

St Martin de Porres Primary School

May 2025



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Newsletter for May

Warmer Weather

As the weather becomes warmer, please remember to put sunscreen on your child before they come to school. Please make sure that they have a water bottle and a sun hat - Both items must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Free School Meals

If your income is low or you are in receipt of benefits to supplement your income, you might be eligible for Free School Meals for your child **(this applies to children in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 as well as Key Stage 2.)** The school receives additional funding for children who claim free school meals. It may also mean that you are entitled to a reduction in the cost of school trips and music lessons. To apply, please contact Education Welfare, Luton Borough Council (www.luton.co.uk) and search Free School Meals.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

We are still receiving many requests for leave of absence, a lot of these are for either just before or after a school holiday. **Please do not request leave that is during term time**, unless it is for something serious, like a bereavement. **LEAVE WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED!**

Absence during term time means pupils missing lessons, and the government says there is clear evidence doing so impairs children's attainment.

We know that holidays are really expensive and it is tempting to go during term time, but we **will not** grant holiday or for other reasons that are not deemed exceptional.

Our leave of absence form and policy are available on the website and from the school office.

Attendance for April 2025	
Class	Percentage Attendance
Year R	91.8
Year 1	95.7
Year 2	96.2
Year 3	97.9
Year 4	97.1
Year 5	94.8
Year 6	96.9
Total (average)	95.7

As a school we aim for an average attendance of 97%

Illnesses

If your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, they must be kept off school for 48 hours following the last episode. Please notify us immediately if your child has chicken pox, slapcheek or scarlet fever. Be also be aware that if a child has frequent or prolonged absences, or if we have concerns about the validity of the illness, we may request supporting evidence. This could include:

A prescription

An appointment card

A text message from the GP surgery confirming an appointment

Please report all absences to the school office 01582 617600

Playground equipment and supervision of children

Children are not allowed to play on the equipment on KS1 or KS2 playground either before or after school. The equipment is only to be used during school break-times when it is supervised by school staff. When you are waiting to collect your child, do not allow younger children to play on the equipment or to run around the car park. Toddlers are running around in the car park and are being allowed to climb the equipment – Please take responsibility for your own children. We have had some near accidents recently and our first concern is your child's safety.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all our children who made their first Holy Communion this month.

'May you grow in the light and love that comes from our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that Jesus, the Bread of Life and Cup of Eternal Salvation, will always nourish your faith'

Have a restful half term break, we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 2nd June

Kind regards



Mrs. A. Barnaville & Mrs. H. Gallagher

Co -Headteachers

Friday 23rd May 2025

