



Week beginning: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## St John & St Francis Newsletter

### Message from Mr Gordon

It has been a real pleasure to see the children's continued hard work this week. One of our school values is perseverance; something that had been in great evidence through all year groups. With the excitement of Christmas increasing each day (for both adults and children alike!) you might expect learning to take a back burner. Not with our children. If you haven't done so already, take a look at our Facebook page. There are photos of children's ICT movie making, homework projects, beautiful handwriting, poetry, science investigations and increased Maths test scores. This displays both how hard the children are working and the wide range of skills and talents that they have.

### Letter of thanks:

Mrs Kendrick's parents came in to school on Wednesday to pass on their thanks for all of the kind wishes that have been passed to their family over the past few weeks. They have asked me to share the following with you:

"Dear children,

Mrs Kendrick was our daughter, Karen, and although she is no longer here with us, she lives on within the hearts of all those who knew her. When she was little, as you are now, she loved nature and being outdoors in all weathers. She never lost that love, and now she has passed on that love to you all. We can see that from the beautiful words and pictures in the Book of Memories you made in school, and which we will treasure forever.

Remember her with love, and be happy as you grow up, because that is what Karen would have wished for you all.

God bless you all."

### Staff changes:

This month we have welcomed Mrs Emma Chorley, Miss Sue Cresswell and Mrs Kelly Wilkins to our team of Teaching Assistants. As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we are also looking forward to Mrs Tamar Warner joining us as Deputy Headteacher in the New Year.

We are bidding goodbye to Mrs Claire Craven and Mrs Joanne Mitchell at the end of this term and wish them all the very best for the future.

### Oral Health Survey of 5 year olds:

Parents of children aged 5 in Reception or Year 1 will shortly receive a letter from the Epidemiology Coordinator of Bridgwater Dental Access Centre, requesting consent to participate in an Oral Health survey. All local authorities in England are required to undertake dental surveys as part of a programme of work to help improve the dental health of people in their area. If you are happy for your child to participate in this survey, please complete and return the consent form.

### Christmas Performances:

A reminder that next week's Christmas Performances are being held at the Salvation Army on Moorland Road, Collections will be taken at each performance for the Salvation Army and St Margaret's Hospice, the latter in memory of Mrs Kendrick.

### Year 6 SATs week 13<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019:

The Year 6 SATs will be held during the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> May. Please look in your child's book bag for a letter regarding a parent's meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### For the attention of all parents/carers with a child due to start school in September 2019:

If your child is due to start school for the first time (born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015) then it is very important you make an on-time school place application.

### Deadline for primary admissions : 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019

To download the primary booklet for parent's, to make an on-line application and for further information please visit our website [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) and choose the page Apply to Start School.

### School Admission Arrangements 2020/21:

The consultation on St John & St Francis Church School 2020/21 admission arrangements is from 14 December 2018 until 31 January 2019. If you wish to comment on these arrangements please e-mail: [office@sjsf.bwmat.org](mailto:office@sjsf.bwmat.org) A final copy of the determined admission arrangements will be displayed on the website by 28 February 2019.

After this date objections can be made to the Office of the School's Adjudicator. For further information on how to make an objection please visit their website <http://www.education.gov.uk/schoolsadjudicator/> or phone the office on 01325 735303.

### Dogs outside of school:

Could we politely request that dogs are not tied up immediately outside of the school gate, and any dog mess is removed to prevent families from walking through it. Thank you.

### Lost Property:

Please make sure you check lost property for any misplaced items by next Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Any items left after this date will be recycled.

### Vacancies – 2x Lunchtime Supervisors:

2 x LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS REQUIRED – Permanent Contracts

POSITION 1: 6.25 hours per week during term time

POSITION 2: 10 hours per week during term time

Pay Grade 16 Scale Point 7-8 (£8.55-£8.62 per hour)

The school wishes to appoint two enthusiastic lunchtime supervisors, from January 2019. This is a great opportunity to work with a team who enjoy making the school day as enjoyable as possible.

You will work in the hall as part of the Lunchtime team as well as in a class to ensure that the children have their packed lunch/hot meals at the appropriate time. You will be expected to:-

- \* Maintain a calm atmosphere and encourage positive behaviour
- \* Deal with any minor first aid incidents (training will be provided)
- \* Report back to the class teacher at the end of lunchtime
- \* Setting up and clearing away tables and benches

Candidates are invited to contact the school and arrange to visit and meet with the School Business Manager. If you would like to arrange this, please book an appointment via phone 01278 456918 or email [office@sjsf.bwmat.org](mailto:office@sjsf.bwmat.org)

Benefits of working for the Bath & Wells MAT include; a generous pension scheme, enhanced sickness and parental benefits and a supportive working environment.

The Bath & Wells MAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS and all relevant pre-employment checks.

Application forms should be accompanied by a full letter of application and sent to the school office by post or email the School Business Manager – [naomi.chandler@sjsf.bwmat.org](mailto:naomi.chandler@sjsf.bwmat.org)

Closing date: Thursday 10th January 2019

Interview date: Wednesday 16th January 2019

This post will commence: As soon as DBS clearance & notice period dictates

### Sparkle & Shine Week 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018:

If your child has not already brought in a decorated shoe box, or alternatively cardboard box/bag, it is not too late to bring this into school. Please ensure your child has a box or bag next Monday (17<sup>th</sup> December) , as they will be filling it with lots of lovely Christmas crafts.

### Christmas Jumper Day 2019:

Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumper with their normal school skirt/trousers.

### After school clubs:

Please note that all school run clubs finished this week. Letters will be sent home in the New Year regarding after school clubs for the Spring term.

### Message from our Chair of Governors:

We are pleased to welcome Mr Chris Moore as a Foundation Governor on our Board and look forward to working with him. I know he will have much to contribute to our school. **Major Yvonne Rouffett, Chair of Governors.**

### Thank you to the PTA:

A HUGE thank you to our PTA for working so hard with today's Christmas Fair. We are lucky to have such a dedicated team of helpers.

### Amazing attendance:

The class with the best attendance this week is Barn Owl Class, 100%! Well done for achieving perfect attendance. Barn Owl Class can wear non-uniform on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

### Weekly awards:

#### Bird of the week

<b>Robin</b>	Poppy M
<b>Wren</b>	Cayden K
<b>Blackbird</b>	Erin K
<b>Sparrow</b>	Star C
<b>Chaffinch</b>	Berat S
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Llewellyn W-B
<b>Woodpecker</b>	Not provided by Class Teacher
<b>Jay</b>	Lilly F
<b>Barn Owl</b>	Jorja H
<b>Tawny Owl</b>	Finleigh J
<b>Crane</b>	Lysander R
<b>Heron</b>	Akvile K
<b>Kingfisher</b>	Megan M
<b>Eagle</b>	Ashton O
<b>Kestrel</b>	Tarni-Rae G

#### Class Worship Leaders

<b>Robin</b>	Whole Class
<b>Wren</b>	Whole Class
<b>Blackbird</b>	Max S
<b>Sparrow</b>	Tallulah
<b>Chaffinch</b>	Whole Class
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Whole Class
<b>Woodpecker</b>	Whole Class
<b>Jay</b>	Scarlett C
<b>Barn Owl</b>	Liam M and Charlie K
<b>Tawny Owl</b>	Whole Class
<b>Kingfisher</b>	Whole Class
<b>Heron</b>	Lorna G and Elsie R
<b>Eagle</b>	Whole class
<b>Kestrel</b>	Whole class

**Christian value:**

Our Christian value for this half term is: **Compassion.** "Compassion is the wish to see others free from suffering."



**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



**SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
**STORYTELLING - FREE | NO NEED TO BOOK | 10:30AM**  
**CHRISTINGLE ORANGE CRAFT - £1 PER CHILD | NO**  
**NEED TO BOOK | STARTS AFTER STORYTELLING**

Guest storyteller Irena will weave a mythical tale about the mysterious Firebird, with the storytelling followed by our Christmassy Christingle orange craft! There's no need to book for this craft but there will be a small charge for materials.

**BRIDGWATER LIBRARY PRESENTS**  
**FIREBIRD**  
**A SECOND CHANCE TO DO OUR**  
**FESTIVE CRAFTS**  
**AND A BRAND NEW**  
**WINTER CRAFT**  
**THURSDAY 3RD JAN**

**£1 PER CHILD | 11AM-12 NOON**  
**BOOK IN PERSON OR ONLINE!**

Missed out on our festive crafts the first time around? Fear not! We will be running a special session on the 3rd January where you can experience everything you missed out on! There will also be a **BRAND NEW** winter craft (involving SLIME!!)

**WINTER CRAFT**  
 A brand new winter craft to keep the holidays going!

**PHOENIX & EGG CRAFT**  
 Decorate your own phoenix and egg!

**FAIRYTALE LANTERN**  
 Create a beautiful candle lantern with Christmas designs.

**TREASURE HUNT 22 DEC - 5 JAN**  
 A Firebird themed treasure hunt will be running over New Years!




**BRIDGWATER LIBRARY PRESENTS THE**  
**FIREBIRD TREASURE HUNT**  
**DEC 22 2018 TO JAN 5 2019**

**Keep the festive season going with our SECOND CHANCE CRAFTS!**

Missed out on our festive crafts the first time around? Just want another go? Fear not! We will be running a special session on 3rd January where you can give everything a try! (Booking required).

**Extra-curricular opportunities:**

Please note that all clubs have now finished for the Term. Details of clubs for Spring Term will follow in the New Year.

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 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**

**FULL DIARY DATES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
<http://stjohnstfrancisbwmat.org/dates-for-the-diary>

December	
<b>Our Nativity performances will be at The Salvation Army Hall in Moorland Road.</b>	
<b>17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Sparkle and Shine Week. Please send in a decorated shoe box or bag.
<b>17<sup>th</sup> @ 2.00pm</b>	Nativity - Year R, 1 and 2. Wren, Robin, Sparrow, Blackbird, Chaffinch and Goldfinch classes
<b>18<sup>th</sup> @ 9.30am</b>	Nativity - Year R, 1 and 2. Wren, Robin, Sparrow, Blackbird, Chaffinch and Goldfinch classes

18 <sup>th</sup> @ 2.00pm	Nativity - Year R, 1 and 2. Wren, Robin, Sparrow, Blackbird, Chaffinch and Goldfinch classes
19 <sup>th</sup> @ 9.30am	Nativity Year 5 and 6 Heron, Kingfisher, Kestrel and Eagle classes
19 <sup>th</sup> @ 2.00pm	Nativity Year 3 and 4 Jay, Woodpecker, Barn Owl and Tawny Owl classes
20 <sup>th</sup> @ 9.30am	Nativity Year 3 and 4 Jay, Woodpecker, Barn Owl and Tawny Owl classes
20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch. Please book online at <a href="http://www.parentpay.com">www.parentpay.com</a>
20 <sup>th</sup> @ 2.00pm	Nativity Year 5 and 6 Heron, Kingfisher, Kestrel and Eagle classes
21 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumper with their normal school trousers/skirt.
21 <sup>st</sup>	Parents invited into Class to make a Christmas decoration with their child. 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
21 <sup>st</sup>	PTA Christmas Parties – these will be held in children’s classes during the school day.
<b>Christmas break 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	
<b>January</b>	
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils.</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	School reopens following the Christmas break.
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Science Focus Week.
14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Cycle Training.
14 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting in School Hall @ 6.30pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Tawny Owl Class Community Assembly @ 2.45pm in School Hall for parents and family of children in Tawny Owl Class.
18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 swimming sessions begin at 1610 Chilton.
21 <sup>st</sup>	Science Showcase. Parents invited into class to see work from our Science week @ 2.45pm.
24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs meeting @ 6.00pm. Please see letter home w/c 10.12.18
28 <sup>th</sup> – 1 <sup>st</sup>	Storytelling Week. More details to follow.
<b>February</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	PTA Friday Night Film Club – further details to follow nearer the event.
4 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting in School Hall at 6.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day. Parents invited into school to work with their child. 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
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jay Class Community Assembly @ 2.45pm in School Hall for parents and family of children in Jay Class.
<b>18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Half Term break</b>	
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils.</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens following the Half Term break.
<b>March</b>	
4 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Meeting in School Hall @ 6.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7.00pm. Parents have been given details of our online parents evening system to book an appointment with classteachers.
7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day. Please come to school dressed as your favourite book character.
7 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7.00pm. Parents have been given details of our online parents evening system to book an appointment with classteachers.