

St John's C.E. Primary School

-high standards through a caring community -



PARENT'S NEWSLETTER July 2018



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.



Marshmallows at Forest School



Freddie Fit In EFKF Week!



Choir sings at Freshfields Nursery

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 for 2017/2018 below, which shows the percentage of children meeting age related expectations and that we continue to generally exceed National standards:

Key stage	Subject	School	National
EYFS	GLD	74%	72%
Year 1	Phonics	93%	83%
KS1	Reading	77%	76%
	Writing	77%	70%
	Maths	83%	76%
KS2	Reading	85%	75%
	Writing	89%	78%
	SPAG	89%	78%
	Maths	93%	76%
	Combined (Reading, Writing, Maths)	78%	64%

READING CELEBRATION EVENT AT PRIESTNALL SCHOOL

Over the last two terms 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 Zaina, Divya and Matthew from Y5 and to Sebastian, Safa and Darcy in Y6 who received special awards at the celebration event at Priestnall on 26th June. In addition, this year Darcy was also the overall winner of the reading competition for the whole of the Heaton. Well done Darcy!



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: 'Mischievous Makers'
- 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

END OF TERM EVENTS:

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



Key Dates for End of Summer Term 2018			
Month	Date	Event	Time
	17 th	KS2 Production (school Hall): Performance / Dress Rehearsal for Grandparents (1.45pm)	1.45pm & 6.00pm
	18 th	KS2 Production (School Hall): Performance	6.00pm
	19 th	Reception Trip to the park & picnic	12.00pm – 2.30pm
	19 th	Governors FGB: Teaching & Learning Focus	6.00pm
	20 th	Year 6 Leavers Trip	
	20 th	Year 1 & Year 2 Trip to Blackpool Sea Life Centre	
	23 rd	Transition Day – meet new class teachers	All day
	24 th	Transition Day – meet new class teachers	All day
	25 th	Governors: Presentation to Governors	3.30pm – 5.30pm
	26 th	End of Term Achievement Assembly – parents welcome	9.00am
	26 th	Team Points Winners Celebration – trip to Savoy cinema	1.00pm – 3.00pm
	27 th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly – year 6 parents welcome	9.00am
	27 th	End of Term	

REBUILD OF THE SCHOOL:

As you are hopefully aware, we are awaiting the decision on the proposed planning application to build a one form entry replacement school on the current site of the school. Our understanding is that provided there are no objections raised by the relevant consultees the planning application will be considered at the Heaton & Reddish Area Committee, Committee Room 2, Town Hall on Monday 6th August, 6.00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

TERM DATES AND INSET DAYS

Please see the term and INSET day dates below for the next academic year.

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

Inset Days:

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

ATTENDANCE

As you know we actively encourage positive attitudes to attendance and punctuality at St. John's through monitoring and celebrating high standards of attendance. We have worked very hard this year on improving our attendance target and so far 169 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 continue to have had a significant number of requests for leave of absence for family holidays. 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. From September all children arriving via the main office must be signed in by an adult to support us in tracking attendance and punctuality.

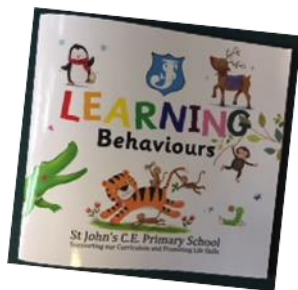
PTA:

A huge THANK YOU to the PTA, who have worked extremely hard to raise a very impressive amount 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, including the Year 6 Leavers trip & Young Voices coach
- Purchased reading book bags for our new Reception children to encourage positive attitudes to reading.
- Purchased copies of our 'St. John's Learning Behaviours' Book for new Reception children to become familiar with prior to joining our school in September
- Purchased resources to support outdoor provision in Reception
- Purchase of addition reading books for guided reading, home reading and the school library
- Purchased resources to support our ECO Club garden developments
- Provided a container for storage of forest schools resources

GROUNDS DEVELOPMENT WORK:

We have successfully been awarded a grant from 'The Lottery Fund' to enhance outdoor provision at St. John's. The aim is to develop a school community garden, where children can learn about growing plants, vegetables and flowers and have the opportunity to care for their own garden and maybe even grow something to eat! Miss Wyatt, Mr Clerc and Mrs Ingham are taking a lead on this project and hopefully you should see some significant developments very soon.



ST. JOHN'S LEARNING BEHAVIOURS BOOK'

Just a reminder that we have our own published book all about our six chosen learning behaviours, with the associated characters, illustrations and stories available to purchase from the office at the price of £4.99. A great bedtime read!

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. In September we will be looking for volunteers to support us through the coming year.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

As a school we continue to make 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. This includes trainers and fashion boots. Earrings are discouraged to help prevent injury, but if worn should be simple stud earrings, not hoops. All earrings must be removed for PE and left at home to prevent them being lost. Exceptions to this can only be made during the initial six-week period after a child having their ears pierced. 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.

As we near the end of another highly productive academic year, I would hope that you would join me in thanking all the staff, Governors and school community for their commitment, drive and considerable efforts to provide the very best for the children at our school. We really can be extremely 'pleased and proud' of the many achievements and high quality outcomes of the children at St. John's.

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'High Standards Through a Caring Community'

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 4th September.

Best wishes



Patrick Rayner *A Clerc*

Mr P Rayner
Headteacher

Mr A Clerc
Deputy Headteacher

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St Johns CE Primary



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