



St Martin de Porres Primary School

Newsletter

January 2020

Dear Parents

School closure

If it is necessary to close the school due to poor weather conditions, then we will notify you by the following means. The most important of these is **parentmail** so please ensure your contact numbers/email addresses are up to date with us.

- Parentmail text and email - if you are not yet registered, or your contact details have changed, then please contact the office asap.
- Message on the school website - www.stmartindeporresluton.co.uk
- Message on LBC website - <http://www.luton.gov.uk/schoolclosures>

Please do not call the school on the morning of a closure

Please make sure that your children are warmly dressed for school. They may wear boots to walk to and from school, but will be expected to change into shoes inside school. If it should snow, please send a change of trousers so that they can go out to play.

Lost Coats and uniform

Please, please put your child's name in all of the clothing that they wear to school. Lots of children had new coats for Christmas, but none of them seem to be named. Children are becoming very upset, particularly at lunchtime in the KS2 dining room, saying that their coat is 'aged 8 to 9 and green' - but there are as many as 5 coats matching this description – all unnamed!



On Friday 17th January, the school choir travelled to Birmingham to take part in 'Young Voices 2020.' This was an amazing day, where the children performed with over 5,000 other children from across the country to an audience of parents. Guest performers included The Shires, Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet), Urban Strides (dance group) and Ruti (winner of 'The Voice'). The children were a credit to the school. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the staff who worked so hard with the children to prepare them for this wonderful opportunity: Mrs Banville, Miss Mulcahey, Miss Wilkinson, Mrs Truman and Mrs Dye.

Mrs Nilletti

We are delighted to announce the safe arrival of baby Mya Sophia Nilletti. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Nilletti. We hope they are not having too many sleepless nights.



Year Group Newsletters

Year Group Newsletters, which inform parents about what the children are studying, are now on the school website under “curriculum”- www.stmartindeporesluton.co.uk. Remember there is much information on the website regarding the curriculum covered by your child.

School Dinners

From 30th January, ABM Catering will be providing school dinners for our children. We hope it will be a smooth transition, but please let us know if you have any concerns. You may be required to provide updated information about your child’s allergies, but I will update you via parentmail.

Parking

Please be patient when bringing your children to school and park considerately. **Do not park across the school gates or just stop your car in the middle of the road and let your child get out of your car.** We have had several complaints from our neighbours and other parents about the selfish and dangerous parking by a small group of parents. This week, we had 3 reports of parents blocking a drive in Beadlow Road. When the resident asked the parents to move, they were extremely rude. **We have advised them to report incidents to the police as well as to us** We are currently working with the council to try to improve the situation. Why not try parking a short distance from the school and then walk?



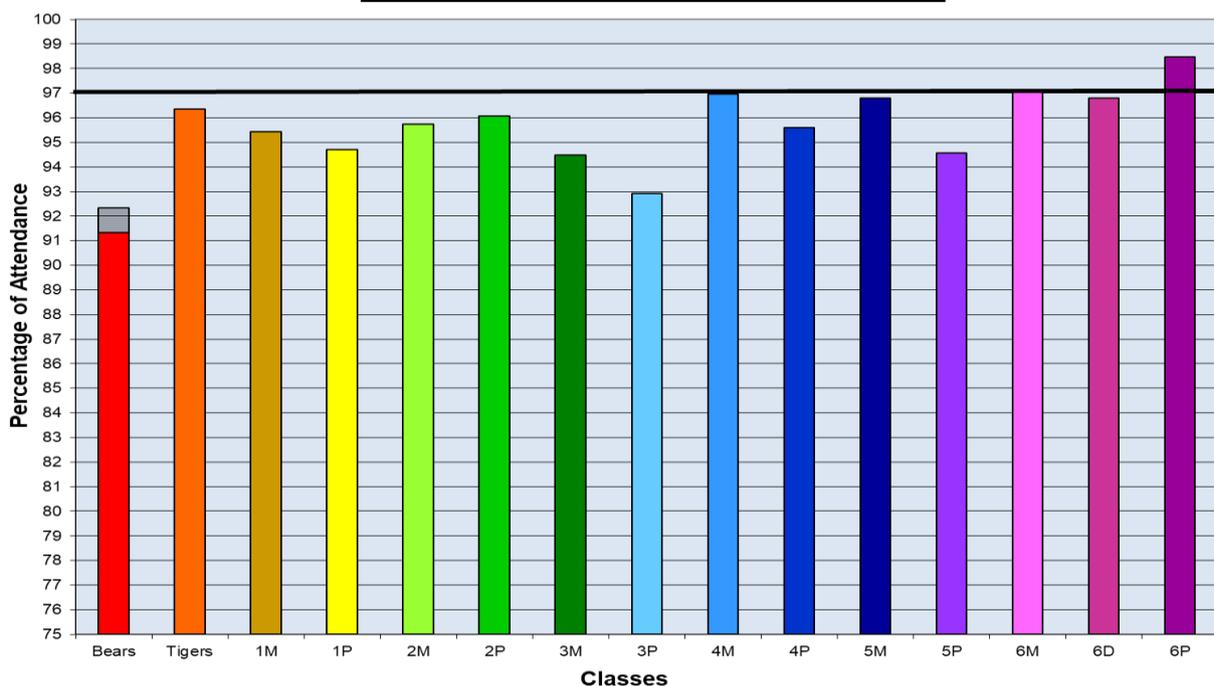
Internet Safety Workshop for Parents – Thursday 13th February

This session will take place from 9.00 – 10.00 am and will be run by Mrs Jones and Mrs Jarvis This session is open to all parents and is chance for you to drop-in and talk about any concerns that you may have. Mr Davis, our IT technician, will also be on hand to offer support with setting up parental controls on devices.

Paddington Bear Award: 28th October-19th December 2019

As you can see from the chart below (second half of Advent Term) most classes are above 95%, which is the national average. We know that there were lots of illnesses last half term, but hopefully the classes with the lowest attendance are now fully recovered Congratulations to our new Paddington Bear winners, Tigers and 6P.

**St Martin de Porres Attendance Award Chart
28th October to 19th December 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.**

I look forward to meeting many of you at some point during the term and especially at one of the Parents' Evenings, later in the term.

Kind regards

N. J. Morgan.

N J Morgan
Head Teacher

Friday 24th January

