

St John's C.E. Primary School

- high standards through a caring community -



PARENT'S NEWSLETTER March 2017



Spring is Coming!

Nearly half way through this five-week half term, it certainly is turning out to be a busy one. We have already had lots of exciting learning opportunities on offer, including International Maths Day, World Book Character Day and Year 2 'Step Outside Road Safety'.



Over the next three weeks it continues to be action packed with highlights including the Year 5 and Year 6 Residential to PGL, Year 1 and Year 2's trip to Stockport's Hat Museum, our Easter theme Day on Thursday 30th March (including an Easter Service in church) and the choir singing at Stockport Town Hall.

Rebuild of the School:

As you are hopefully aware, the rebuild of the school is progressing with plans to revert back to build on the current site now being the preferred option to explore. I am sure that you are as keen as we are for progress to be made with rebuilding the school. Can we reassure you that the leadership of the school (including the Governors and Senior Leadership) are doing everything in our power to support this process and hopefully move it forward. We will of course look to keep you posted of developments as and when we can.

Progress with our Key Priorities:

Can we take this opportunity to remind you of our key priorities for development this year:



- Key Priority 1: To further embed a maths curriculum which allows progression of fluency, reasoning and problem solving in order that children can apply their basic skills.
- Key Priority 2: To use a range of strategies to raise boys attainment across all core subjects in order to close the gap between boys and girls achievement
- Key Priority 3: To embed practices to further develop growth mindsets in children and the wider school community.

Hopefully you are aware of a considerable number of developments introduced to address our identified priorities. These include:

- Whole school maths development, including training for all staff on our Inset Days
- World Maths Day themed around reasoning and problem solving
- Maths tuition for identified Year 6 children
- Introduction of Number Gym both as a teaching resource and home engagement tool
- Significant developments to engage boys in reading – 'Bug Club', Boys reading club, purchase of boy friendly books
- Boy friendly writing opportunities planned and delivered
- Introduction of 'St. John's Learning Behaviours: theme day, characters introduced and shared with children and parents, weekly celebration based on chosen half termly behaviour



Next steps include:

- Continue to develop teaching and learning of maths to support reasoning and problem solving skills
- Assemblies and presentations by male role models on how reading & writing supports them in their career
- Introduction of a 'Learning Behaviours' reward system to support marking and feedback



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PGL:

Today (Monday) a group of Year 5 and 6 children are leaving for PGL Boreatton Park, near Shrewsbury, to experience a range of outdoor adventurous and problem solving activities. The children have a mixture of nerves and excitement, but our experience is that the children find this a beneficial and fun trip to be part of. We hope they get good weather and please do follow their adventures on the Year 6 Twitter page (@year6stjohns)



Nantglyn

After the Easter holidays (from 19th to 21st April) 45 Year 3 and Year 4 children will be heading for their residential. There will be an information evening for all those involved, Thursday 27th March at 6pm, in the school hall. Please contact the school office for further details.

Term Dates 2017/ 2018:

Please see below the school term dates for next year when all children are expected to be in school. We do not authorise holidays during term time so please do not arrange any holidays during these dates.

- **Autumn 1:** Tuesday 5th September – Friday 20th October 2017
- **Autumn 2:** Tuesday 31st October – Tuesday 19th December 2017
- **Spring 1:** Thursday 4th January – Friday 16th February 2018
- **Spring 2:** Monday 26th February – Thursday 29th March 2018
- **Summer 1:** Monday 16th April – Friday 25th May 2018
- **Summer 2:** Monday 11th June – Friday 27th July 2018

Inset Days:

- Monday 4th September 2017
- Monday 30th October 2017
- Wednesday 3rd January 2018
- Monday 30th July 2018
- Tuesday 31st July 2018

Staffing Changes:

Mrs Matthews will be leaving us at Easter as she has successfully gained a full time contract at another school in Stockport. Mrs Matthews has been a dedicated member of staff for the last eighteen years! In this time she has made many significant contributions to the school and will be greatly missed. I am sure you would join us in wishing her all the very best in her new school. Many of you are probably aware that congratulations are in order for Mrs Taylor, who is expecting her second child. Mrs Taylor's plans are to begin her maternity from May.



We have been busy putting in plans to cover the above staff changes. These include:

- Year 4 - Mr Middlebrough will be teaching Year 4 for an additional day and Miss Lofthouse will be teaching Year 4 two days a week. Miss Lofthouse has agreed to attend our Year 3 & Year 4 residential in April to support getting to know the children in Year 4.
- Year 5 – Mr Dunn has successfully been recruited to teach Year 5 from May until the end of the academic year. Mr Dunn has worked on supply throughout the school and has built very effective relationships with both children and staff.

I am sure you will join us in welcoming both Mr Dunn and Miss Lofthouse to St. John's.

Safeguarding:

- **Attendance and Punctuality** – Recent monitoring demonstrates that whilst overall school attendance rates are good (96.7%) they have fallen since October 2016 (97.7%). In addition, we are increasingly concerned with the punctuality of some families. Consistently arriving late to school very clearly has a detrimental impact on children's learning and general well being. We would strongly encourage these families to make the necessary adjustments to morning routines to ensure that all children are not affected by arriving to school late. For clarification the school day begins at 8.45am with registration closing at 8.55am. As a school we have been advised to mark lateness as unauthorised, which could then lead to the issuing of an Educational Penalty Notice (EPN) where lateness becomes a real concern.
- **Supervision before school** - We have become aware that some children are being dropped off at the school gate and are left unsupervised. This has led to concerns regarding both keeping children safe and a number of behaviour incidents that have been reported. Can we remind you that supervision from the school begins at



8.45am and that parents up until this time should supervise children.

- **Local Residents & Road Safety** - Local residents continue to express their frustrations and concerns regarding parking, road safety and the speed of traffic. Please can we remind everyone to park, drive and behave in a responsible manner. Can we also ask that you ensure that all children take great care when crossing local roads. We are very much concerned that some children are putting themselves at risk and would greatly appreciate your co-operation in working with the school and local residents in keeping all members of our community safe and happy.



Contact Details:

Please may we remind all parents of the importance of keeping the emergency contact details that school has up to date. If you are new to the school, have moved or changed phone numbers please ensure school has the new and correct details as soon as possible. Increasingly we are sending text messages to alert parents to important messages and events and therefore without a working mobile number, information could be missed.

Parental Questionnaire & Views:

The next Parent View Meeting is planned for Friday 24th March, after Family Assembly. We will be looking at the evaluation of the recent parental questionnaire and are very keen to gain the views of parents and hope that the timing of this meeting will encourage those parents who attend the assembly to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a chance to express your views on how to further develop St. John's.

Should you wish to get more information or contact us our details are below. It just remains for us to wish everyone all the best and a Happy Easter when the holidays come.

Mr P Rayner
Headteacher

Mr A Clerc
Deputy Headteacher

Contact: admin@st-johns.stockport.ech.uk
Headteacher@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk
Website: <http://www.st-johns.stockport.sch.uk>



St Johns CE Primary



@stjohns_primary

Key Dates for Spring Term 2017			
Month	Date	Event	Time
March	13 th - 17 th	PGL: Year 5 & 6 Residential	
	16 th	Governors: Full Governing Board	6 – 8pm
	17 th	No Family Assembly	
	23 rd	Year 5 Class Assembly	9.00am
	23 rd	PTA Mother's Day Stall	2pm
	24 th	PTA Mother's Day Stall	2pm
		Parent View Forum	10am
	27 th	Nantglyn Meeting for Year 3 & 4 Parents	6pm
	27 th – 31 st	Bikeability Year 6	
	30 th	Easter Service at St. John's Church	9.30am
	30 th	Easter Themed Day	
	30 th	Stockport Junior Choir Concert	6.30pm
	31 st	End of Term Achievement Assembly	9am
	31 st	Easter Egg Raffle	2pm
31 st	School Closes for Easter	3.15pm	
20 th	School Reopens	8.45am	
Key Dates for Summer Term 2017			
Month	Date	Event	Time
April	17 th	Easter Monday – Bank Holiday – School Closed	
	18 th	School Reopens	8.45am
	19 th - 21 st	Plas Nantglyn: Year 3 & 4 Residential	
	25 th	Governors: Steering Committee	11.00am
	28 th	INSET Day – School Closed	
May	1 st	Bank Holiday – School Closed	
	4 th	Governors: Teaching & Learning Committee	6pm
	8 th – 12 th	KS2 SATs Week	
	12 th	PTA: Family Disco	6pm – 8pm
	18 th	Nursery Rhyme Day (Reception Class) Stockport Town Hall	1pm – 3.30pm
	18 th	Governors: Resources Committee	6pm
	22 nd	Class & Group Photos	
	23 rd	Year 5 'Crashed Vehicle Project'	
	23 rd	Governors & Staff Learning Walk	
	24 th	Science Theme Day	
	24 th & 25 th	Operation Eagle Eyed – Year 6	
	25 th	Year 3 Class Assembly	9am
	26 th	Year 6 'Speed Watch'	9am – 12pm
26 th	New Reception Parents Coffee Morning	10am	
26 th	End of Half Term		
June	12 th	Start of Half Term	
	13 th	Year 6 Leavers Service (Manchester Cathedral)	9.30am – 12.00pm
	14 th	'First Steps' (Transition for New Reception Parents) begins	2pm – 3pm
	16 th	Parent View Forum	10am
	20 th	Music Evening	6pm
	29 th	Governors: Full Governing Board Meeting	6pm
July	1 st	PTA Summer Fair	11am – 2pm
	3 rd – 7 th	Eat Fit, Keep Fit Week	
	4 th	Sports Day	1.15pm
	12 th	New Reception Parents Meeting	5.30pm
	13 th	MFL Theme Day	
	18 th	KS2 Production (1.45pm – Grandparents)	1.45pm & 6pm
	19 th	KS2 Production	6pm
	20 th	Year 6 Leavers Trip	
	27 th	End of Term Achievement Assembly	9am
	28 th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly	9am
28 th	End of Term		

