



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

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Newsletter No. 7 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Families

We have now come to the end of our first half term and what a busy seven weeks we have had. As I look back, as a school: we have had a range of visitors supporting our worship, our children have embraced our new, mapped out curriculum and lots of learning has taken place, many children have had the opportunity to participate in a number of sporting events and extra-curricular clubs, Parents' Evening has taken place and we have had our visit from Ofsted.

What a busy school we are!

This week finished with our 'WOW' day for our EYFS and KS1 children. They had the opportunity to dress up as a fairy tale character and enjoy lots of activities based around traditional fairy tales. They loved it!

Thank you to our newest parents, who attended the 'Six Weeks In' session and had the opportunity to meet some of our key stakeholders who play a big part in supporting our school.

Thank you to the PTA and governors for supporting the above event.

We have said goodbye to Mr Edes this week as he goes on to explore new ventures and opportunities that will allow him to travel the world. Good luck and we will miss you. We welcome Mr Morley after the half term. He will be our new Sports Coach from Premier Education and he looks forward to working with our children.

Have a great week off.

Best wishes

Jane Sharrock

### GOVERNORS

Following our Full Governing Body meeting last week, we have now appointed a new Chair and Vice-Chairs. John Roche has served his required term as Chair of Governors and has now stepped down to Vice-Chair. He will also be joined by Gary Cane who will take the role of Vice-Chair alongside John.

Our new Chair of Governors is Mark Scott who is a parent governor. I am looking forward to working in partnership with Mark and the rest of the governing body to make our school the best it can be.

I would also like to thank John Roche for doing a great job supporting me, the staff, the school and our community. We are blessed that he is still a key part of our Governing Body.

Jane Sharrock

***Don't forget, Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> October is an INSET day.***

## CHOIR CLUB – YEAR 2 TO YEAR 6

After half term, from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the choir will be preparing for Christmas. Therefore, we would like to invite any Year 2 and Year 3 children, who would like to take part in some, or all of the events detailed below, to join the rest of the KS2 choir on Mondays after school. Choir Practice with Mrs Stoner will finish at 4.15pm each Monday.

- Christmas Lights Switch On at Pond Green, Findon on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December – 5.30pm
- Walking Nativity, from Findon Village Hall to The Gun Inn on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 6 pm
- School Christmas Service on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December – 9.00am (tbc)
- Nine Lessons and Carols at St John the Baptist Church on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 4pm



Spare copies of the consent letter are available from the school office.



## CHARTWELLS CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

Chartwells have asked us to share the attached menu for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Orders should be placed no later than Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

**Please note that Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December is now open again for booking meals.**

## BOYS' VOCAL GROUP

Mrs Wellby is running a boys' vocal group on a Tuesday after school from 3:30pm until 4:15pm. She has noticed through our weekly 'Sing Up' that there are some super voices among the Year 2 boys. If there are any boys from Y2 upwards who would like to join us, then it will be great to see you after half term. There is no charge for this club.

## WEBSITE

We are proud to announce the launch of our brand new website which can be accessed here <https://stjohnthebaptistcofe.eschools.co.uk/web>

## PREMIER EDUCATION NETBALL CLUB – SPACES AVAILABLE

Netball Club will be running again after the half-term break for children in Rowan, Holly and Oak. There are still spaces available, so please contact the school office for more information. The start date is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November and the last session will be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.



## PREMIER EDUCATION RECREATIONAL GYMNASTICS – SPACES AVAILABLE

Gymnastics Club for children in Ash and Willow will be restarting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, so if your child would like to continue attending the club, or try a new sport, please return the booking form to the school office.

## LOVE IN A BOX – MUSTARD SEED RELIEF MISSION



For many years, it has been a Findon Village custom to support the Christian Charity – Mustard Seed Relief Mission who are based in Eastbourne. Shoeboxes have been filled with essential items and small toys which have been dispatched to the poorest parts of Eastern Europe, usually Moldova. Our school has participated in this enthusiastically and the children, parents and teachers have generously supported the scheme in the past by filling a great many boxes.

This year, we would like to make class boxes, which school will provide, so we are asking for any donations of the following items. **Donations needed by Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, please.**

Toiletries – flannels, sponges, soap, colouring pencils, paper, pads, gloves, scarf, hat, cuddly toys, toy cars, dolls, sweets, chocolates, balls, etc.

## NEWS FROM YOUR PTA

Our next ‘Bag 2 School’ collection is happening on **Wednesday 1st November!** So, if you get a chance over half term, have a good clear out as we are looking for donations of clothes, shoes, handbags, hats, bags, bras, socks, jewellery, belts, soft toys, towels and bedding sheets. Please drop these off at school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November before 9am, in bags, ready for collection. The donations are weighed by ‘Bag 2 School’ and money is then donated to the PTA, which helps raise funds for our school! (Items not allowed - school uniform, duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions and furniture).



## Fireworks – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 6pm to 8pm

By popular demand, the normal noisy fireworks return, along with a laser show and fire performance. Friends and family all welcome. £5 adults, £2.50 children and pre-schoolers free. There will be a bar and BBQ, candy floss, popcorn, glo ware, rides and more to keep everyone happy!

Tickets are now available in Findon Village Store, Michael Jones Estate Agents in Findon Valley and Dee Dees Tea Room.

Online tickets are also available- please use the following link-

<https://st-john-the-baptist-pta.sumupstore.com/>

We hope to see you there!

(Volunteers still needed to help set up during the school day- please get in touch if you can help)

Any questions please email [Findonpta@gmail.com](mailto:Findonpta@gmail.com)

### Recent correspondence:

- **Choir Club letter – Year 2 to Year 6**
- **Bikeability cycle training – email to Year 6 parents**

## DATES FOR 2023/2024

Over the weeks, we will add **new dates/events in red**, so please make sure that you regularly check this list and update your diaries.

w/c 23 - 27 October	Half-term break
Mon 30 October	INSET Day
Tues 31 October	Dani's Dance club starts
	Y2-Y6 Boys' Vocal Club starts
<b>Tues 31 – 3 Nov</b>	<b>Y6 Bikeability – timetable has been emailed to parents</b>
Wed 1 November	Bag2School collection (9am)
	KS2 Netball Club starts
Thurs 2 November	Sing, Sign and Story Club starts
	Y3-Y6 Instrumental Club starts
Fri 3 November	O2 Choir practice (8.10am)
	Y3-Y6 Chelsea Football Club starts
	Ash and Willow Construction Club starts
<b>Mon 6 Nov</b>	<b>Choir practice, including Y2 and Y3 (3.20pm)</b>
Tues 7 November	PTA Meeting at The Black Horse (6pm)
Wed 8 November	Open morning for prospective Reception parents (9.30am – 10.15am)
Thurs 9 November	Open afternoon for prospective Reception parents (1.30pm – 2.15pm)
<b>Fri 10 November</b>	PTA Fireworks Night
	<b>No Chelsea Football club</b>
Thurs 16 November	Y6 – Magistrates in the Community visit
<b>Fri 17 November</b>	<b>BBC Children in Need – non-uniform – wear something spotty! - info to follow</b>
Tues 21 November	School Photos
Thurs 23 November	Influenza nasal spray vaccinations
<b>Fri 1 December</b>	<b>Christmas Disco – details to follow</b>
<b>Sun 3 December</b>	<b>Findon Christmas Lights 'Switch On' – Choir will be singing</b>
Tues 5 December	Ash and Willow Christmas Nativity (2pm)
<b>Wed 6 December</b>	<b>Chartwells Christmas Lunch- book via ParentPay</b>
	Ash and Willow Christmas Nativity (2pm)
<b>Thurs 7 December</b>	<b>PTA Elfridges event – details to follow</b>
<b>Tues 12 December</b>	<b>Walking Nativity – Choir will be singing</b>
<b>Wed 13 December</b>	<b>Christmas Service (time and venue to be confirmed)</b>
<b>Fri 15 December</b>	<b>School Christmas party lunch – non-uniform day, (Chartwells lunch not available) – letter to follow</b>
<b>Sun 17 December</b>	<b>Nine Lessons and Carols at St John the Baptist Church (4pm)</b>

## INSET DAYS 2023/2024

1. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September
2. Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October
3. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January
4. Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April
5. Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June