

# St John's C.E. Primary School

**-high standards through a caring community-**



PARENTS' NEWSLETTER March 2022

## A CURRICULUM TO BE SUITABLY PROUD OF!!!

As we move into the Christian season of Lent, it seems appropriate to be reflecting on the academic year so far, including the continued challenges of managing the pandemic and the very considerable efforts by all members of the school community to provide the best opportunities, support and education to the children at St. John's. We are suitably proud of all those who have worked so hard and selflessly to continue to make St. John's such a fantastic place to work and learn.



So far through the spring term, it has been hugely pleasing to have been able to plan and offer a breadth of opportunities and re-establish most of the learning opportunities available prior to the pandemic. It has also been fantastic to see the high levels of participation, motivation and enjoyment in learning demonstrated by all the children at St. John's.

It seems pertinent to reinforce the key aims of our curriculum based on our five core values:

- Core Standards
- Life Skills
- Wider Opportunities
- Christian Values
- Community

These values shape and drive everything we do as a school in providing a child centered curriculum that provides a breadth of opportunity and ideally prepares children for the next steps in their learning and beyond into adult life. We would hope that you as parents and carers would be able to recognise the above values in our daily life, and like us see the importance of the theme days, assemblies, visitors, celebration events, learning behaviours, hooks, talk partners, outdoor learning opportunities, etc. that are integral to our curriculum. Certainly the observations, monitoring and feedback from yourselves and the children, both in their books and in their views, indicates that the curriculum at St. John's is a strength of the school. If you do have any comments, either positive or developmental, we would as always be happy to receive it to inform any future curriculum developments.



Year 4 whittling at Forest



Mental Health Workshop by Lily-Jo Project



World Book Character Day

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**ANNUAL READING COMPETITION:**

World Book Day marked the beginning of our reading competition. As you are hopefully aware, we really think reading is incredibly important at St. John’s and actively encourage positive attitudes to reading to both support learning and also for enjoyment. Between now and Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May we will be encouraging children to read regularly both at home and at school. Staff, as ever, will be looking for children engaged in their reading and recording this in their reading records. There are three categories that we are looking for:

- Outstanding Reader
- Most Improved Reader
- Most Committed Reader



Prizes will be given for the three categories in each class at the Family Assembly on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May. Good luck!

**PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT:**

**1. WEBSITE** – The school’s website continues to be a key means to communicate with parents, including our curriculum offer, key information and documentation, calendar and term dates, Twitter feed, etc. Our school can still be found at the usual website address: <http://www.st-johns.stockport.sch.uk>

**2. PARENT / TEACHER CONSULTATIONS:**

• Firstly we would like to thank all parents / carers for their engagement in the recent opportunity to meet with your child(s) teacher. As can be seen in the table below engagement was very extremely high!

Class	Parental Attendance	%
Reception	30 / 30	100%
Year 1	29 / 30	97%
Year 2	28 / 28	100%
Year 3	30 / 31	97%
Year 4	29 / 31	94%
Year 5	31 / 32	97%
Year 6	28 / 29	97%
Whole school	205 / 211	97%

- Secondly, we hoped you found the meetings helpful and informative, providing appropriate details on where your child’s attainment and progress is currently and how we can work in partnership to ensure that the children reach their full potential.
- Thirdly, initial feedback from holding these meetings remotely was generally positive and perhaps something we should consider continuing to offer as we move forward. However, some say that a face to face meeting does have other benefits, including an opportunity to look at the children’s books. To gain a better understanding of parental view on this could we ask that you complete the google form via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/SKAd4eGMszaRB8mp9>



### 3. PARENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE & PARENT FORUM MEETING:

As you will remember, we recently sent you a link to the parental questionnaire to ensure we have an accurate picture of how parents feel about the experience at St John's for their child. We currently have 48 responses, whereas normally we achieve approximately 120 responses. We would be very grateful if you could find time to complete the questionnaire. We will then be in a position to share with parents, teachers and Governors the parental view of the school. The link can be found below:

<https://forms.gle/pzma4pC2jH9YagjW9>

The next Parent Forum Meeting is scheduled for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00am in the STEAM room– all parents are very welcome to join Mr Rayner for a ‘cuppa’ and an opportunity to discuss the school from a parental perspective.

**4. 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 messages to alert parents to important messages and events and therefore without a working mobile number, information will be missed.

### 5. PTA:

- **MEETING** - The next remote meeting for the PTA is planned for Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm. All parents and carers are welcome. We do hope that you are able to join us.
- **50/50 Lottery** – Raise money for your school whilst possibly winning a monetary prize (£50!) For details contact [PTA@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@st-johns.stockport.sch.uk)
- **Whole School Cinema Trip** – The cancelled Christmas Cinema Trip has been rearranged for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – see Cinema Trip Letter.
- **SPONSORSHIP**- As I am sure you are aware, school budgets are under immense pressure and never more have we appreciated and needed the funds the PTA raises to help us keep moving the school forward and to provide the best facilities and opportunities for our children. If you are in the position to complete any sponsored events and would like to make St John's the focus of your fundraising we would be very appreciative. Many parents and families were able to do this during the rebuild process and it made such a difference to what we could furnish our school with. It may also be that your employer offers match funding which can make your hard earned money go even further.
- **CURRENT PROJECTS** – we are investigating the possibility of a shelter for the playground for those sunny and wet days!

### RESIDENTIALS:

- **PGL 53 children** (the largest group ever!) are just about to depart for PGL. We are delighted to be able to take the children on this residential again, which is a real highlight for so many. Thanks to all the staff who are supporting the trip and in particular Mr Clerc for his fantastic organisation and leadership.
- **Replacement Year 3 & 4 Residential** We are still looking into a replacement venue for our residential in years 3 & 4. Unfortunately the pandemic has had a significant impact on residential providers. We are awaiting details from a company recommended to us for younger children and will endeavor to keep you informed.



## HEALTH & SAFETY:

### • SCHOOL STREETS:

Stockport Council is seeking parents/ guardians' views on its School Streets proposals for St John's C.E. Primary School which has volunteered to take part in a short-term trial in summer 2022 before the school break if the consultation shows that this is supported.

This would be done by restricting access to some roads around school to through traffic and parents / guardians parking to drop off / collect pupils. The Council is committed to making Stockport's roads safer for everyone living, working, and visiting the borough. We are creating a cleaner environment that will reduce air pollution and improve the health and wellbeing of the community by encouraging more active travel such as walking and cycling wherever possible. One of the aims of a School Streets is to reduce the number of private car journeys to and from school and should lead to:

- Less road danger from traffic
- Less anti-social behaviour from inconsiderate parking and dangerous driving
- More walking, cycling, and scooting by children and parents
- Reduced congestion and pollution from vehicles waiting with their engines running

You are invited to join us to give your views at a drop-in event taking place: **Monday 21st March from 3pm until 6.30pm at St John's C.E. Primary School hall.**

### • SERVICE ROAD:

After advice from Stockport MBC Health & Safety Officers, we have enhanced the signage and crossing precautions within the service road. Please can we ask that pedestrians keep to the path rather than the road when walking through this area.



### • SCHOOL TRAVEL SURVEY FEBRUARY 2022:

As a school we have a responsibility to regularly update the travel plan and to encourage and promote active, healthy, safe, and sustainable travel to school for pupils, staff, and visitors. The following recent 'hands up survey' indicated that over the last few years more families are making healthier and safer options to travel to school, but we would still like to encourage more families to take this route. Parking and car travel around the streets around the school remains an area of great concern.

Mode of travel	Number of pupils	% of school
Car	89	42%
Walk	109	52%
Cycle	4	2%
Bus	0	0%
Train	0	0%
Scooter	0	0%
Pupils absent	9	4%

### FABS EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB:

Don't forget that places are still available for the Easter Holiday Club, Monday 4th April 2022 to Friday 8th April 2022. Children will have the opportunity to take part in various activities led by Mrs Longworth and the FABS team including outdoor sports, baking, film club, book club, board games, lego, Xbox and laptops, arts and crafts.



Full day sessions from 8.00am to 4.00pm are available to book at a cost of £30.00 per day and includes breakfast, freshly prepared lunch and afternoon snack.

To book a place, please contact Mrs Longworth at:

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



**HEALTHY SNACKS:**

At St. John's our school policy is that children should only have healthy snacks at morning playtime. There have been a few incidents recently of children bringing in sweets and chewing gum. Please can we ask that children bring healthy items and refrain from bringing chocolate biscuits, crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks as snacks. **Please help your child to make healthy choices.** Could we remind all families that we aim to be nut free wherever possible due to some of our children and staff having allergies.



**TERM DATES:**

Key Dates for Spring Term 2022			
Month	Date	Event	Time
March	3rd	World Book Day – Dress up as book character	
	4th	PTA Year 6 Bake Sale	3.15pm
	7th - 11th	PGL: Year 5&6 Residential	
	9th	Parent Governor Nominations deadline	12.00pm
	17th	DT Day "Wood Project on a Page"	
	18th	Red Nose Day – Non Uniform	
	18th	PTA Cinema Trip	
	21st – 23rd	Year 6 Bikeability	
	22nd	Year 2 Class Assembly	9.00am
	24th & 25th	PTA Mother's Day Stall	2.00pm – 3.00pm
	28th	PTA bring an Easter Egg for Raffle	
	29th	PTA Easter Egg Raffle tickets on sale	
April	31st	Journey Through Easter Day	
	1st	Easter Service at St John's Church	9.15am
	1st	PTA Easter Egg Raffle Draw	
	1st	School Closes for Easter Holiday	3.15pm
	19th	School Reopens (Tuesday)	8.45am



Finally, we wish you a peaceful Easter break when it arrives and look forward to seeing you at some point over the next term. Many thanks for your continued support.

*Patricia Rayner*

*A Clerc*

Mr P Rayner

Mr A Clerc

Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher

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

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



St Johns CE Primary



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