

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



Friday, 28 May 2021

Melbourne Street, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 5LA Tel: 01884 253630 Email: sbm@stjohnstiverton.co.uk Website: www.stjohnstiverton.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and, despite the rain, you have been able to enjoy the lifting of some of the restrictions.

### On the subject of restrictions

The school will review the current school arrangements as and when the Government makes an announcement on any possible relaxing of social distancing rules from 21 June 2021. Any changes to school arrangements will be gradual and in line with trust guidance. It is our hope that we will be able to mix the children in school through joint class assemblies, sports activities (more details below) and playtimes. Once we have finalised our plans we will of course communicate them with you.

At this stage we have no plans to change the start and finish times for the remainder of this academic year.

### Sports Week

We are planning a St John's Sports Week from 19 to 22 July as one way of celebrating the easing of restrictions and give the children a chance to join other groups whilst being out in the fresh air. The outline plans at this stage include the "St John's Olympics" from 19 to 21 July followed by our Sports Day on 22 July. This will all be weather (and Covid) restrictions permitting of course but let's keep our fingers crossed for these events!

### **Next Academic Year**

I have sent out a separate letter today outlining the class arrangements for next year. There will be an opportunity to discuss these changes with members of the school leadership team, details of these will follow after half-term.

#### Happy news

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Muchmore all the very best as she leaves us on maternity leave. We will miss you and we can't wait to meet your new arrival!

### More happy news and a huge thank you to our Starmakers supporters

Following the Starmakers plea (for help to raise funds for microphones) I am extremely pleased to be able to tell you that we have a massive £350 donated to us! Our thanks go to Mr & Mrs Harte, Van Man Exeter, Lawson Windows, Mr & Mrs Bridgeman, Mr & Mrs Joe Bolton, The Bridge Guest House and The Loft, Tiverton. The details of these amazing sponsors will also be included in the programme for the Peter Pan production.

### Thanks to staff

I would also like to thank the staff at St John's for their continued hard-work and commitment. It has been another year of disruptions and challenges but I have been immensely proud of how they have risen to meet these and continue to put the needs of our children at the forefront of all they do.

Lastly, please don't forget that we return to school on TUESDAY, 8 June 2021.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and I wish you all a restful and relaxing half-term.

God Bless.

Rob Meech

**Executive Headteacher** 



God of all,

help us to listen to your voice and to care for each other as you care for all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord,

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 <a href="https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/">https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/</a>

**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.** We will be supporting this event in school! We dare you to wear the most outrageously ridiculous trousers that you have at the back of the wardrobe to raise funds for the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children. Former pupil Joseph Brown has highlighted this event to us and he is championing this cause. More details to follow.

**CHAT Homeless 4 a Night Campaign – 25 to 27 July** CHAT are looking for people to sleep-out and raise money for the homeless. Full details can be found at <a href="https://chatmid.org/homeless4anight/">https://chatmid.org/homeless4anight/</a> A poster is also being sent out with this newsletter.

**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 Last Week  Big Acorns and Y2 100%	Gospel Guardians Last Week		Achievers This Week	
31 May to 4 Jun  Half term holiday  7 Jun Non Pupil Day  8 Jun Children return to school  11 Jun Wrong Trousers Day Ice Cream Friday  18 Jun Y6 taster at Tiverton Youth Centre Ice Cream Friday		LA BA/Y1 Y1/Y2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6	Evelyn Brett Lily Ollie Akiro Anastasia Whole class	LA BA/Y1 Y1/Y2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6	Neve & Florence Stanley & Maria Henry & Ella Angela & Sophia Jakub & Rawdon Agata & Maddie Patrick & Poppy-Grace
19 Jun PTA Canal Walk 25 Jun Ice Cream Friday 28 Jun Y6 Class Photo 30 Jun to 1 Jul (incl) Y6 Transition Days at Tiverton High School	Attendance This Week	Gospel Guardians This Week		Achievers This Week	
1 Jul Y6 Maggie Fasey Challenge Walk 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	Y4 and Y6 Both 100%	LA BA/Y1 Y1/Y2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6	Aiden Albert Lenix All of Y3 Laurie Agata All of Y6	LA BA/Y1 Y1/Y2 Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6	Sophie & Luxton Amber & Logan P Isabella & Eva All of Y3 Faye & Godfrey Anastasia & Edvinas Dawid & Phoebe

## **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 11, 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!** The entry fee is £2 per family, refreshments will be provided and all families who enter the sponsored walk will also, automatically, be entered into a prize draw (3 amazing prizes). The event will take place on 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. Entry forms can be purchased from your child's class teacher from next week. *Please note that if you wish to be entered for the prize draw but cannot participate in the walk, then please just purchase a copy of the entry/sponsorship form for £2.* 



**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 - i**n 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 teracycle 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.

### **ParentPay**





### **ParentMail**



### **Class DoJo**



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.

And just a reminder that school meals for Y3-6 now cost £2.34 per day.

Meals, and all other payment items, should now be paid for in advance please.

### **SIMS Parent**

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.

Registration emails will be shared with everyone again shortly so that you can verify the data we hold for you.

This is the main school messaging system which we use to keep in touch with parents.

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.

If you are not registered already then please let the school office staff know and they can get you set up.

This is our teacher to parent communication app.

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.

For class activities and one to one messages this is the most likely method of communication.

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you still need to get set up.

## **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 or email address or doctors.

This is very important.

Thank You

School Office Opening Hours are 8.30am-3.45pm



## Safeguarding **Senior Designated Officers (SDO)**



Headteacher



Webber **Early Years** 



Simon Coombs (Governor)



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

