

# St John's C.E. Primary School

- high standards through a caring community -



PARENT'S NEWSLETTER September 2018



## HERE WE GO!

Welcome back to another busy year! I hope you enjoyed the summer holiday and in particular the surprisingly pleasant weather. Everyone already seems very settled and eager to get stuck into their learning.



## SPECIAL WELCOME:

Firstly can we welcome all our new children who have started in Reception. Already they are settling well and mixing with the other children, especially their buddies, during lunchtimes and are very quickly becoming a part of the St John's community. Can we also welcome the Reception families, many of whom are new to St John's and it is great to see some familiar families continuing their link with the school as their younger children also join us.



Although we said goodbye to a number of families who relocated to other areas of the UK at the end of the summer term, we have had some children starting school in various year groups and therefore the school population is now 202 pupils. It is a pleasure to have the Ghorbani, Baluch and Azziwi families starting with us and are sure your children will quickly become settled and enjoy their time here.



## STAFFING:



The new staffing arrangements were shared with you in July, but we would like to specifically welcome to our school Miss Shackleton, who is teaching in Year 4. Miss Shackleton has been working hard to familiarise herself with the school and is quickly becoming a member of the team. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her all the very best at St. John's. For a full list of staff you can visit our school website.



## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

We like to think that we are a school that is continually looking to develop and enhance the learning experiences that we offer. For this reason, we take into account feedback from all members of the St. John's community (children, parents/carers, staff and governors) and evaluate a range of information and data, to help us establish priorities for future development. We have identified the following areas for development during this academic year:



**Key Priority 1:** Ensure all school policies, systems and procedures are consistently applied.



**Key Priority 2:** To provide a deep and rich curriculum rooted in skill development and challenge for all.

**Key Priority 3:** To secure full engagement and pride in learning and all aspects of school life from the whole school community.



## GROUNDS DEVELOPMENT WORK:

Hopefully, you may have noticed that the development of our school community garden is nearly complete. The grant from 'The Lottery Fund' will enable children to learn from first hand experience about growing plants, vegetables and flowers and have the opportunity to care for their own garden and maybe even grow something to eat! Many thanks to Miss Wyatt, Mr Clerc and Mrs Ingham for all their hard work with this project.



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REBUILD OF THE SCHOOL:

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I recently wrote to confirm the very positive news that planning permission had been granted for the rebuild of the school. Since then we have been supporting the necessary arrangements to enable the Education, Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) to put everything in place to begin the rebuild process.



Currently the schedule is for us to be in the new school for September 2019. With this in mind, we have set the following term dates in order to allow for time to effectively set up the new school. We have placed three inset days at the beginning of the Autumn Term 2019 and as a school being rebuilt we are entitled to two exceptional circumstances closure days. This would provide us with the essential additional time to set up the new school with the new academic year beginning on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Whilst this all assumes that the rebuild progresses without delay and remains subject to change, we wanted to provide advance notice of these dates to parents. We will of course endeavour to keep you informed of any changes, as we made aware of them.

**TERM DATES AND INSET DAYS:**

Please see the term and INSET day dates below for the next two academic years:

**(2018, 2019):**

	School opens:	School closes on:
AUTUMN 2018	8.45 am on Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	3.15pm on Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October
	8.45 am on Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	3.15pm on Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
SPRING 2019	8.45 am on Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	3.15pm on Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February
	8.45 am on Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	3.15pm on Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> April
SUMMER 2019	8.45 am on Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	3.15pm on Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
	8.45 am on Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	3.15pm on Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July

**Inset Days:**

1. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018
2. Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018
3. Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018
4. Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019
5. Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**(2019, 2020):**

	School opens:	School closes on:
AUTUMN 2019	8.45 am on Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	3.15pm on Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
	8.45 am on Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	3.15pm on Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
SPRING 2020	8.45 am on Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	3.15pm on Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February
	8.45 am on Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	3.15pm on Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
SUMMER 2020	8.45 am on Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	3.15pm on Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
	8.45 am on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	3.15pm on Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July

**Inset Days:**

1. Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019
2. Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019
3. Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019
4. Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019
5. Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Closure due to Exceptional Circumstances:**

1. Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019
2. Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**HEALTHY SNACKS:**

At the start of the year we would like to take the opportunity to remind all our families that we aim to be a healthy school. This includes expecting our children to bring healthy lunch options for packed lunch and for their snacks at break time. KS1 and Reception are provided with a free piece of fruit funded by the Government. KS2 children may bring their own snack for break time but this should not be crisps, chocolate or sweets etc. May we also remind you that fizzy drinks are not allowed as a drink for school.

**MEDICAL INFORMATION:**

Thank you to those families who work closely with us, regarding their child's specific medical needs. Should

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your child have any specific medical needs please ensure you have liaised with the school office or class teacher to ensure we can provide the care and support needed. If your child needs medication then a form must be completed at the office stating clearly the does and timings required. If your child has asthma then they must have an in date inhaler and spacer in school.



As shared with you in a previous letter, can we remind our families that no nuts or nut based products should be brought into school either as part of a lunchbox, treats for the class or as a snack. This is due to us having some children and staff with severe nut allergies.

#### **SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KIT:**

Before the summer we asked for your support in sending your children back to school in September in the correct school uniform and correctly equipped for PE and out games lessons. The children returned to school looking very smart and we would thank you for that. We are very keen to keep developing the pride in our school and arriving at school dressed correctly is one way we can support this culture. Where a member of staff identifies a small issue they will either speak to you directly or place a sticker in your child's reading diary. Your support in correcting the issue will be greatly appreciated. Should you have any concerns or queries regarding school uniform or PE kit please contact your child's class teacher or the website and school prospectus may also have the answers.

#### **ROAD SAFETY:**



Being situated at the end of a cul-de-sac is far from ideal for a school, but this is the situation we are faced with. We would urge our school community to be mindful of the impact they have on the local roads and would discourage you from driving down Poplar Street at peak times as this makes safeguarding the children and our families very challenging. Mr Stocks does a fantastic job trying to direct traffic but we need the cooperation of all pedestrians and drivers to make every effort to keep the area outside of school as safe as possible. We would ask all pedestrians to keep to the pavements and ensure that children do not cut across the turning circle as a short cut. We would also ask all users of school to ensure they park considerately ensuring they do not block driveways, block other drivers in or park too close to the end of a road as to make navigating the junction difficult.

#### **PTA:**

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) are always looking for new members and support. They meet approximately every half term and organise and run much needed fund raising events for school. Their work is invaluable in helping provide even better facilities and opportunities for our children. Should you be interested then look out for letters and text messages about their meetings or contact them directly via email [ptastjohns@gmail.com](mailto:ptastjohns@gmail.com). The next PTA event is the Family Disco on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September with everyone welcome, whether you can offer support or simply attending. The next meeting of the PTA is planned for Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in the staffroom, again all welcome to attend.

#### **NEW BUILD FUNDRAISING:**

In addition to the excellent work the PTA do in fundraising for the school, we have agreed to increase our efforts and set up a group with the aim to raise additional funds to for the new school. Unfortunately, the capital funding for the rebuild does not provide all of the essential resources required to make the school fit for purpose. There is therefore a meeting organised for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm in the staffroom. It would be great if there were representatives from each of the classes!

#### **PUPIL WATER CHARGE:**



As in previous years it is necessary to ask for a £5 contribution from each child in order that we can continue to provide children with chilled filtered water throughout the day. This payment is due as soon as possible and is payable via Parent Pay. Children will need a water bottle with a sports cap in order that they may be able to access water whenever they need it. We do sell St. John's water bottles available from the office at £1.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

We are in the process of updating all pupil records and information. There will be a data collection sheet given to all parents and carers at Parents/Teacher Evenings. It is vitally important that you check to see whether the information is accurate and inform us of any necessary amendments.

#### **RESIDENTIALS:**

This year there are two residentials planned for Key Stage 2 classes. PGL is for Year 5 and 6 and has been

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booked for those children who returned deposits before the summer break. The next payment for PGL is due by Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October and is £60.

With regards to the residential for Year 3 and 4 to Nantglyn, this is planned for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Miss Wyatt, who will again be leading the trip, will send out information letters in due course.

#### **PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT:**

As a school who wants to provide the best for all its stake holders, we are constantly looking to seek the opinions and views of our parental community. As in previous years, we have planned 'Parent Forum' meetings as an opportunity for parents to raise questions and issues for the benefit of all children. These meetings are held periodically throughout the year and last for about 1 hour. These meetings are also a great opportunity to meet other parents and some of the school staff. The first of these meetings will be Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 9.45am.

This week we held the 'Meet the Teacher' Evenings, a chance to find out what is involved this year for your child and find out important information regarding key dates and days such as spelling test days, when homework is due in etc. It is also designed as an opportunity to ask any questions you have of the class teacher regarding the year ahead. Whilst we had many parents attending, unfortunately we had significant numbers of families who did not attend and therefore have missed some important messages. Overall we had an attendance rate of **61%** across school by parents. (Reception **71%**, Year 1 **63%**, Year 2 **68%**, Year 3 **47%**, Year 4 **63%**, Year 5 **60%** and Year 6 **56%**)

We are often asked to provide more information to parents about school and so would encourage parents wherever possible to attend the meetings on offer to enable the home school partnership to work to greatest effect.

A further way to register your views of the school is through the Ofsted website <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>.

Finally we look forward to working together for another successful year. Should you wish to get more information or contact us our details are below. Many thanks for your continued support.



Mr P Rayner  
Headteacher



Mr A Clerc  
Deputy Headteacher

Contact: [Headteacher@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:Headteacher@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk)

Website: <http://www.st-johns.stockport.sch.uk>



St Johns CE Primary



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Key Dates for Autumn Term 2018					
Month	Date	Event	Time		
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Teacher (Reception, Y5 & Y6)	6.00pm		
	19 <sup>th</sup>	School Council Hustings	9.00am		
		Meet the Teacher (Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4)	6.00pm		
	20 <sup>th</sup>	School Council Elections			
	21 <sup>st</sup>	PTA Family Disco	6pm-8pm		
	26 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Trip to see Matilda	1.30 – 5.30pm		
	27 <sup>th</sup>	Governors: Development Meeting	6.00pm		
	28 <sup>th</sup>	Macmillan coffee Morning (Family Assembly will follow at 10.00am)	9.00am		
  	1 <sup>st</sup>	Black History Week			
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pobble Launch			
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Board Meeting	6.00pm		
	8 <sup>th</sup>	New Build Fundraising meeting	7.00pm		
	9 <sup>th</sup>	Individual School Photos			
	10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Class Assembly	9.00am		
	15 <sup>th</sup>	NSPCC Assemblies and workshops			
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Meetings	2.30-5.00pm		
	17 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Meetings	5.00-7.30pm		
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival at St John's Church	9.30-10.30am		
		School Closes for Half Term			
		29 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day		
      		30 <sup>th</sup>	School Reopens	8.45am	
				PTA Meeting	7.00pm
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Children's Views: Anti-Bullying Questionnaire		
		6 <sup>th</sup>	PTA: Clothing Collection		10.00am
		9 <sup>th</sup>	Parental View Forum		9.45am
		11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Sunday		
		12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-Bullying Week		
		12 <sup>th</sup>	'Time to be Different' Anti-bullying production & workshop		9.00am
		13 <sup>th</sup>	Christians in School: Anti-Bullying Workshops (Y5 & Y6)		
		15 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Board Meeting		6pm-8pm
		16 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need Day		
		19 <sup>th</sup> –23 <sup>rd</sup>	Road Safety Week		
		21 <sup>st</sup>	New Reception Parents Tours of School		10.00am
		23 <sup>rd</sup>	PTA: Non Uniform Day – bottles for the Christmas Fair		
			New Reception Parents Tours of School		10.00am
			Steel Band: Fair Trade Stockport		3.30pm
		26 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Encounter Assembly		9.00am
	28 <sup>th</sup>	Nasal Flu Vaccination: Reception to Year 5			
	30 <sup>th</sup>	PTA: Non Uniform Day – chocolate for the Christmas Fair			
		PTA: Putting up Christmas Decorations			
   		5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Class Assembly	9.00am	
		7 <sup>th</sup>	PTA: Non Uniform Day – wear your Christmas Outfit for £1		
			PTA Christmas Fair		6.00 – 8.00pm
		10 <sup>th</sup>	Choir: Golden Oldies at Heaton Mersey Community Centre		2.00pm
		11 <sup>th</sup>	Main Steelband at Handforth Dean		11.00am
			Nativity Performance for Grandparents		2.00pm
			Nativity Performance		6.00pm
		12 <sup>th</sup>	Main Steelband at Sainsbury's		12.00pm
			Nativity Performance		6.00pm
		13 <sup>th</sup>	PTA: Whole School Trip to the Cinema		9.30 – 12.15pm
			Full Governing Board Meeting		6.00pm
		14 <sup>th</sup>	'Journey Through Christmas' Theme Day		
			Christingle Service @ St John's Church		6.30 -7.30pm
		17 <sup>th</sup>	Reception and KS 1 Christmas Party (non-uniform)		
		18 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Christmas Lunch		12.15pm
	KS 2 Christmas Party (non-uniform)				
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Carols by Candlelight		1.45pm	
	20 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term Achievement Assembly		9.00am	
		Team Points Winners Party		1.30pm	
		School Closes for Christmas		3.15pm	