

St John the Baptist Cof E (Aided) Primary School, Findon

NEWSLETTER

No. 14– 2021/2022 – 6th January 2022

www.stjbps.co.uk

EMAIL ADDRESS – office@stjbps.co.uk

Twitter – @STJBFINDON

Dear Parents/ Carers,

May I wish you a belated 'Happy New Year' from me and all of the staff at St John the Baptist CE Primary School. We are looking forward to an exciting term full of learning opportunities for the children, created by the teachers in their new termly topics. Watch out for the pending topic newsletters to discover what each class will be covering this term.

Thank you for your cooperation with keeping our children safe and reassured as we continue working within the Government guidelines in the Covid19 pandemic. Your full support is very much appreciated.

I look forward to welcoming the children in each morning and seeing them learn, develop and shine as they engage in the activities in school.

Mr John Cumming
Interim Headteacher

MESSAGE FROM JOHN ROCHE, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I can now give you more details about our new Headteacher. She is Mrs. Jane Sharrock, who is currently the Deputy Head Teacher at a primary school in Berkshire. Mrs. Sharrock hails originally from Wigan, where her initial teaching roles began, before she moved south to become an experienced Deputy Head Teacher at a large primary school in Wokingham. She has already performed acting Head Teacher duties there and of course has a broad knowledge of all aspects of primary education. We look forward to welcoming Mrs. Sharrock at the start of the Summer Term, although we will be working with her whenever we can in the interim to achieve a smooth handover.

ROWAN, HOLLY AND OAK (KS2) – OPEN FUTURES

Further to the letter sent home yesterday, KS2 children will not need gardening clothes or appropriate footwear for the gardening sessions because the activities are based around investigations connected with plants, animals and their habitats and the environment.

CLAIMING FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS – RECEPTION TO YEAR 6

All Reception and KS1 (year 1 & year 2) children are currently entitled to universal infant free school meals. All children throughout the whole school, from Reception to Year 6, may also qualify for free school meals under the Pupil Premium funding.

Even if your child already receives a universal infant free school meal in Reception & KS1 (year 1 & year 2), the school will still be able to claim additional funding under the Pupil Premium Free School meal grant if you are in receipt of any of the benefits listed in the following link: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

This means that claiming for Free School Meals, **whether your child is in Reception or Year 6**, could also help you to receive other benefits at school, for instance, help with the cost of school trips, free milk, school uniform and additional support in school.

For more information, please speak to the school office staff in confidence.

NEW INSET DAYS

Please make a note that we have arranged INSET days (school is closed for the children) on the following days:

- Monday, 25th April
- Monday, 6th June

RECEPTION INTAKE SEPTEMBER 2022

West Sussex County Council has asked us to remind parents/carers, who have siblings due to start school in September 2022, that Primary School online applications are still open but the deadline for on time applications is fast approaching. Apply before 15 January 2022 for your application to be considered on time at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/>

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you moved house or changed your telephone numbers recently? If so, it is extremely IMPORTANT that you let us know, so we can update our records and are able to contact you if your child is unwell.

RUCKSACKS

Please can we remind parents and children that large rucksacks should not be brought into school to carry books, packed lunches etc. We are still trying to keep personal belongings carried to and from school to a minimum, as space is limited in the corridors. Please use either a school book bag, small rucksack or similar that is not bigger than 37cm x 30cm.