

St John the Baptist C o f E (Aided) Primary School, Findon
NEWSLETTER

No. 37 – 2020/2021– 15 July 2021

www.stjbps.co.uk

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REMINDER – NO PARKING ON SCHOOL HILL THURSDAYS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Parents with children in the new Reception cohort joining us in September will receive a separate letter with information, which is specific to them.

We are assuming that all restrictions will be lifted for schools when we return in September, although this may change as the course of this pandemic continues to be volatile. However, at this point we plan to return to our normal routines. Therefore, the doors to school will open at 8.40 am. Parents and children should wait together prior to this within the 'court yard' area, away from the driveway and steps for safety. Parents are responsible for their children until they enter the school doors.

We will have activities running in class to start the school day from 8.40 am until 8.50 am, when the register is called. Arrival after the register is closed at 8.50 am is classed as late.

Children and parents have coped magnificently with dropping off at the main door and we intend to continue with this policy for all classes. It makes the corridors less crowded and the children are very capable of hanging up their own belongings. Any messages for the teachers will be taken by Mrs Baird and Mrs Johnson, and then passed on to the relevant staff. If you wish to speak with a teacher, we can arrange a phone call or a meeting as required.

The children have also managed well without rucksacks and so could we ask parents to continue with the policy of sending the children in with small bags, e.g. book bags or the equivalent size bag. We are still expected to do additional cleaning in school at lunchtime and the bags clutter up cloakrooms and corridors.

The children will be mixing again at playtimes and lunchtimes and it will be lovely seeing the older and younger children sharing games and spending time together again.

At the end of the day the following arrangements return –

- Ash and Willow classes (KS1) – please wait near to the main gate by the side of the school and just before 3.15 pm, a member of staff will call you down into the car park area to collect children from the playground gate. This solves the problem of prams etc., having to negotiate the steps by the swimming pool.

Please do not wait in the car park as this is not a suitable place for young children to be playing.

- Rowan, Holly and Oak (KS2) classes will be dismissed from school at 3.20 pm from the main door.

Please can we ask parents to park considerately for the safety of our children and other road users and local residents. If possible, please try to leave the school promptly so that parking spaces can be freed up for other parents.

You will have received a survey from Findon Parish Council and completing this, indicating your views, may well help them to resolve some of the congestion problems that we have. Please return the surveys by Wednesday 21st July.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

As from Monday 13th September we will be reintroducing 'Before and After School Club'. Please find attached a booking form and a letter from Mr Yelland.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

We recently informed you about the West Sussex Library Service Summer Reading Challenge. Running alongside this, we will also be setting an Accelerated Reader challenge for current years 3, 4 and 5.

By using the link below or Googling ARbookfinder UK and selecting books within their ZPD range (they should know what this is), all the books that they read can go towards both challenges. The children will need to take the Accelerated Reader quizzes (again they are experts at this) and score 80% or above. There will be prizes for most successful quizzes taken and most words read between 24th July and 1st September 2021.

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx>

YEAR 2 – ACCELERATED READER

Over the final few weeks, year 2s are being introduced as a whole class to the Accelerated Reader scheme in preparation for September 2021, when they will be given individual log ins in the Autumn term and they will begin to use this system in Rowan class.

Thank you. Mrs T Stoner – Literacy Coordinator

REMINDER - CHARTWELLS LUNCHES - YEAR 2 CHILDREN MOVING TO YEAR 3

Just a reminder for parents that as children move into Year 3, lunches are no longer free under the Government's Universal Infant Free Schools scheme. Therefore, please remember to order meals in time for the children's return on Monday 6th September.

You can pay for your school meals online at www.mealselector.co.uk/ and if you don't have an account yet, go online to register or call the West Sussex Chartwells' office on 01243 784223.

If your child is currently eligible for a benefits-related Free School Meal, we will continue to order your child's meal and you do not need to take any further action.

If you think that you may be eligible to claim for benefits-related Free School Meals, you can find out more information at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

CHARTWELLS MEALS – ROWAN, HOLLY & OAK

Please remember to order meals well in advance of the children's return to school on Monday 6th September <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/>

Recent correspondence:

- Email – Letter and booking forms for Before & After school clubs
- Email – Findon Parish Council Parent survey
- Whole school - reports and class lists

MESSAGE FROM SADIE ROCKLIFFE

Please find below a message from Sadie who has been our superb Chair of the PTA for the last 8 years, and who has always been a loyal supporter of the school.

IMPORTANT PTA UPDATE

Dear Parents,

Being Chair of our fantastic PTA for the last 8 years has been an indescribable experience! Whilst sharing blood, sweat and tears alongside some of the most incredible parents and staff over the years, we have raised over £80,000 welcoming record numbers of attendees to our fundraising events! We've brought smiles to 1000's of faces, bringing old and new traditions to our wonderful school and local community! We've purchased fantastic additions for the school and supported many trips, courses and experiences!

Whilst I never expected to take on the role after my first child started school, I feel absolutely honoured to have worked with so many wonderful parents, family members, school staff and the local community to help enrich people's experiences.

As you can probably guess by now, I've had to make the very difficult decision to step down at the end of this academic year for other priorities to take precedence. This gives a great opportunity for others to help grow the PTA as part of an incredible, hardworking, passionate and very funny team!! A huge thank you to everyone that has supported our PTA over the years with their time, funds, ideas and participation!! You've been amazing and I feel greatly honoured to have been a part of it.

Our PTA AGM will be at the beginning of September so keep an eye out for the date and do consider how you can get involved...! It's a fantastic PTA that will continue to bring fun and enjoyment to so many whilst raising vital funds for our school.

Thank you so much for everything and as I'm at the school for another 9 years, I'll see you all there!

Sadie Rockliffe

REMINDER - FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| July | 19 | New Reception children visiting after school (group 1) |
| | 20 | New Reception children visiting after school (group 2) |
| | 21 | 1.15 pm – Class transition |
| | 22 | 9.15 – 10 am - Year 6 Leavers' Service on the school field
Year 6 parents invited (max. 2 adults per child) |
| | | 10.45 – Class transition |
| | | 3.30 – 5.30 – Year 6 Leavers' party – swim & pizza |
| | 23 | Lunchtime – Year 6 cheesy chips |
| | | Last day of term |

September 06 Children return to school