



Quinton Church Primary School Autumn 1 Update 2015

Dear Parents,

As promised we aim to improve our communication by providing a newsletter at the beginning of each half term and an update at the end of each half term. All of these can be found on the website a few days after we have sent them out. Over the next week or so we also plan on having the plastic mailing pockets in the front entrance where spare copies of letters can be obtained should your child lose theirs before they have got home.

I would like to take this time to thank all those parents that came to the coffee morning. There was an incredible turn out (I'm certain the lure of sausage sandwiches and cheese on toast was a great incentive) and once again we were able to answer a few questions. It was also really motivating to have so much positive feedback – please keep it coming! Next half term we plan to have a meeting after school and then in the summer a meeting that will start at 5.30pm. Hopefully this means that parents can attend at least one session per year.

Another 'thank you' to all those parents that were able to join us for our numeracy morning. The feedback was great with some really helpful suggestions. Some parents asked that KS1 and KS2 were held on different days as they wanted more than an hour to work with their children. We had discussed this but we had to find a way that suited all parents – and for those parents with children in both key stages and who worked, this would have meant either having two mornings off work or no child getting any time with their parent. We plan to offer lots of opportunities for parents to come into school so that if there are times that parents can't come then the children know that there will be plenty of other times. We also recognise that the classrooms are a little cramped and that space can be an issue if lots of parents attend. One suggestion was to hold the event in the hall and have different days for different classes. Again, this had implications for some parents which is why they remain in the classes. Lots of thought does go into these mornings to make them as successful as possible so please keep the suggestions coming – it helps us to reflect on other ways of involving parents.

A few messages

The **PTA** are now looking for willing volunteers. Any parent or carer that is able to spare a few hours now and again are asked to speak to the school office and they will pass on your details. This is a really good way of supporting the school and we hope that many of you will be able to join as we don't want it to fail due to lack of parental support.

Ethos Committee. The ethos committee meets in school once each half term, usually on a Tuesday 2.30 - 3.30, to discuss issues relating to the school's distinctive Christian character. The committee includes staff, parent and governor representatives, and we are looking for 2 parents to join the committee. Do speak with Mr. Bassett or Revd. Arnold for further information. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday **November 17th** at 2.30pm.

Prayer. Once each half term church members, parents and staff meet in Christ Church to pray for the school. The next prayer meeting is Tuesday 3rd **November** 2.30 - 3.30. Everyone is welcome.



The end of day routines are much better now that all children are dismissed from the playground by the bell. Thanks to you all for not taking the children out of the line before we ask you to as this has helped us when handing children over. We would like to remind you that once your child has been handed over to you they are your responsibility. With this in mind we would ask that you ensure that they are not climbing the fences or the shelter etc- they do not do this during the school day and would ask that the children continue to respect the school property by not doing so at the end of the school day. We would also ask that you vacate the school premises as soon as possible as there are often delays to the start of the clubs. Once again, we thank you in advance for supporting us with this.

Next week we shall be inviting parents in to meet with their child's teacher. This is simply a 5 minute chat to discuss how your child has settled into school after the long holidays and to share their targets for the year with you. You will meet the teacher in the classroom so that you can see your child's environment however; we ask that you wait in the hall until your time as space is limited. Books are not out for this appointment. Also, if you feel that you would like longer then please let us know and we can try to accommodate this after half term. We are very conscious that these meetings can go often go well past your allotted time but we will do our best to stay as close to the timings as possible.

Dates for the Diary

Tue 20th Oct – Year 3 Harvest Assembly in church (year 3 parents welcome)

Thur 22nd Oct – Parents Evening

Fri 23rd – School closed – Teacher Day

Mon 2nd Nov – Multi Faith Week

Fri 13th Nov – Bags to School collection

Wed 18th Nov – Science Morning (details to follow)

Wed 2nd Dec – KS2 trip to theatre (details to follow)

Mon 7th Dec Santa's Grotto (details to follow)

Mon 14th Dec –Nativity (details to follow)

Tue 15th Dec – Attendance Assembly

Fri 18th Dec – Church Services

Fri 18th Dec – Parties (pm)

Children break up for Christmas

Mon 4th Jan – Teacher Training Day

Tue 5th Jan – Children return to school.