

St John's C.E. Primary School

-high standards through a caring community -



PARENT'S NEWSLETTER July 2017



END OF A BUSY BUT SUCCESSFUL YEAR

As the academic year draws to a close we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to everyone who has helped to make this such a successful year. Can we also wish all children, parents and families who are for various reasons leaving us the very best for the future. Whilst we are all ready for a break we are already planning for the new academic year, which I am sure will be equally exciting and engaging as this year.



MFL Theme Day



Sports Day!



Operation Eagle Eye

HIGH STANDARDS AT ST. JOHN'S:

As our school motto 'High standards – through a caring community' suggests we do aim for high standards of achievement in all aspects of school life at St. John's. This includes one of our five values of 'Core Standards' in reading, writing and maths. We are very happy to report that standards across school remain high as can be seen from the end of key stage data below, which shows the percentage of children meeting age related expectations:

Key stage	Subject	School	National
EYFS	GLD	80%	70.6%
Year 1	Phonics	93%	80%
KS1	Reading	77%	76%
	Writing	60%	68%
	Maths	77%	75%
KS2	Reading	72%	71%
	Writing	89%	76%
	SPAG	90%	77%
	Maths	90%	75%



READING CELEBRATION EVENT AT PRIESTNALL SCHOOL

Last term our Y5 and Y6 classes took part in a reading competition organised by Priestnall School, which encouraged children to read a wide range of material. Congratulations to, Rory, Amy-Anne and Martha from Y5 and to Elliot, Daniel and Victoria in Y6 who received special awards which were presented by Dawn Platt, an ex-teacher who is currently an Ofsted inspector and who has an absolute passion for reading, at the celebration event at Priestnall on 29th June.

STRATEGIES FOR READING AT HOME:

Whilst we do acknowledge that the children are ready for and deserve a holiday, we do hope that the children continue to read for pleasure and most importantly 'FUN!' over the summer holidays. Below are some suggestions for ways that children can remain actively engaged in their reading:

- Heaton's Library Summer Reading Challenge: 'Animal Agents'
- Bug Club
- Reading newspapers, magazines, comics and annuals
- Playing and reading instructions for games,
- Following recipes,
- Writing and reading postcards,
- Create a treasure hunt with clues to read,
- Read all the signposts on journeys

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END OF TERM EVENTS:

We do hope you can come and join us for some of the end of term events listed below:

- KS2 Production Performance (Church Community Centre) - 19th July, 6.00pm
- Year 6 Leavers Trip – 20th July
- Transition: meet new class teachers – 21st July, (pm only) & 24th July, (all day)
- Team Points Winners Celebration – trip to the cinema – 26th July, 1.15pm
- End of Term Achievement Assembly – 27th July, 9.00am – Parents welcome
- Year 6 Leavers Assembly – 28th July, 9.00am – Year 6 parents welcome



REBUILD OF THE SCHOOL:

We FINALLY have some positive news to report regarding the rebuild of the school! The Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) and Stockport MBC are committed to planning for the rebuild of a one-form entry school on the current site. Whilst we do have some concerns over the financial sustainability of the school in the current economic climate, this must be seen as positive news and hopefully secures the future of our school. It has been a somewhat frustrating period of time with limited evident progress being made, but we can now all look forward and work together to secure the best outcomes for the children of St. John's.

The ESFA want to hear your views about how proposals for the new School could be developed on the existing site and are holding a 'Listening Event' on Tuesday 25th July between 8:45am and 6pm in the school hall. Please see the separate letter.

PTA:

A huge THANK YOU to the PTA, who have worked extremely hard to raise a very impressive £7,100 this year for the benefit of the children at St. John's. I am sure that you will join me in thanking them for the invaluable contribution they make. Recent funding has:

- Made financial contributions to a number of trips and visits throughout the school.
- Purchased reading book bags for our new Reception children to encourage positive attitudes to reading.
- Purchase of addition reading books for guided reading, home reading and the school library
- Resources to support our 'St. John's Learning Behaviours'
- Science resources, including data loggers
- Young Voices coach
- Contribution to Year 6 Leavers trip
- Purchased resources to support our ECO Club garden developments

VOLUNTEERS:

Can we take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers and parent helpers who have made an invaluable contribution to St. John's and enabled us to go that extra mile in providing the very best opportunities for the children and community at St. John's.

TERM DATES AND INSET DAYS

Please see the term and INSET day dates below.

	School opens:	School closes on:
AUTUMN 2017	8.45 am on Tuesday 5 th September	3.15pm on Friday 20 th October
	8.45 am on Tuesday 31 st October	3.15pm on Tuesday 19 th December
SPRING 2018	8.45 am on Thursday 4 th January	3.15pm on Friday 16 th February
	8.45 am on Monday 26 th February	3.15pm on Thursday 29 th March
SUMMER 2018	8.45 am on Monday 16 th April	3.15pm on Friday 25 th May
	8.45 am on Monday 11 th June	3.15pm on Friday 27 th July

Inset Days:

1. Monday 4th September 2017
2. Monday 30th October 2017
3. Wednesday 3rd January 2018
4. Monday 30th July 2018
5. Tuesday 31st July 2018

ATTENDANCE

As you know we actively encourage positive attitudes to attendance and punctuality at St. John's

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through monitoring and celebrating high standards of attendance. We have worked very hard this year on improving our attendance target and so far 170 children have reached 95% attendance. Well done to all those children and parents who have helped us reach this! All children who achieve 100% attendance for this term will receive a 'St. John's attendance pencil and ruler' in our end of year achievement assembly. Those who achieve 100% attendance for the whole school year will also receive a 'St. John's 100% attendance medal!'



Unfortunately, we have had a significant number of requests for leave of absence for family holidays recently. Regulations are clear that the headteacher is only allowed to authorise requests for leave of absence in exceptional circumstances, which does not include holidays. In addition, any request for leave of absence beyond five days cannot be approved. Unauthorised absences may be issued with an education penalty notice (EPN). Can we also take this chance to emphasise the need to instil positive attitudes towards punctuality in our children. Children should meet their classes on the playground no later than 8.45am. Families should not be using the main entrance as a daily entrance for school. This prevents the office staff from being available to support parents and carers with enquiries.

TESCO GROUNDWORK PROJECT:

We are looking to develop the grounds, our outdoor learning and purchase new equipment for use outdoors from the money raised. We have been selected as one of the three finalists for store voting for the Tesco Groundwork Project. People vote via a blue coin, collected on payment at checkouts. The money received has been raised through the 5p bag charge and other Tesco community projects. We do hope you can support us by voting for us at your local Tesco store.

- 1st Prize £4000
- 2nd Prize £2000
- 3rd Prize £1000

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

This year school has made a concerted effort to ensure all children and families are very clear on our policy regarding school uniform and we would like to thank all the families that have worked in partnership with the school to ensure their child arrives at school in the correct uniform, which includes no trainers, nail varnish or elaborate jewellery or accessories. We would like to reinforce that in order to bring a fair and consistent approach to all children, in September we will pursue our approach to children wearing the correct school uniform and will ask children wearing items that are not part of the whole school policy to remove them. We acknowledge that occasionally there may be a short term issue but ask that as always you speak to your child's class teacher. Should you be unclear about the school uniform then please see the school website or prospectus. We thank you for your support.

SO LONG AND GOOD LUCK!

It is very nearly time to say goodbye to our Year 6 children and their parents/carers who will be moving onto Priestnall and other high schools. Everyone here at St. John's CE Primary School wishes them good luck and all the very best for the future. We look forward to welcoming them back at some point and hearing how they're getting on.

Should you wish to get more information or contact us our details are below. It just remains to wish you all an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 5th September.

Best wishes

Mr P Rayner
Headteacher

Mr A Clerc
Deputy Headteacher

Contact: Headteacher@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk

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St Johns CE Primary



@stjohns_primary