



7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Happy New Year!**

I hope that you and your families had a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year, despite all the restrictions and uncertainties. It was great to welcome all the children back to school this week. Today we had our weekly merit assemblies and a re-occurring theme was the positive behaviour for learning and focus the children were demonstrating on their return to school. What a fantastic way to start the new year! I look forward to being able to celebrate all the wonderful things the children will be doing in this forthcoming year.

**February:**

7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>: Children's Mental Health Week

8<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>: Parents' Evenings

**Queen's Diamond Jubilee**



I just wanted to clarify why the school is closing one day earlier than normal this academic year. On Friday 3rd June, there will be an additional bank holiday. This is to mark the Queen's jubilee year, celebrating 70 years on the throne. As the bank holiday falls within the May half term, schools have been granted permission to incorporate this bank holiday into the academic year, so that school staff may celebrate the additional bank holiday. Therefore, school will now be closing for the summer holidays, one day earlier. School will close on Thursday 21st July. This should explain why the term dates published in September may differ from those you received last year.

**Feedback:**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey, I attach the summary of the survey. I look forward to working with you all to continue to develop this fantastic school.



**First Holy Communion and Reconciliation Preparation 2021-22:**

**First Holy Communion: 25th and 26th June 2022.**

Thank you to those families who collected their packs from Father Emeka and attended the parents meeting in the Church this week. Classes for those enrolled with Father Emeka, will commence next week.



**Food Bank**

Please be reminded that the school's foodbank is open. If you would like to access it, please contact the school office. If you are able to donate to the foodbank, all donations will be greatly received, as the stock is quite low at the moment.

## Covid-19 Guidance

This term we will continue to update our Covid-19 Risk Assessments in line with Government guidance. Our main aim is to safely keep the children in school. For this reason, we are trying to reduce risk of transmission where possible.

In addition to the ongoing risk-reducing measures in school, such as CO2 monitors and ensuring good ventilation in classrooms, increased cleaning throughout the day and the promotion of good hand hygiene with the children, we have decided to return to online assemblies. We will also be postponing educational visits this half term, which rely on public transport or are to enclosed spaces, where the children will be in close contact with members of the public.

I thank you all for your support with this. I know it is very frustrating. I hope that this will be a thing of the past one day soon. I am sure that due to the time of the year, a lot of us will develop coughs and colds, which in the past we would not have been worried by. However, due to the pandemic, all new, continuous coughs need to be treated as potential Covid-19. I know that it is incredibly frustrating when a child has to be off, when you're sure it's 'just' a cold.

The current guidance is very clear, the main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If anyone in the school develops any of these symptoms, child or adult, they will be sent home and must have a PCR. Thank you for your understanding, we know it is not ideal.

## After school clubs Spring Term (Football and Lego)

If your child has been offered a place, this week you will have received confirmation. The clubs commence next week. Please return the Club contract/registration form before your child begins the club.

## Reception 2022:

If you have a child who will be starting school in September 2022 (born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018) or know someone who does, I hope that St Winifred's is your first choice! There is **ONE** more open day left before the **deadline of the 15<sup>th</sup> January**. If you would like to book a place the remaining open day, please contact the school office. Please feel free to share this information with prospective parents you may know.

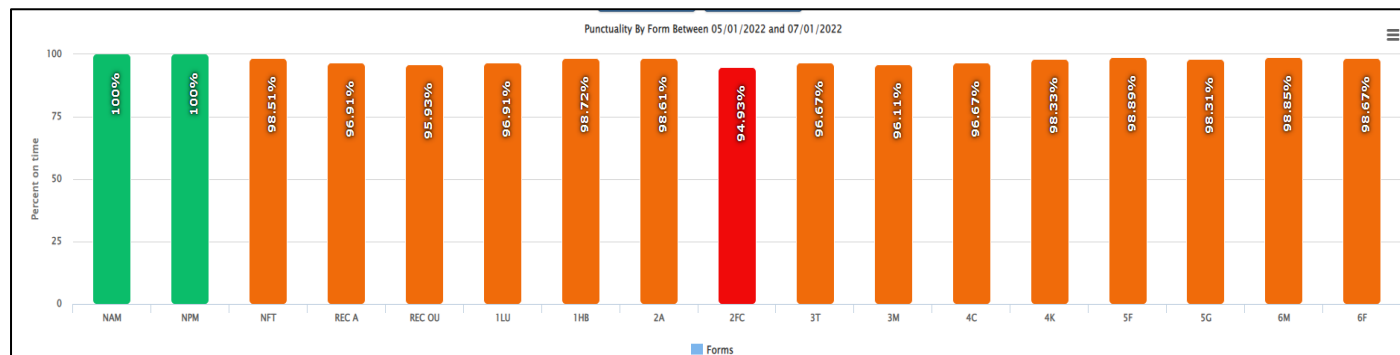
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January: 2pm – 2:45pm

Applications for Reception Class places for September 2022 can now be made on line. Please follow this link:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-primary-school>

## Punctuality:

Punctuality was good this week! A Fantastic effort. Most classes were above 97%!



This graph shows the punctuality for this week. This week's winner is: 5F! Well done to 5F on 98.9%! I really do hope that all classes can be above 97% next week.

### **Wednesday Word**

Please see the link to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend. <https://www.swcps.lewisham.sch.uk/thewednesdaywordwebsite/>

### **Parent App:**

**Please, please, please download it!** There are **195** app users now, which equates to over 260 children. So thank you and welcome to our new users! I still would really like more users. If you have not downloaded the app yet, please do so. I have had really positive feedback from parents who have started using it. You are able to access all the information we hold on your children. Since using the app, so many contact details have been updated. Vital information that we need, if we needed to contact you in an emergency. If you need any help with downloading it, please do not hesitate to ask us.



### **Social Media:**

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St\_winifreds\_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter, it really is very much appreciated,

Here's to a fantastic 2022!

Claire Gillespie

