



15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Half Term!

I cannot believe that we have finished our first half term already! These past eight weeks have flown by! The children have worked incredibly hard and are well settled into the new classes.

I'd like to thank the whole school community for making me feel so welcomed and for being very supportive. I feel very proud to be head of such a wonderful school, formed by such lovely children, families, staff and governors. It really is a privilege. Thank you.

The children have worked hard this half term and although they will have some homework, please do not overload them. Let them rest too, allow them time to play, they really do need it. They have had a very long half term, where they have had to build up their stamina after so much disruption to their learning. School work will be waiting here for them when they get back! I wish you everyone a well-deserved rest during the half term and look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 1st November.

School Emails

During the half term we will be having some work done to our emails. Hopefully it will all be completed over the holidays and by the time we come back there will be no issues. After half term, we will all have firstinitialsurname@swcps.lewisham.sch.uk as our school email addresses. Do not worry though, if you use any of the old ones, they will be auto forwarded to our new emails.

This half term has been incredibly long and everyone has worked so hard, including the teachers. Just like the children, the staff need a well-deserved break too. If you have anything you want to ask/tell your class teacher, please be mindful that they will be holiday and they will not reply until the new half term begins. Thank you for your understanding.

Before and After School Sports Clubs

We have been looking into before and after school sports clubs, run by external sports coaches. I would be really interested to know your thoughts. I have created an online survey to gather your opinions. If you have 5-10mins, I would really appreciate it if you could take the time to complete it. The information we gather will really help us to organise the clubs after half term. Please follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9G7FR9H>

November:

- 1st: children return
- 2nd & 3rd: Online Tech Workshop
- 6th: Garden Volunteers
- 8th: INSET day
- 22nd: Cake Sale and AGM

Secondary Transfers etc

If your child is in Year 6 currently, please make sure that you have applied for secondary schools. This is the last week in which to do so. The link for applying for a Lewisham secondary schools is:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school/completing-an-application-form>

PLEASE NOTE THAT: you must apply online for a secondary school place by 11.59pm on 31 October 2021

Reception 2022:

If you have a child who will be starting school in September 2022 (born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018) or know someone who does, I hope that St Winifred's is your first choice! We will be hosting a series of open days after the October half term. If you would like to book a place on one of the open days, please contact the school office.

During the School Day		After School
9:15am – 10am	2pm – 2:45pm	4pm
Tuesday 9 th November Friday 26 th November Friday 7 th January	Monday 15 th November Wednesday 2 nd December Monday 10 th January	Wednesday 10 th November Thursday 9 th December

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>

Parents' Evening:

Thank you to all of you who were able to meet with your class teacher this week. I hope that they were a positive opportunity to discuss your child's learning. I know that for some, it hasn't been possible to make the appointment, the teachers will be contacting you to try and arrange a mutually agreeable time.

Friends of St Winifred's:

Thank you to so many of you who attended the meeting regarding 'Friends of St Winifred's'. Please find attached a PDF with the slides from the meeting, in which you will find more information regarding the specific committee meetings.

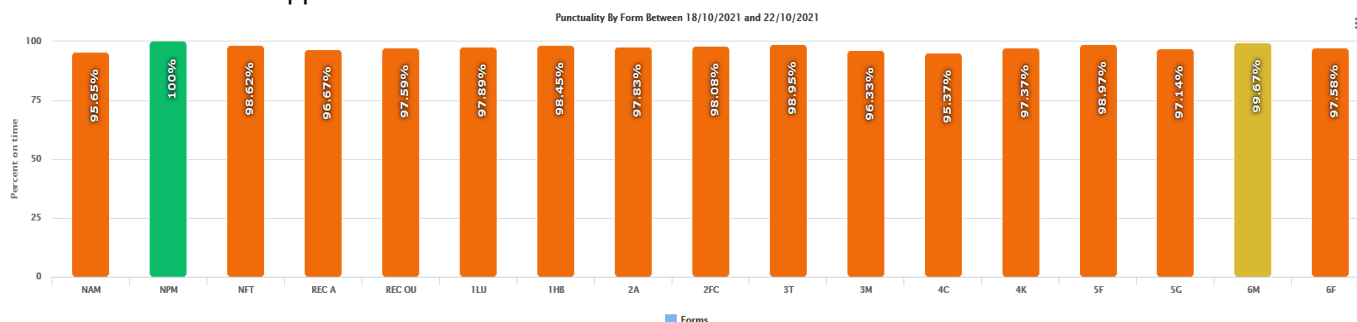
If you would like more information or would like to offer your services please contact the Friends via email: stwinifredsfriendsse12@gmail.com



On Monday 22nd November the friends will be hosting their first event of the year, a cake sale, straight after school. The cake sale will be followed by the AGM at 4pm. There will be more information next half term regarding this event.

Punctuality:

This week there has been a real improvement with punctuality. Far fewer children are arriving late. Thank you all for your commitment and support with this matter.



This graph shows the punctuality for this week. This week's winner is: 6M! Well done to 6M! Let's see who can win it next week!

Black History Month



As we're reaching the end of Black History Month. I hope that you have enjoyed hearing about all the learning the children have been doing. We have shared much of it on our social media platforms, please take a look.

This week we have received even more books. I am really blown over by how generous you have been. We now have 46 books! What a fantastic addition to the children's class libraries. Thank you! The list is still open and it's not too late, if you still wish to gift us a book. If you are able to donate any amount to put towards the books we have chosen we would be tremendously grateful. Please click on this link to see the titles we've chosen and donate them to the children of the school. <https://amzn.eu/3TFk1Ja>

Food Growing Workshops for families in October Half-term

During the October Half-term there are [free activities related to food-growing across the borough](#) and beyond which parents/guardians may be interested in. All the activities provide a free lunch for families who are on a low-income. [Ringway Community Centre at 268 Baring Road SE12 0DS](#) will be hosting a series of workshops during the half term, which may be of interest to you. Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you would like more information and to book a place please visit <https://wildrangers.org.uk/events/>.

Girls Football Training

Until the end of October, South London Girls football Academy would like to offer all girls from Lewisham schools a free training session and 20% off any fees this season. They would like to continue to offer all young girls the opportunity to receive professional football coaching, no matter their level or experience, from a highly experienced, qualified and DBS checked coach.

The academy offers opportunities for players aged from 5-13 years old in separated age group sessions.

U8 - 9-10am (5, 6 & 7 years old), U10 - 10-11am (8 & 9 years old), U12 & U14 - 11am-12pm (10 & 11 - 12 & 13 years old). Please see the flyer attached for more information. To attend a free session, please contact southlondongirlsfa@gmail.com to register for a session.

'Tech Abuse' Workshop

There are free 'Tech Abuse' workshop for parents on the 2nd and 3rd of November provided by Lewisham Council, please see the attached flyer. The purpose of this workshop is to increase awareness and provide some useful skills to support parents, by the end of this workshop you should be able to:

- Recognise how modern technology can be used to jeopardise young people's safety
- Distinguish between different types of technological abuse that could affect children and young people
- Assess the risk factors involved in cases where technology is being used to abuse children and young people
- List different ways in which you can empower your children to use technology safely and positively

Lend a helping hand: Saturday 6th November

The school is creating a kitchen garden in the old caretaker garden. Last term parents helped build raised beds out of old pallets. They will be filled with soil and used by classes to grow fruit and vegetables. We have received a grant for tools, greenhouse and shed to complete it.

We have a few more raised beds to make, that will go around the rest of the school, so there are more growing areas.

Could you help us build the beds? We have the last session on Saturday 6th November between 9am and midday. If you can help, please come with protective gloves plus drills, saws or hammers. Refreshments are provided.



Parent App:



Thank you to all of you who have downloaded the app! I was delighted to see how quickly the app was downloaded and was being used to contact the office. We now have 125 users, which is amazing!! If you have not downloaded the app, you should have all received an email with all the information, including a code which will expire after 60 days. If you cannot find it and wish to use the app, contact the office and we will be able to issue a new email.

With this App you will be able to check all of your contact details and update them at a click of a button. You will also be able to report absences. This is a very quick and easy way to communicate directly with the office. All you need to do is download the app and use the code included in the email. Any problems / queries please do contact the school office and we will help you with any issues arising.

Social Media:

As you all know, I have created a Facebook, Instagram and Twitter account for the school. If you have not started following us, it's not too late to do so! I have been sharing lots of the children's wonderful work from Black History Month.

If you would rather your child **not** be included in photos and videos, please return the letter to the school or send a request via the Scholar Pack app. We will then know which children not to include in our posts.



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

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/>

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.

Lewisham Music

Please follow this link to access new music opportunities:

<https://mailchi.mp/3daffc5bad75/upcoming-projects-5379355?e=cd1b53fba5>

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

Wishing you all a very happy half-term break,

Claire Gillespie