

St John's Primary School and Nursery - Wednesday 21st September 2016 -

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Week 3: 21.9.16

It has been another lovely week at St John's and I have been very proud to show prospective parents around our school. The children have really risen to the challenge of taking pride in themselves, their work and the environment. There certainly is a happy and calm atmosphere in school - long may it continue! Lots of information to share this week, so please take the time to read this newsletter.

Have a very good week.

Mr D Barrow

Head Teacher

Sports Award

We have our first school award! Miss Harrison, PE subject leader, has been working behind the scenes to obtain our Bronze School Games Award for our commitment to and participation in sport both in and out of school. What a lovely way to recognise our achievements and to start the school year. A big thank you to Miss Harrison and all the children who have participated. Watch this space as more awards are in the pipeline!

Harvest Assembly

This year, we will be having two Harvest Assemblies. Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) will hold their Harvest Assembly at 9.00am on Thursday 6th October. Reception and Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) will have their Harvest Assembly on Friday 7th October at 9.00am. Parents are very welcome to attend. We hope that these split times will make it easier for parents.

We would like to ask for kind donations of dried or tinned food, which this year will be donated to the Salvation Army. Donations should be brought to school between Monday 3rd and Thursday 6th October. Thank you in advance.

Choir(s)

This year, after a singing drought, we are very pleased to offer two singing groups. One will be at lunchtime for Key Stage Two children with Miss Cossins and the other will be after school with Mrs Bartel. Although the content may vary, children are welcome to attend both or choose one. The aim is for the choirs to complementary rather than competitive. A singing club for children in Key Stage One will start soon.

Staff Car Park

Please may I make a polite request to parents who use our popular Out of School Club? The volume of cars in and out of the staff car park is making it very difficult for staff to park. If you arrive between 8.00am and 8.45am, please could you keep the car park free? Similarly, the car park needs to be vacated by 5.55pm so that the caretaker can lock up on time. Please do not leave your car in the car park and use the local amenities!

Littering: Pride in our Community

We have received a letter from a concerned resident on Walkers Way about the amount of litter that appears in the open plan front gardens. Please may I respectfully ask that you remind your children to dispose of litter correctly?

We do encourage the children to take pride in themselves and their learning environment, which they do very well indeed. Equally this should be extended to our community too. We want to maintain our good name in the local community, so please help us be proactive and supportive with this. Thank you in advance for helping with this.

School Dinners

The children now order their lunches on a Friday for the week ahead. Please make sure that your child knows what their lunch pattern is to make this process easier. Thank you.

Please also ensure that all dinner money accounts are up-to-date (particularly if you have arrears from last term).

Children who have sandwiches very often eat outside on the picnic tables in the warmer weather. Now that the weather is becoming cooler, they'll be moving back inside. Previously, the Out of School Club has been used as an overflow area for packed lunches. However, this area is now being used for a new and improved Lunch Club. Our Lunchtime Supervisors are working very hard to accommodate all the sandwich children in the Hall alongside the children who have hot dinners. We would like to thank the children for their understanding while we fine tune our new lunchtime system!

After School Sports Clubs

Tuesday	KS2 Multi-Sports (Onside Coaching)	3.15pm – 4.30pm
Friday	KS2 Football	3.15pm – 4.15pm
	(Coach Unlimited)	

Diary Dates

Mon 26 th Sep	Year 3 trip to Ryton Pools	
Tue 27 th Sep	9.00am Reception coffee morning - phonics	
Wed 5 th Oct	Year 2 trip to Kenilworth Castle	
Thu 6 th Oct	9.00am KS2 Harvest Festival	
Fri 7 th Oct	9.00am Reception/KS1 Harvest Festival	
Mon 10 th -Thu 13 th Oct	3.15pm-3.45pm Scholastic Book Fair	
Wed 12 th Oct	6.00pm Parent Forum	
Mon 17 th Oct	3.30pm-5.30pm Parents' evening	
Wed 19 th Oct	School photographs 4.30pm-6.30pm Parents' evening	
Fri 21st Oct	3.15pm Break up for October half- term break	
Mon 31st Oct	Back to school	
Tue 8 th Nov	5S swimming lessons start	
Fri 18 th Nov	INSET day – SCHOOL CLOSED	
Fri 25th Nov	PTA non-uniform day (chocolate tombola)	
Mon 12 th Dec	Nursery & Reception Christmas performance	
Tue 13 th Dec	KS1 Christmas performance	
Wed 14 th Dec	KS2 Christmas performance	
Fri 16 th Dec	Break for Christmas holiday	
Mon 2 nd Jan 2017	Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED	
Tue 3 rd Jan 2017	INSET day – SCHOOL CLOSED	
Wed 4 th Jan 2017	Back to school	

Class Assemblies

Please note that class assemblies will take place on Fridays at 9.00am. Each class's parents and carers are welcome to attend. Dates are as follows:

Date	Class	Date	Class
27 th January 2017	5E	7 th April 2017	3T
3 rd February 2017	1C	26 th May 2017	4T
17th February 2017	1S	9 th June 2017	4B
10 th March 2017	2B	23 rd June 2017	58
24 th March 2017	2T	7 th July 2017	RK

End-of-day Collection Arrangements

Please ensure that you have returned your completed end-of-day collection arrangements slip so that we have up-to-date details of all adults who are authorised to collect your child. Thank you.

Nationality and Country of Birth

At the beginning of term, we reissued forms requesting nationality and country of birth information (which we have to submit to the Department for Education by the end of September). As you can imagine, entering this information on to our database will be quite an undertaking, so please get your information to us as a matter of urgency. Thank you.

Healthy Snacks

As part of our commitment to healthy eating and achieving our Food for Life award, please may I remind you that fruit should be the only snack sent in for children?

In Early Years and Key Stage One the children receive free fruit as their entitlement – this can include apples, bananas, carrots, clementines, tomatoes, raisins and pears. There is a not a set fruit for each day and it varies from week to week. If your child does not like any of the above, then you may send in a fruit or vegetable alternative. We do not allow covered raisins, fruit winders or cereal bars because this is not fair on the vast majority of children who will eat what is provided. The same rule applies for Key Stage Two please: fresh fruit or vegetables only. The only permitted exceptions are following discussion with me and because of strict dietary constraints.

Elections

This week is democracy week at St John's, one of our fundamental British values! We will be electing:

- Junior Leadership Team representatives
- House Captains in Year 6
- E-safety representatives

I know some children will be disappointed if they do not achieve the role they really want, and we will do our best to reassure them and explain to them carefully about the voting process. Please reinforce this at home by reassuring your child that the voting process is fair and definitely not personal. With their role comes much responsibility, including leading by example for the whole year that they are in post!

Good luck to everyone who is putting themselves forward. Remember that there will be lots of other ways in which they can take part in school life.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

Another vacancy has arisen for a lunchtime supervisor (12.00pm to 1.10pm, Monday to Friday). If you are interested, application forms are available from Mrs Morris or Mrs Weir in the office. The deadline for applications is Friday 30th September.