

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

No. 38 – 2020/2021– 22nd July 2021

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MESSAGE FROM MR YELLAND

As we approach the end of term, I just wanted to thank everyone for their support of the school. This year has been full of challenges brought about by managing the many impacts of the pandemic. When under this sort of strain, it is easy to put our pressures onto those around us. However, despite these conditions I am so proud of the way that staff, children, parents and governors have continued to pull together to help our small school through what is still an ongoing national crisis.

I am aware that we do not really know under what conditions we will be returning in September. However, what I do know, is through our combined efforts, we have dealt with what has been thrown at us and I am sure that we will do so again. This is because when it comes down to it, we all want the same thing, which is the very best for the children in this school.

Enjoy the summer, take time together if you are able and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 6th September.

Take care and God bless.

Richard Yelland

TERM DATES 2021/2022

Please click on the link <https://www.stjbps.co.uk/term-dates/> for updated term dates for the next academic year. West Sussex County Council has allocated Friday 22nd July as a non-school day to mark the Queen's Jubilee, so this will mean that the last day of the summer term will be Thursday 21st July 2022.

INFORMATION FOR YEAR 6 – NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

Through West Sussex County Council, we have booked Bikeability training for the year 6 children for the week commencing 18th October 2021. We thought it would useful to give you advance notice and we will provide you with further information when we return to school in September.

SCHOOL UNIFORM - REMINDER

Due to the 'in and out' nature of almost the whole school year for the children, we have noticed a slip in the correct school uniform being worn recently. Here are some reminders for the when we start back in September.

All children, when the weather demands, wear green sweatshirts/sweatshirt cardigans embroidered with the school logo. Trainers are allowed purely for break-time wear and PE. Summer sling back open toed sandals are not permitted for health and safety reasons. No shoes with heels more than 1" or 2cm are permitted. Winter shoes should be black. Boots are not permitted. Lightweight waterproof jackets are recommended in wet weather. Sweatshirts, polo shirts and T-shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school.

Summer Uniform

GIRLS:

Red & white small check dress/skorts with short sleeves
Green school sweatshirt/green school sweatshirt cardigan
White socks

BOYS:

Red polo shirt
Grey/Black short tailored trousers
Grey/Black socks
Green sweatshirt

Winter Uniform

GIRLS:

Red polo shirt
Green school sweatshirt/green school sweatshirt cardigan
Grey tunic or skirt or black or grey plain tailored trousers
Black, red or grey tights or white socks

BOYS:

Red polo shirt
Green school sweatshirt
Grey or black tailored plain trousers
Grey/Black socks

Games & PE

Red T Shirts, black shorts, trainers

In the Hall, children work in bare feet for particularly gymnastics and dance

- Shoulder length hair or longer must be tied back.
- Only small, plain hair accessories. No large hair bands or bows.
- Simple stud earrings are allowed but must be removed for PE lessons.
- Book bag or 'book bag' size bag – no large rucksacks

Dear Parents and Staff

This end of term letter from us, as school governors, comes at an interesting time in the life of our school. We have just experienced a year that has been challenging for everyone involved in the continued education of our pupils.

We have mentioned in the past, and are glad to say again, how grateful we are to the parents of our pupils for the way that they have helped with their children's learning tasks, have been so supportive of the staff and of the necessary deviations to the pattern of normal school life that has been altered so much by the pandemic.

We are sure that all parents will want to join with us in thanking our staff for all their hard work and dedication that has ensured our pupils have had a school year that is as close as possible to normality.

St John the Baptist School is not only blessed with good teachers, staff and parents; backing up all of this have been our peripheral support people who operate in various ways to help make our school what it is. This includes my fellow Governors, who have performed challenging tasks really well again this year, our friends in the church and the community; many of these people play important roles in the day-to-day welfare of us all. A few words of thanks to two of them:

This year we have said goodbye to Glynis Vidler, our dinner lady and cleaner, someone else who has given extraordinary service to us, especially during the pandemic. We all wish Glynis a much deserved, long and happy retirement.

As ever, we are proud of our excellent PTA and must say special thanks to Sadie Rockliffe as she steps down after many years as our PTA Chair. Sadie has done an amazing job bringing to the role superb skills as both an effective fund-raiser and organiser for this outstanding group of people.

A major task facing the Governors this year has been a requirement by the LA and the Diocese to investigate long-term school's management and the possibilities of extended collaboration with other schools. This work has been accelerated by the announcement by Richard Yelland of his retirement from the role of Headteacher. After a lot of research and deliberation, looking at all the recommended options for our school, we have decided to appoint a new Headteacher as a direct replacement for the existing role. We will continue to explore longer term potential ways of assuring standards, enhancing our staff roles and our curriculum offer, whilst maintaining the family feel and Christian ethos that has prevailed within school for the past 20 years of Richard's tenure.

Thank you again to everyone involved in the life of our school. We wish you all a safe and pleasant summer.

The Governors of
St. John the Baptist Primary School.
Findon