



# Starbank School



Shaping Stars of Today for Tomorrow

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear parents and carers,

It seems like only yesterday that the new School year began and here we are now with only a week to go before we break up for Christmas! Our pupils and staff certainly deserve a well-earned rest. At the end of this term, it is with great sadness that we will be saying goodbye to four colleagues who have worked hard during their time at Starbank and contributed a great deal to our school. Our best wishes and gratitude goes to Mrs Robson for her dedication, loyalty and service to the school over the past 8 years. We wish her every happiness in her retirement! We also wish Mr Jones, Mrs Parveen and Mrs Medygesi all the best as they embark on new journeys within Birmingham and Kent.

We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking parents for their continued support this term. The pupils last day at school will be Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December, where they can come dressed in non-uniform. They will be breaking up at the normal time of 3.00pm. Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year!

Mr Riaz (Deputy Headteacher) and Miss Clifford (Assistant Headteacher)



Our Nursery pupils have been reading lots of different stories about animals. In particular, they have really enjoyed reading the story 'Dear Zoo'. Pupils have been retelling the story using props, acting it out and even making their own animals using playdough.

It has been pleasing to see pupils give meaning to their marks by writing labels for the animals that they have made. To develop their enquiring minds, pupils have been given the opportunity to build a zoo in the block area and have been making comparisons to see who has the most animals.



## Child Internet Safety

Year 1 and 2 took part in a special workshop of Chicken Clicking! This workshop used drama and role play to teach the children all about the importance of Internet Safety. The children followed the journey of Chicken Clicking and learnt how to stay safe online by never sharing personal information online. There was a further session which the children later took part in. They enjoyed taking on the role of Chicken Clicking and can now share everything they have learnt about Internet Safety.



**RAISING MONEY FOR... BBC Children in Need**

Thank you for all your donations for Children in Need in November 2018. Starbank Road site raised £1043.86 and the rest of the school raised a further £1,075.97, making a grand total of £2,119.83. That is over £1000 more than last year's total.

Congratulations to the following pupils, who won a prize for the best decorated envelope:

Ameera – Nursery

Harris – 1E

Eliyah – RHC

Farhana – 4BS

Amtal – 6R



☎ 0121 464 2638

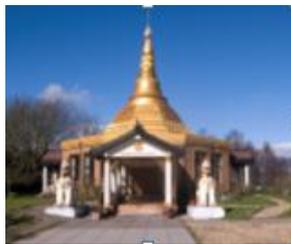
✉ [enquiry@starbank.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@starbank.bham.sch.uk)

# VIHARA

This half term Year 6 pupils were given the opportunity to explore a Vihara – a Monastery for Buddhist renunciates. The visit enabled pupils to learn about the Buddhist way of life, their practice of meditation and to ask questions about different belief systems to their own. Our pupils were able to demonstrate a shared understanding of what it means to embrace diversity through our actions and language, and to how to approach new experiences with an open mind. Speaking to the pupils afterwards about the experience, this is what they had to say:

*"I enjoyed the experience of seeing a different place of worship" – 6R*

*"It was great to see a Monk and to be able to ask him questions about how he lives his life" – 6M*



# Harry Potter's Wizards' Workshop

Our Year 5 pupils were part of a wonderful wizarding workshop, inspired by their work on Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. A visiting actor took the pupils through a range of drama techniques that they could use to convey feeling and emotions from different characters' viewpoints. Pupils then went into teams and acted out a summary of the plot from the book's blurb, using freeze frames and 'human furniture' as dramatic tools to explore the scene. Afterwards, they applied physical literacy skills into lesson, learning how to show a character's personality through their speech and actions. The teachers were very impressed by some of the budding actors' abilities on stage!



## THINK BEFORE YOU PARK

BE CONSIDERATE TO OUR NEIGHBOURS  
YOU COULD ENDANGER A CHILD'S LIFE



Park safely.  
park legally



Can we remind parents to be sensitive to the needs of local residents and to be very mindful of the health and safety of our pupils. Please refrain from blocking or parking in residents' driveways when picking up or dropping your child off to school or whilst attending workshops and assemblies. Also please do not park in the school car park. Do consider parking safely a short distance away from school and walking for the rest of the journey. Please respect our neighbours. Thank you!

## Every School Day Counts

Well done to all pupils who have achieved 100% attendance in the autumn term. If your child is fit and well they need to be in school. In order to report an absence, please contact the school before 9.00am on the following number: **0121 464 2638** (Starbank Road site).

All pupils are also expected to arrive at school on time. The school doors open at 8.25am, when pupils can go into the classroom and begin their morning activities. The final bell rings at 8.40am and pupils arriving after this time will be considered as late.

It is also important that your child's contact and emergency phone numbers are up to date and accurate. **PLEASE** tell us when you, or a person you have nominated as an emergency contact, change phone numbers. Sick children become very distressed when someone cannot be contacted for them and this is upsetting for all involved.



Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Christmas Parties (PM)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec - Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	School closed for Christmas Holiday
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Teacher Training Day School closed for pupils.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	School re-opens. Pupils first day back at school
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Y5 to visit Warwick Castle
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Reception to visit Symphony Hall
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Nursery Photograph Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Y2 to visit Birmingham Cathedral

