



St John the Baptist C of E (Aided) Primary School

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Newsletter No. 1 – Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Families

Welcome back! I hope that you have all had a great summer despite some of the weather we have had. Our children have settled into their new classes and routines, and made a great start to their learning this week. They have all been amazing!

We especially welcome our new families and members of staff, Mrs Sparrow (Willow Class), Miss Filfil (Holly and Oak PPA teacher) and Miss Ainsworth (KS1 teaching assistant).

Our PTA team will be at the Findon Sheep Fair tomorrow, so don't forget to visit their refreshment stall.

Enjoy the lovely weather this weekend.

Jane Sharrock



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

This will be a new item in our newsletter providing you with news, information or safety advice for yourselves and our children.

The Dedicated Safeguarding Team in school is:

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|----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Jane Sharrock | - | Dedicated Safeguarding Lead |
| Corrine Wellby | - | Deputy Dedicated Safeguarding Lead |
| Tanya Stoner | - | Deputy Dedicated Safeguarding Lead |

BABY NEWS

We would like to congratulate two of our members of staff who are both expecting a baby: Mrs Griffiths – Rowan Class teacher and Mrs Sheikh – Holly Class Teaching Assistant, and Mrs Lorne had a baby boy during the summer holidays.

REMINDER - BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Before and After School club has started. If you would like to use this provision, please book and pay for each session in advance, particularly as the afternoon sessions are looking busy already. Contact the school office – office@stjbps.co.uk if you would like more information. Paper copies of the booking form are available.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our School Council is a valued part of St John the Baptist School. At this time of year, we select two representatives from Years 1 to 6 to help with various jobs around the school.

If your child would like to apply to be a representative, please remind them to collect an application form from Ms Lyle and return it to school by Monday, 18th September. Council members need to be comfortable speaking in a group, sharing ideas and making suggestions.

READING AMBASSADORS

In an effort to develop new initiatives to encourage 'Reading for Pleasure' across the school, I am looking for children who have a passion for reading and would like to be a 'Reading Ambassador'. If your child is interested in helping to create new approaches and be a part of organising events such as World Book Day, I would like them to fill in an application form, detailing why they would like this role. This is open to children from Y2-Y6, two children from each year group. Forms are also available from the school office. Mrs Wellby



YEAR 6 – WSCC BIKEABILITY TRAINING

All Year 6 children have the opportunity to take part in a Bikeability training course at our school during week commencing 30th October. The course will be run by West Sussex County Council Cycle training staff.

We will shortly be sending out information to Year 6 parents.



NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS & ATTENDANCE

We would request that whenever possible children in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6, in particular, are not taken out of school during April, May and June as they will be preparing for and taking national assessment tests during this time.

CONTACTING US - SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS

If you wish to contact the school office or a member of the teaching staff, please use the office email address, which is regularly monitored – office@stjbps.co.uk.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you moved house or changed your telephone numbers recently? If so, it is very **IMPORTANT** that you let us know, so we can update the children's records and are then able to contact you if your child is unwell.



CLUBS

This week, we have sent out letters about the exciting new clubs that are starting next week. Premier Education Recreational Gymnastics (Reception/KS1) is fully booked now but there are still spaces available in the other clubs. If you would like more information, please contact the school office. All children who have applied for clubs next week, have been allocated a place.

INSET DAYS 2023/2024

We have planned INSET days (staff training days) for this academic year. The school will be closed for children on these dates.

Monday, 30 October
Tuesday, 2 January

Monday, 15 April
Monday, 3 June

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For our new families, we have a tradition where we like to invite the children to wear non-school uniform on their birthday. If their birthday falls at the weekend, or during a holiday they can wear non-school uniform on the Friday before.



HEALTHY BREAKTIME SNACKS



Just a reminder for families who have children in Rowan, Holly and Oak classes, if your child would like a snack during our morning break, then they can bring in fruit or vegetables.

All children in Ash and Willow class receive free fruit or veg daily from the Schools Fruit and Vegetable Scheme but may bring in fruit or veg of their own choice should they wish.

TIMETABLE CHANGES



We have been blessed with amazing weather this week, which has helped our transition to a new lunchtime timetable. Children in Years 5&6, who have a packed lunch, have been sitting outside (in the shade) enjoying their lunch, whilst the rest of the school has been in the main hall. Looking ahead to the future and a change in the weather e.g. rain/too cold, Years 5&6 will stay in their classroom to eat their lunch. Following this successful trial and positive feedback from the children, we will implement this structure for the rest of the year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES will be included in next week's newsletter.



RECENT CORRESPONDENCE:

- O2 Choir Practice with Mrs Stoner
- Premier Education Recreational Gymnastics Club (now full)
- Dani's Dance Club (Y1-6)
- Boys' Vocal Club (KS2)
- Premier Education Netball Club (KS2)
- Sing, Sign and Story Club (all year groups)
- Instrumental Group (KS2)
- Chelsea Football Club (KS2)
- Construction Club (Ash and Willow)
- Y5 & 6 Shakespeare Workshop at Windlesham House School
- WSCC Year 6 Secondary Transfer information
- Y6 – information from St Andrew's, Worthing High School, The Angmering School
- KS2 - New Music Centre at Northbrook College
- Class topic letters

Paper copies of correspondence are always available.