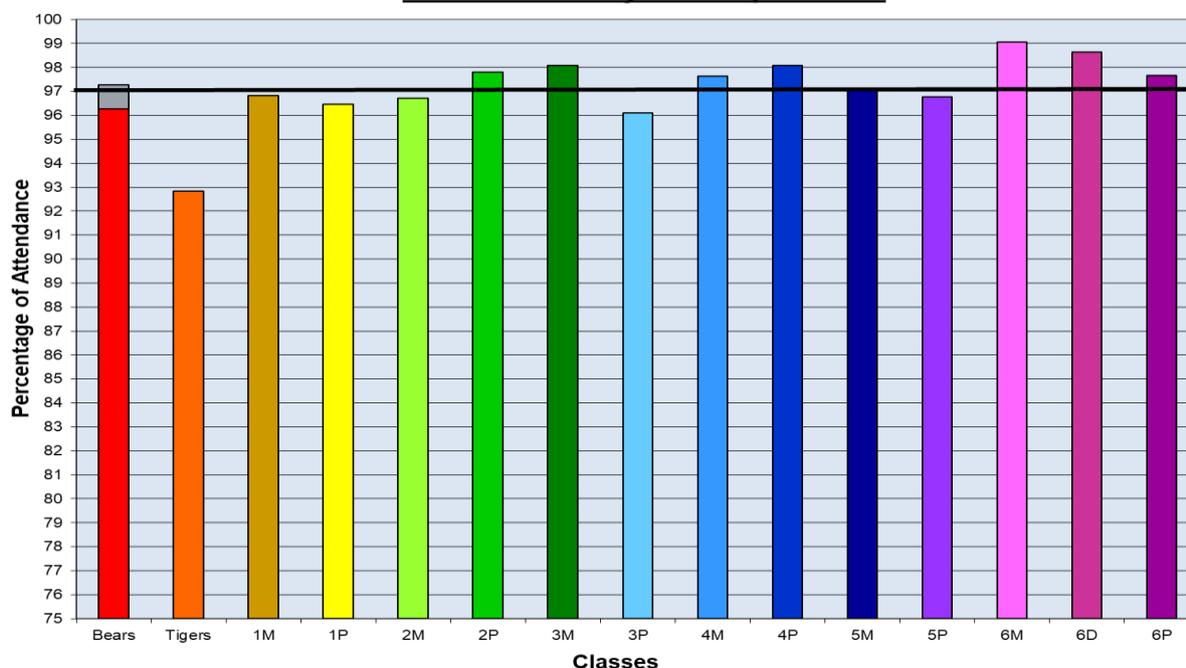
The winners of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo competition were announced today in assembly. We chose a winner from each year group, with one overall winner who will have their logo printed on various commemorative items. Congratulations to all of our winners and thank you to all of the children who took part. It was a very difficult choice and you can see the winning entries on our website.

Overall winner	Lana
Nursery	Joanna
Reception	Noah
Year 1	Olivier
Year 2	Chayce
Year 3	Helina
Year 4	Ria
Year 5	Reanna
Year 6	Carlyle

## Paddington Bear Award: 25<sup>th</sup> February – 5<sup>th</sup> April

As you can see from the chart below (second half of Lent Term) most classes are above 95%, which is the national average. Eight classes are above our school target of 97%. Congratulations to our new Paddington Bear winners, 2P with 97.81% and 6M with 99.06%.

**St Martin de Porres Attendance Award Chart**  
**18th February - 5th April 2019**



### Leave of absence

Recently I have met with many parents requesting leave of absence during term time. Could I ask you to please read our leave of absence form and policy which are available on the website and from the school office. Can I draw your attention to the information below:

**Term time leave should be applied for at least 2 weeks in advance of leave being taken.**

**The Head teacher will only allow your child to take leave during term time if your circumstances are exceptional. Authorisation for leave will not be given in the following circumstances:**

- Pupil's attendance is less than 97% attendance in the current academic year.
- Pupil's attendance was less than 97% attendance in the previous academic year.
- In SATs examination years (Year 2 and Year 6).
- At the beginning of any academic year.
- Any leave requested retrospectively (requested after the leave is taken).
- If there are any other attendance concerns such as poor punctuality.

### Fund raising for CAFOD

Thank you for your generosity and support during our fund raising for CAFOD this term. Through our "silver collection", Y6 Soup Day and Year 5's Lenten Activities we managed to raise £726.74. This is a great effort and a special thank you to the staff and children in Year 5 for their efforts with the Lenten Activities and to Year 6 for giving up their lunch.

### Big Pedal

Thank you for your support during the Big Pedal. We came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Luton and we raised £388.90 for Sustrans. Well done to everyone and let's keep pedalling, walking and scooting!

## Walk to school Week

The week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May is national Walk to School Week. Please make every effort to join in with this. If you need to bring your car, due to distance from school, then why not park at Lewsey Swimming Pool and walk the short distance to school. This could become regular pattern for many and so also help with the congestion on the roads around the school.

## Safety on the school grounds

Please **do not** let your child ride their bike or scooter on the **KS1, KS2 playground or through the car park**. There have been several occasions recently when there have almost been accidents.

Please **do not** let your child climb on the KS2 playground equipment, particularly the blue target board. This equipment is not made to be climbed on and we have had one serious accident where a reception child waiting with their parent to collect a sibling in KS2, fell from the top of the blue target board and split their lip and knocked out a tooth.

The climbing equipment on the KS2 playground is not suitable for KS1 and Early Years children, **so do not let them climb on it**. The climbing equipment in KS1 is not suitable for under 5's, **so do not let them climb on it**.

**The climbing equipment is only for use by the children during school hours and when supervised by school staff.**

## Dates for this term

All the key dates that you need to know about are in the Calendar section on the school website - [www.stmartindeporesluton.co.uk](http://www.stmartindeporesluton.co.uk)

## SATs in May

During May both our Year 6 and Year 2 pupils will be taking their SATs tests. They have worked incredibly hard and we wish them every success as they strive to achieve what we know they deserve.

Kind regards

*N. J. Morgan.*

N J Morgan  
Head Teacher

10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

