



Week beginning: 4<sup>th</sup> September

# St John & St Francis Newsletter

## Message from Mr Gordon

It has been an amazing week in school this week. I have driven home with a huge smile on my face every day, reflecting on all of the hard work, great learning attitudes and humour that is throughout the school. At this time of year I am always particularly impressed with the new starters to school. They have so many new things to experience and learn, but have settled in like the proverbial ducks to water.

Thank you to all of the school staff who have worked so hard over the holidays to get classrooms and children's work ready for the new term. Lots has happened behind the scenes and is a demonstration of the commitment of all. Thank you as well to you, the parents and carers, who have ensured that the children have arrived looking so smart and eager.

Our school Christian value of Corinthians 13 can be summarised as faith, hope and love. I am extremely excited to be sharing these with our school community over the coming academic year.

## Questions from the gate:

Thank you to everybody who has stopped at the gate to say hello this week. I will be outside as much as possible, so if you have any questions or queries, don't be shy, please do come up and ask. If they are useful for everybody to know, I will add them to the newsletter each week.

## Open door policy:

Our staff are always happy to speak to you if you have anything you would like to ask. They will be on the playground to greet you and your child in the morning and will be ensuring your child returns to you safely at the end of the day. If we are unable to speak to you there and then, we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

## Contact information:

If you change any of your contact details, please can you make sure the school office is informed. It is imperative that we have the correct details for contacting you in case of an emergency.

## School Facebook page:

In order to help communicate more of the fantastic things that are happening at school each day, I have set up a school Facebook page. Photographs will only be put on there if we have your authority, so it would be helpful to return your permission slips as soon as possible. You can view our page by searching for @sjsfchurchschool

## Office post box:

This can be found to the right of the entrance, as you walk into the School Office. Please ensure all reply forms, eg: consent form for trips and clubs, etc are placed in this box, rather than via class as this will ensure they are dealt with promptly.

## Asthma:

Over the coming weeks, letters will be sent to parents who have advised us their child has asthma. If your child has asthma and you have not received a letter, or they have recently been diagnosed, please contact the school office to complete an asthma card. Thank you.

## New paving around our pond:

A very BIG thank you to Mrs Nurcombe and our PTA for our newly landscaped pond area. Thank you also to Mr Adlam for overseeing this work during the summer holiday. We look forward to the children being able to enjoy this area over the coming months and years!

## Home school diary:

Every child will have a new home-school diary. Please see a separate letter.

## Changes to collecting your children from school

Thank you for advising class teachers in the morning of changes to collection arrangements. This avoids calls to the School Office at the end of the day, which then result in calls to Class Teachers when they are busy ensuring children are ready to leave, or even already stood at the class door seeing the children out at 3.15pm.

## Permission form:

You will soon be provided with permission forms and Data collection sheets. We would be extremely grateful if you could return these to us as soon as possible.

### Roald Dahl day:

Don't forget that this Thursday is Roald Dahl day. You can come to school dressed as your favourite Roald Dahl book character, or wearing his favourite colour of yellow. It promises to be a whizz-popping, splendiferous day!

### Uniform

Just a reminder that our Uniform policy can be found on our website under Summer uniform can be worn until October half-term. We ask that hair longer than shoulder length is tied up with no large hair accessories and that any bags etc do not carry branding for online games not suitable for our children's age group.

### PTA Welcome Meeting – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September:

This will be held in the School Hall 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Children welcome.

The PTA will be introducing themselves, celebrating successes of last year and discussing what they would like to raise money for this year. They would love you to join them.

### Flu Immunisation : 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018

The school nursing team will be in school on the above date to carry out immunisations for years R-5. Consent forms will come home with your child next week. Please complete these and return in the office post box no later than 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

### Weekly awards:

Awards are given out to children who, for example, follow the Flock Code, have shown kindness to others or have persevered with a difficult task and tried their best. Well done to the following children:

Blackbird of the Week	Max S
Sparrow of the Week	Hollie C
Chaffinch of the Week	Emerson O-S
Goldfinch of the Week	Shaniya B-S
Woodpecker of the Week	Not provided by Teacher
Jay of the Week	Maddison B
Barn Owl of the Week	Jeremy R
Tawny Owl of the Week	Brodie C
Crane of the Week	Chloe E
Heron of the Week	Amelia G
Kingfisher of the Week	Imogen E
Eagle of the Week	Ryan A-S
Kestrel of the Week	Corey S

### Amazing attendance:

The classes with the best attendance this week are Woodpecker & Kingfisher. Well done for achieving 100% attendance! These classes can wear non-uniform on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

### Christian value:

Our Christian value for this half term is: **Friendship**. "Good friends are like stars, you don't always see them, but you know they are there"



## Community News

### Local Church Services:

#### Salvation Army, Moorland Road, Bridgwater

- 10am Prayer Meeting
- 10.30am Family Worship
- 11am Sunday Club from 4 years to 11 years

#### St Francis Church, Saxon Green, Bridgwater

- 10am Holy Communion
- 10am Lighthouse Club for Junior Church activities
- 10am Midweek Communion Wednesday

### Extra-curricular opportunities:

#### Gymnastics:

This is now available to book via Premier Sport's website: premier-education.com Please note sessions start next Monday, and are now split for Year Groups, with Monday for Years Reception, 1, 2 & 3 and Wednesday for Years 4-6.

Safeguarding is high priority at St John and St Francis Church School. We take every opportunity to ensure that our pupil's safety is paramount. We want our pupils to be healthy and happy and to develop well both physically and mentally. The school follows the latest Government Guidance to ensure we are fulfilling our duties in this important area.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and contact at School is myself (Mr Duncan Gordon), and our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are: Mrs Claire Craven, Mrs Suzanne Crane, Mrs Karen Kendrick, Mrs Laura Rendell & Mrs Emily Wells. Our Safeguarding Governor is Mr David Durston.

The School's Safeguarding policy can be found online at: <http://stjohnstfrancisbwmat.org/about-us/policies/local-policies/>

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child you can phone Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224.

There is lots of online safety advice on our website- [please follow this link](#) to help keep your child safe.



## Diary Dates

September	
10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Information sessions for parents.</b> Classteachers will be outlining the expectations for the year, covering reading, maths, topics and homework. Year 1 Sparrow and Blackbird – 10 <sup>th</sup> September Year 2 Chaffinch and Goldfinch – 11 <sup>th</sup> September Year 3 Woodpecker and Jay – 13 <sup>th</sup> September Year 4 Barn Owl and Tawny Owl – 12 <sup>th</sup> September Year 5 Heron and Kingfisher – 13 <sup>th</sup> September Year 6 Eagle and Kestrel – 14 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Parents are asked to make their way to the school office as sessions will take place at 9am.</b>
10 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Welcome Meeting in School Hall @ 6.30pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Roald Dahl Day – Come dressed as your favourite Roald Dahl character.
14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 swimming sessions begin at 1610 Chilton.
18 <sup>th</sup>	Vision Screen Nurse to see Year 1 children.
26 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning and Afternoon for parents whose child is due to start school in September 2018. 9.30am & 2pm – to book a place please contact the School Office. Please feel free to bring your child.
27 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Café. Parents are invited into Class for a reading session led by Classteachers, followed by tea and coffee. Please note as this is a working session we ask that younger siblings do not attend. Reception classes and Key Stage 1 (Wren, Robin, Sparrow, Blackbird, Chaffinch and Goldfinch) – 9.00am - 10.00am Key Stage 2 (Jay, Woodpecker, Barn Owl, Tawny Owl, Heron, Kingfisher, Kestrel and Eagle) – 10.00am - 11.00am
October	
1 <sup>st</sup>	PTA Meeting in School Hall @ 6.30pm
8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovil. Further details to follow.
11 <sup>th</sup>	Eagle Class Community Assembly @ 2.45pm in School Hall for parents and family of children in Eagle Class.