

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

NEWSLETTER

No. 17 – 2021 / 2022 – 3rd February 2022

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Dear Parents/ Carers

I remember the days when I was at school when most of the learning that I did had a right answer and a wrong answer. The 'smart children' got them right and the rest got them wrong. There was such a stigma attached to 'failing'. I am very pleased to say that this is not the philosophy behind what we do here at St John's school. Yes, there are questions that have a definitive right or wrong answers, e.g. $47 - 38 = 9$. However, what we try to instil in the children is the fact that it is the journey of finding the answer that is the important aspect of the learning. Being able to communicate how an answer was arrived at, helps the child and the adult, to see what the thought processes were behind their answer. This way, changes in procedures or methods of calculation can be adjusted and the correct answer found.

What I am trying to say here is, that making mistakes is part of the learning process. We would rather the child have a go, either verbally or on paper, and get something wrong, than not have a go at all. If we, together, can give the children confidence to have a go, even with that risk of failure, then we have done a good job. Many new inventions and innovations have come out of people making mistakes. (Penicillin, Plastic, Pacemakers, Post-it notes, etc. and these are just some of the ones that start with 'P')

Let's work together to ensure our children become risk takers with their ideas so that they are the innovators of today, tomorrow and beyond.

John Cumming
Interim Headteacher

ASH AND WILLOW PICK UP

Please can we remind parents and family members to stay at the top of the drive, by the main gate, until a member of staff indicates that you can come down to the car park area, as cars need to have safe access to and from the school car park before the end of the school day.

Please can we also ask that all children (preschool and children from Ash and Willow class) stand next to you until you leave the school premises. We have told the children that they shouldn't be climbing on the walls, playing on the steps or ramp, or running around the area outside school. We thank you for your co-operation.

KS2 CHOIR CLUB

Sadly, due to returning to class bubbles, the KS2 choir has not yet been able to get together. Therefore, (not wanting to do an 'Adele), I have arranged with Helena to postpone when our choir will be leading the church service. The new date is now Sunday April 3rd. Our choir is an amazing group of singers, who work very hard in our rehearsal sessions, so it would be great if as many children as possible can be part of this service; please save the date. Choir will restart as soon as we are out of the bubble situation. We are constantly reviewing this daily.

KS1 ANGMERING HALF MILE

On Tuesday 1st February, some of our Year 1 and 2 children went to 'The Angmering School' to run in a half mile event against other schools from our locality. All the children who ran did amazingly well, and our team was placed 3rd overall.

Special congratulations need to go to Alfie for being the first St John's runner back in 4th place. Also a big 'thank you' must go to our Sports Ambassadors, Darcie and Natasha, who came along to help organise our children at this event. There are photos on Twitter for you to look at.

FORTHCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

Unfortunately, the Tchoukball event has been postponed on Monday 7th February because the Angmering School sports hall is being used for mock exams.

We would like to wish our netball and football teams 'good luck', when they play Georgian Gardens Primary School later this afternoon.

Year 1 and Year 2 are invited to take part in a KS1 Multi skills event on Monday 14th February at The Angmering School. Please return consent forms to the school office.

There is another KS2 Angmering Mile run on Wednesday 16th February, after school, so please send in consent forms if your child would like to take part.

MESSAGE FROM THE PTA

Remember, we have plenty of stock, of various sizes and styles, of second hand school uniform! Just a small donation is welcome in exchange. Please get in touch with a member of the PTA committee, anytime, or email FindonPTA@gmail.com with any requests and for more information. Thank you!