

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Another busy week at St John's! It was lovely to welcome our parents and carers into the school building for our Meet the Teacher events. If you were unable to attend, the teacher presentations will be made available to everyone on the school website.

Changes to email address

This weekend our school will be going through it's final IT changes. As from Monday 27th September all staff will have new email addresses, this includes the office email address. Should you need to contact the school, via email, please use office@stjohnsfirstschool.org. Please bare with us during this transition and we apologise in advance if there is a delay in responding to your emails.

Friends (PTA)

The friends of St John's exist to provide closer links between home and school and is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school. Working towards a common goal the Association works jointly with St John's First School to:

- Support the school
- Help children and parents enjoy their time at school
- Develop a supportive and welcoming community

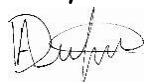
Pre-covid, Friends have run a varied programme of events and activities throughout the school year including a Christmas Fair, quiz night, summer fair and discos. As well as being hugely enjoyable, these events help raise lots of money for our school. Examples of what the money raised goes towards include subsidising class trips and new resources.

Parents who would like to be involved with the Friends Association meet to plan events and discuss what the money raised should be spent on. We ask for a representative from each year group to be a point of contact for other parents/carers in their child's class.

Traditionally, the Friends Association meets at the beginning of the school year to discuss what events will take place for the coming academic year. Each year group takes responsibility for a different event and the class representatives will ask for help and support in running their year groups event.

Friends are always in need of willing helpers and currently have a **vacant position for a Chairperson** of the Association. All parents and members of the school community can get involved even if they only have a small amount of time available. Any support that you could provide would be most welcome. If you want to find out more about St John's Friends or would like to get involved, please contact the school office for more details or join our Facebook page.

Many thanks,



Miss A Dufek
Headteacher

Health and Safety

There is an increasing number of rucksacks being brought into school which we do not have the space to accommodate on the children's pegs. For daily use, the children should only need to bring in a book bag, and where necessary their lunchbox. There may be a rare occasion when a rucksack is required, but we would request that this is kept to a minimum. Also, the children's book bags need to fit into their trays in the classroom so we would request that there are no keyrings attached. Thank you for your support.

Individual Photos

Next Friday, Fraser Portraits will be in school to take individual and sibling photographs. Children should come to school in their school uniform. PE kit will be required for Reception class and Year 3 and should be brought into school in PE bags.

Pupil Voice

You will know that earlier this year, the Children's Commissioner asked children and young people to complete a nation-wide survey called 'The Big Ask'. Over half a million children responded, including our children at St John's. At a critical time, as we emerge from the pandemic, children have shared how the past year has affected them and what needs to happen now as we recover. You can read the full report [here](#).



Importantly, the majority of children say they are happy.



Here is a Rapid overview of findings:

- Children care deeply about family - families of all kinds. They care about being part of happy homes.
- Children care deeply about community. They want to get outside and play. To have enough to do in their neighbourhoods. They want to feel safe and protected in online spaces.
- Children were united in showing a new consciousness of the importance of health and wellbeing.
- Children are pleased to be back in school. As we recover, they have asked for support to make a success of the opportunities returned to them.
- Children want to contribute to a better, fairer world - and crucially, they care about a greener world and the environment.

PE Kit

A reminder of our St John's PE uniform

- Black shorts
- White school PE t-shirt either plain or with school logo
- Black plimsolls or trainers
- School fleece/jumper **only**
- Black jogging bottoms for PE lessons in the colder months.
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School Clubs- New club added

As well as our Breakfast Club every morning, we are pleased to share our current after school clubs.

Monday - Forest School (Yr 1+2)- 1515 - 1630
- French Club (Yr 3+4) - 1515 - 1600

Tuesday - Football (Yr 1 - 4) - 1515 - 1615

Wednesday - Tennis (Yr 1 - 4) - 1515 - 1600

Safeguarding and Online Safety

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team.

If you have a concern about a child outside of school hours please contact the following Local Authority out of hours services:

Dorset ChAD - 01305 228866

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) - 01202 738256

We are an Operation Encompass school. To find out more, please follow the link [here](#)



Half Term Value

Throughout this half term we will be reading and listening to Bible stories that illustrate **wisdom**.

'Blessed are those who find wisdom.' - Proverbs 3.13



Parent/School Communication

Please check that you have signed up to the Marvellous Me App (Years 1 - 4) or Tapestry App (Year R) for communication and information sharing from your class teacher. These are used regularly by class teachers to celebrate children's learning with you.



We also ask that you 'like' our Facebook page, **St John's CE First School**. Here, we celebrate excellent learning happening in school and share school news.

Please also ensure that your ParentMail is working as this is our primary means of general communication with our families.

Dates for your diary

September

Monday 20th September - Yr 3 Meet the Teacher (2:45pm - 3:15pm)

Tuesday 21st September - Yr 4 Meet the Teacher (2:45pm - 3:15pm)
- Guitar and drum lessons begin

Wednesday 22nd September - Yr 2 Meet the Teacher (2:45pm - 3:15pm)

Thursday 23rd September - Yr 1 Meet the Teacher (2:45pm - 3:15pm)
- Year 1 catch up hearing tests

Monday 27th September - Reception Parents Phonics Information (2:45pm - 3:15pm)

Thursday 30th September - Harvest Service



October

Friday 1st October - Individual school photos - Fraser Portraits

Wednesday 6th October - Open Morning- prospective new parents

Monday 18th October - Parent teacher consultation

Tuesday 19th October - Parent teacher consultation

Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half term

November

Monday 1st November - Staff training Day

Tuesday 2nd November - Children return to school