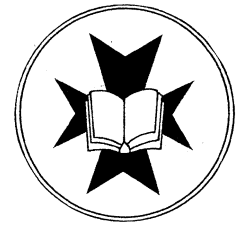


St John's Primary School and Nursery - Friday 5th May 2017-

Aiming high; proud to learn together.

www.st-johns.warwickshire.sch.uk

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/1LAQ18/ERWD6X/>



Week 2: w/c 1.5.17

Welcome back to you all after a lovely Easter break. I do hope you had a good two weeks and enjoyed spending some family time together with your children.

This is a short, but very busy, term. It is Key Stage Two SATs week next week. Year 6 parents will have had information about this but, in the meantime, I wanted to assure you that we will not cause undue stress to the children and we will help them as much as we can through the process. However, we do need to work in partnership with you as we absolutely need 100% this term for children in Year 6, especially during the week itself. Even if the children are ill, they will need to attend the morning at least. I haven't ruled out home administration or collecting the children myself if they do not attend! Joking aside, I know that you will support us wholeheartedly in giving your child a good start to their secondary education.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Mr Lee and all the staff at St John's who will be giving up their time to take groups or be readers during the tests. We have such a lovely team. Mr Lee has taken great care to ensure a balanced curriculum; art and PE have been a big priority in keeping the children (and staff) on an even keel.

Have a good week and very best wishes,

Mr D Barrow
Head Teacher

Grounds Days

Wow! Mrs Baker and her army of parent volunteers have done an amazing job on the first of our grounds days. Thank you so much for giving up your time and making such a difference to our school grounds. I have a lot to live up to tomorrow (Saturday 6th May)! I'm wondering if Monty Don may be available...



PTA News

From today, the easyfundraising link will be at the top of every newsletter. Three people have already registered and raised £12 each for the school just by doing online shopping!

Well done Miss Konstantinidou for winning the 100 club draw. The prize money was relatively low this month. We need more people to sign up! If you are interested, please see Amanda Murphy, Sheralee Kelly or Celine Llewellyn-Jones.

Kenilworth Station Poster Winners

Congratulations to Alice R, Max R and Thea H for their winning station poster designs. You may have seen them in the local media; just to confirm that they are from St John's (not St Nicholas' as suggested in the press)! Alice's poster will form part of the new station's interior design when it opens. Max and Thea's designs will form part of a display on the station hoardings. Well done - we are very proud of you.



Maths Challenge

Jonah, Alex A, Hannah and Oscar competed in the Warwickshire Maths Challenge and came third out of 32 schools. What an amazing achievement! St John's is definitely moving up those leader boards and about time too!

Co-operation with Nits

Thank you so much for your co-operation with bringing the nit situation under control and ensuring your children have their hair tied back. It is much appreciated and is helping to slow down the spread of these creatures. Please continue to be vigilant and to check your children's hair regularly for signs of nits.

Next Battle: Uniform!

Boundaries are starting to be pushed with school uniform. All staff are aware of what is acceptable and what is not acceptable.

Not acceptable:

- Tramlines/designs in hair
- Trainers unless they are plain black all over (including the sole, laces and logo).
- Jewellery of any description (with the exception of plain stud earrings).
- Nail varnish and make up of any description.

Thank you in advance for your support in this.

Nursery Places

Do you know anybody that has a child turning three? If so, please point them in the direction of our fantastic Nursery, where we can offer fully flexible provision. You may have read that funding for Nurseries is decreasing year on year, so please support your local Nursery by spreading the good word and encouraging parents to come and see for themselves.

Out of School Club Parking

Thank you so much to the parents and carers who do read the newsletter and take on board what has been said! Back in October, I wrote to users of the Out of School Club asking for their co-operation in **not parking in the staff car park for drop off after 8.00am**. Several parents have taken this on board. Please can I ask again that **everyone co-operates with this?** It must be really frustrating for parents who do comply to see others who don't.

Crossing Patrol and Parking

Please be aware there is no crossing patrol for the foreseeable future until the County Council have recruited somebody to replace Mick. I will let you know as soon as we have any news on this front. Please also be aware that this emphasises the need for you all to park safely and courteously and reduce your speed on Mortimer Road. Thank you.

Scholastic Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair is returning to St John's on Monday 15th May. It's a wonderful opportunity for the children to see, touch and buy books from just £2, and the good news is that every book you buy helps to get free books for our school. Thank you for your continued support.

British Science Week Poster Competition

Good luck to Ella C, Ciara, Sam R, Khem, Bethany B, Oliver C, Erin and Logan C, Jayden B and Chae-Yun whose posters have been entered into the British Science Week poster competition!

500 Words

Congratulations to Marijn, Skye T and Jacob M whose short stories made it through to the final 5,000 out of over 100,000 entries in the BBC's story-writing competition, 500 Words. What an achievement!

Office Hours

Due to high workloads in the office, please try to limit any queries or requests you may have to office hours, i.e. 8.30am to 4.00pm. Do remember that slips, payments or messages can be sent via your child's class teacher, who will, in turn, pass them to the office for processing.



Cross Country

On Tuesday 2nd May, the annual KDPSA cross country event took place in Abbey Fields. The 20 children from St John's all finished the course in good time, with those taking part for the second time improving on last year's places. The boys' team placed fourth, with Jonah (Year 6) being the fifth boy overall to cross the finish line. Well done to all the children who took part!

Charity Fitness Session

FIT MIX: A mix of pilates, aerobics, yoga and zumba for all abilities in aid of Myton Hospice

 **Charity Fit Mix** *With Lorraine!*

Saturday 13th May 3-4 pm

Castle Farm Sports Hall

£5 per person

Followed by a cake sale!

Diary Dates

Sat 6th May 2017	10.30am: Gardening & Grounds Day
w/c Mon 8th May 2017	Year 6 assessment week (SATs)
Tue 9th May 2017	2.00pm: PTA Grandparents' Tea (ticketed event)
Fri 12th May 2017	Year 6 trip to Abbey Fields
Mon 15th – Thu 18th May 2017	3.15pm-3.45pm: Scholastic Book Fair (Library)
Tue 16th May 2017	4T – final swimming session
Wed 17th May 2017	pm: Year 6 rounders tournament (Kenilworth School)
Mon 22nd May 2017	pm: Year 3 Quad Kids tournament (Edmonscoote)
Tue 23rd May 2017	3T – first swimming session
Wed 24th May 2017	6.00pm: Parent Forum
Thu 25th May 2017	12.00pm: 1C parent sharing lunch
Fri 26th May 2017	3.15pm: Break up
Mon 5th June 2017	Back to school
Wed 7th Jun 2017	3.15pm: PTA meeting (staff room)
Thu 8th June 2017	12.00pm: 1S parent sharing lunch

Term Dates 2016/2017/2018

SUMMER TERM 2017

Half-Term

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	26	May	2017
School opens at 8.45 am	-	Mon	5	June	2017
INSET DAY CLOSURE	-	Fri	23	June	2017

SUMMER HOLIDAY 2017

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	21	July	2017
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AUTUMN TERM 2017

INSET DAY CLOSURE	-	Fri	1	September	2017
INSET DAY CLOSURE	-	Mon	4	September	2017
School opens at 8.45am	-	Tue	5	September	2017

Half-term

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	20	October	2017
School opens at 8.45 am	-	Mon	30	October	2017

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 2017

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	22	December	2017
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SPRING TERM 2018

INSET DAY CLOSURE	-	Fri	5	January	2018
INSET DAY CLOSURE	-	Mon	8	January	2018
School opens at 8.45 am	-	Tue	9	January	2018

Half-Term

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	16	February	2018
School opens at 8.45 am	-	Mon	26	February	2018

EASTER HOLIDAY 2018

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Thu	29	March	2018
BANK HOLIDAY GOOD FRIDAY	-	Fri	30	March	2018
BANK HOLIDAY EASTER MONDAY	-	Mon	2	April	2018

SUMMER TERM 2018

School opens at 8.45 am	-	Mon	16	April	2018
BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSURE	-	Mon	7	May	2018
Half-Term					
School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	25	May	2018
School opens at 8.45 am	-	Mon	4	June	2018

SUMMER HOLIDAY 2018

School closes at 3.15 pm	-	Fri	20	July	2018
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Please note that there will be one further INSET day (2017/18), the date of which is yet to be confirmed.

Leave of Absence Update

Following a recent court ruling, we have received the following updated information from ACE (Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement) regarding leave of absence:

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who are absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.