



St John's Catholic Primary School and Pre-School Academy Newsletter



Friday, 18 June 2021

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Email: sbm@stjohnstiverton.co.uk Website: www.stjohnstiverton.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you have been enjoying this gorgeous weather.

I realise that below is a repeat of my letter ParentMailed out yesterday but it was felt that using both ParentMail and the newsletter were the best methods to make sure everyone was aware of this message. Regrettably, there was a mistake in the ParentMailed letter - my apologies for this - so please note that the days the DCC van is at Tesco has been updated from my original letter. The van is there on Tuesdays and Fridays (not Thursdays as I had suggested)

Covid safe environment in school

As a school community, it is important that we double our efforts to maintain a Covid safe environment. Therefore, we will maintain **ALL** of our Covid measures until the end of the term. These include:

- Class bubbles - no mixing of children in school or at break times.
- Regular hand washing throughout the day.
- Regular cleaning of surfaces.
- Staff wearing face coverings in school.
- Staff testing twice a week.
- Limited visitors on the school site.
- Staggered start and finish times.
- Social distancing throughout the school.

We ask that all parents and carers wear masks when on the school site and maintain a 2m distance where possible.

If your child shows any symptoms of Covid then please do not send them to school and seek medical advice. The pollen count is quite high and there are similar symptoms between hay fever and Covid; for this reason, we ask that you err on the side of caution and treat symptoms as if they were Covid related. If you require lateral flow tests for your family, then these can be obtained free of charge from the Tesco car park where a Devon County Council van visits every Tuesday and **FRIDAY**. Alternatively you can order LFTs at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

If your child does need to self-isolate then remote learning will be available for them.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to do many of the end of year traditional activities. There will be no whole school sports day but we will be offering our St John's Olympic programme which we are very excited about. Mrs Webber will share details of these shortly.

Transition arrangements, for children to meet their new teacher, are being planned and we will share these with you in due course. We are also liaising with the Y6 feeder schools to find out their transition plans.

Year 6 (including some NEW information for parents)

There will be no end of school year mass, but we will be holding an end of year liturgy for Y6. **At this stage, this will be for children only. We are also aware that the Year 6 transition planning at Tiverton High School (THS) will be affected by the Government's extension period for the current restrictions until 19 July. THS will be contacting us, and our Y6 parents, shortly with the new planning. The THS Parents' Evening will still take place on 24 June, however, the event will now be virtual and not in person.**

I appreciate this is not the end of the year we hoped for, but it is essential that we remain vigilant and cautious, so we can safely make it to the summer holidays.

September will hopefully bring a fresh start for us all and there are many exciting changes that I will share with you in due course. As always all plans are dependent on Government guidance.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. God Bless.

Rob Meech
Executive Headteacher



God of relationships,
you gave us your Son, you gave us your Spirit, may we always follow you in all that we do and say.
Amen.



Community News

Do you have any old U certificate DVDs we could have for After School Club? Please hand them in via your class teacher. Thank you.

The School Gate (Pedestrian) During the school day the gates are closed for the safety of the whole school community, however, they do not open or close automatically. If you come onsite during the day, then please do not forget that the gate **MUST** be pulled closed behind you. Thank you.

DCC Covid Hardship Fund the County Council have a hardship fund. To find out more and to apply visit <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/>

Pupil Premium (FSM) If your financial circumstances have changed as a result of the pandemic please make sure you check whether or not you are now entitled to Pupil Premium and free school meals for your child/ren. You can check eligibility via the Devon Citizens Portal at https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/en

What to do if you owe money to the school and are struggling. Please make sure we are aware if your financial circumstances have changed. We want to support all of our families through these difficult times and we know that owing money can be very stressful. Please contact the school if you have built up a debt with us that you are struggling to repay – whether it be for lunches, wraparound care or any other school item which needs to be paid for. We will look at a repayment plan with you that is manageable.

Wallace and Gromit's Wrong Trousers Day on 11 June 2021. As a school we raised £66.97. Well done everyone! You all looked amazing (although Mr Mears probably deserves a medal for looking like a genie all day and making everyone laugh!)

CHAT Homeless 4 a Night Campaign – 25 to 27 June CHAT are looking for people to sleep-out and raise money for the homeless. Full details can be found at <https://chatmid.org/homeless4anight/> During this weekend CHAT will stream some videos on their Facebook channel for some cook-along supper inspiration and will even share a bedtime story. A poster is also being sent out with this newsletter.

Pannier Market Ice Cream Saturdays and Design Competition – deadline for entries is 4pm on Friday 25 June Full details are in the posters/fliers included with this newsletter. Some children have completed this activity in school but some may wish to participate at home if time has not allowed for this activity to be carried out in some classes.

Used stamps. We continue to collect these for charity (usually the R.N.I.B) please drop them in at any time as this is an ongoing collection.

Diary Dates	Attendance <small>Week before Half Term</small>	Gospel Guardians <small>Last Week</small>	Achievers <small>Last Week</small>
18 Jun Y6 taster at Tiverton Youth Centre <i>Ice Cream Friday</i> 19 Jun PTA Canal Walk 24 Jun Y6 THS Parents' Evening 25 Jun <i>Ice Cream Friday</i> 28 Jun Y6 Class Photo 30 Jun to 1 Jul (incl) Y6 Transition Days at THS cancelled – more details to follow	BA and Y4 100%	LA Xena BA/Y Nikola 1 Y1/Y Beau 2 Y3 Savannah Y4 Maisy Y5 Megan Y6 All of Y6	LA Riley & Molly BA/Y1 Jack N & Samson Y1/Y2 Lenix & Amelie Y3 Martin & Max Y4 Ben, Zachary & Freddie Y5 Carrie & Achilles Y6 Charlotte & Shyleen
1 Jul NO Y6 swimming this Week 11 Jul to 16 Jul Starmakers performance week 19 to 21 Jul St J's Olympics 22 Jul Sports Day 23 Jul Last day of term 6 & 7 Sep Non Pupil Days 8 Sep Children return to school	Attendance <small>Last Week</small> BA, Y1, Y4 and Y5 ALL 100%	Gospel Guardians <small>This Week</small>	Achievers <small>This Week</small>
		LA Sophie BA/Y Jack N 1 Y1/Y All of Y1/2 2 Y3 Ava Y4 Jakub Y5 Noah Y6 -	LA Elliott & Zofia BA/Y1 Brett & Jack S Y1/Y2 All of Y1/2 Y3 Sienna R & Christopher Y4 Jakub, Rawdon & Lacey Y5 Olivia & Lucy Y6 ALL of Y6 for their SATs

School Attendance

Please ensure that, if your child is unwell and can't attend School, you phone the School Office on 01884 253630 before 8.45am

or email: sbm@stjohnstiverton.co.uk

Because of the pandemic we suspended the usual termly attendance "traffic light" letters during the last 18 months. However, with schools open again fully from Easter we are required to track pupil attendance in the normal manner once more.

Certainly, you have all been truly amazing at getting back into the swing of things since the last lockdown!

We will send out the traffic light letters (which indicate whether your child's attendance is red, amber or green) for this half term during the first week back and then a second one at the end of the summer term. Attendance is being tracked from 19 April 2021 as this is the fairest start point given the numerous lockdowns we have experienced in the last 18 months. If you have any questions about your letters once you receive them, then please contact the school using the details which will be supplied.



PTA News and Events



ptaofstjohnstiverton@gmail.com

Current fundraisers are:

PTA Dress Down Day Today we have raised £101.10! Well done everyone 😊

Ice Cream Fridays in June on Friday 18 and 25 June. Social distancing must be maintained when queuing please. Ice lollies and ice creams will be individually wrapped. Cost per ice cream/lolly will be 50p.

Sponsored Canal 2km or 5km Walk and Prize Draw! This takes place THIS Saturday, 19 June at 10am. In the event of rain, it will be postponed to the next sunny Sunday. Start and finish will be at the Canal Basin.



Easyfundraising raise funds for the PTA while you shop online! The school PTA is registered with Easyfundraising. Please go to the St John's Easyfundraising site (link below) and register to help support the school. Registering and using this service is completely free! You then access the websites of many online retailers' via the Easyfundraising page and all purchases you then make with the connected sites will generate a small donation to our cause! Simple! Register at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnstiverton/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-e1

Support from local businesses - in response to our requests for raffle prizes we have had the following offer from Seddons Estate Agents – they will donate an immediate sum of £200 to the PTA coffers and will also offer **an additional** £200 for every house sale transacted through them by any of our families! As well as this offer from Seddons, Diamond Estate Agents will likewise offer £100 on any house sales transacted through them between now and the end of July. We need to add that, in the immortal words of the BBC, "other estate agents are, of course available"! However, if you already plan to put your house on the market and you were already thinking of using one of these two firms then do please bear these offers in mind.



Gift Amnesty – If you have a Spring clean during Lent or over Easter and discover any items suitable for re-gifting then these would make great raffle prizes at future fund raising events! So please drop them in to the school office in a carrier bag (to assist with quarantining). Thank you.

Clothing Bank – The Clothing Bank (near the bike rack at the front of school) is a PTA initiative. Any clothes dropped into the Bank are sold and a percentage of the proceeds come to the PTA so rather than dropping clothes into the community clothing banks at Morrison's or Homebase please think about dropping them in to the St John's PTA Clothing Bank instead!



Cheese Wrapper recycling – we now have a cheese wrapper recycling box in school! Please see the posters included with this newsletter but basically, we can accept any RINSED cheese wrappers which bear the terracycle logo on them. The wrappers are recycled and all funds raised by recycling the wrappers go to the PTA.

Battery collection point – we also collect used batteries in school. These are the usual batteries we use at home in torches, fairy lights, toys and games (not vehicle batteries!!)

Penny Challenge – Big Acorns to Year 6 are once again having a Penny Challenge. The class which raises the most money will have a class prize such as a class movie or other treat. The coins are being collected in old (but clean!) milk poly-cartons by way of a funnel. This means that the cash is only handled by the child who is bringing it in so that the process is totally Covid safe .

<p>This is our payment system app. We currently have over 90% of our families using ParentPay which is fantastic. If you have not already created your account, then don't despair! Contact the office for your logon details.</p> <p>And just a reminder that school meals for Y3-6 now cost £2.34 per day.</p> <p>Meals, and all other payment items, should now be paid for in advance please.</p>	<p>This is an optional app which can be used to verify your own and your child's data e.g. contact, medical, dietary and ethnicity details which we hold for you. It also allows you to update details such change of address or mobile number. This information is essential should we ever have to contact you in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>Registration emails will be shared with everyone again next week so that you can verify the data we hold for you.</p>	<p>This is the main school messaging system which we use to keep in touch with parents.</p> <p>Please don't forget to keep the school updated about any change in contact details to ensure that you never miss out on any important school messages.</p> <p>If you are not registered already then please let the school office staff know and they can get you set up.</p>	<p>This is our teacher to parent communication app.</p> <p>This is a direct messaging system and enables teachers to keep in touch with parents direct as opposed to having to ask the school office team to send a ParentMail message on their behalf.</p> <p>For class activities and one to one messages this is the most likely method of communication.</p> <p>Please speak to your child's class teacher if you still need to get set up.</p>

Pastoral Support



Contact Mrs Harte if you have any enquiries or need some advice or support



Tracey Harte

pastoral@stjohnstiverton.co.uk

Contact Information

Please can you inform the office if you move to a new house, change your landline, mobile number, your email address or doctors.

This is very important.

Thank You.

School Office Opening Hours are **8.30am-3.45pm**



Safeguarding Senior Designated Officers (SDO)



Rob Meech
Headteacher



Claire Webber
Early Years



Simon Coombs
(Governor)



Supporting children through key adults

We are an Operation Encompass school. For further information, please come in and see us.

