

Newsletter

St John's C.E.V.A First School Frome



"Learning together... aiming high"

Website: stjohnsfrome.co.uk

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Issue 1

Friday 6th September 2019

WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday. It is wonderful to see all of the children back in school, looking extremely smart, happy and all ready to learn. We extend an extra warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined us this term; we are delighted you have joined the St John's family. We hope you will all be very happy at St John's and that you feel part of our school community very quickly.

Thank you to my fabulous staff for working hard in their own time to ensure their classrooms were bright and cheerful, ready for the children's return.

There is a lot to take in if you are new, and we hope that our weekly newsletter will be helpful. It will keep you up to date with school and community events and may well have specific information relating to your child's year group. You will also receive a curriculum newsletter to outline the children's learning for the coming weeks.

Our value that we are particularly focussing on this term is 'Thankfulness'. Children and staff have already been thinking about what thankfulness means. It would be helpful if you could talk about this at home too, to help your children understand what it means to be thankful.

I am looking forward to working with you, in partnership, in the coming year. With very warm wishes for the year ahead,

Mrs Marsland

CLASSROOM VISITS

We would like to invite you all in to school next week to see your child's new classroom, to meet the new teaching staff and to find out about what the classes will be doing during the coming year.

Monday 9th Sept 9-9.30am - **Year 4**

Tuesday 10th Sept 9-9.30am - **Year 3**

Wednesday 11th Sept 9-9.30am - **Year 2**

Thursday 12th Sept 9-9.30am - **Year 1**

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Sadly, Lilly Wells' (Year 4 last year) father died during the summer break following a long and brave battle with a brain tumour.

Also on our minds constantly is Helen Harflett as she continues to fight long-term illness. Helen taught at St John's for many years, and we all consider her a part of our St John's family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Lilly, Helen, and both families at this very sad and difficult time.

STAFFING UPDATE

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Alexander Coombs, our new Hawthorn class teacher, who joins our staff this term.

We weren't in a position to let you know at the end of term, but Mrs Meldon has taken the decision to retire after 19 years' tireless service at St John's. Mrs Meldon provided computing lessons for all children, and also with her passion for all things environmental, played a pivotal role in leading our Green Panthers group. We are extremely grateful for her dedication and years of service to the school, and wish her a long and happy retirement.

PREMISES UPDATE

We have had some internal refurbishment completed over the summer break. Our old computer suite has been divided into two rooms, one being our new library and the second room being a dedicated intervention space called 'The Burrow', where small groups of children will be able to work with an adult. Our old library has become 'Acorns', a dedicated learning space for a very small number of our children who need a different type of provision. 'Acorns' is also a great space for our 'Early Birds', 'Lunch Club' and 'Twilight'.

The Copper Beech has had some lightening of branches, although this appears to be minimal, and there is still uncertainty about the safety of the tree, so the area remains out of use. The pirate ship and climbing equipment have been removed as advised by the LA Health and Safety Team. We have various outdoor play equipment providers coming in to make suggestions and give us quotes for replacing the pirate ship in a safer space on the school grounds; our first provider is visiting the site next week.

HOUSE CAPTAINS

This week, we announced our new House Captains and Vice Captains. They will perform various tasks during the next year and will also sit on the School Council.

VERY well done to:

Goldfinches

Captains - Islarose and Tolly
Vice Captain - Phoebe

Woodpeckers

Finlay and Hannah
Vice Captain - Lacey A

Kingfishers

Ava and George
Vice Captain - Daisy

Robins

Lilja and Lacey V
Vice Captain - Frank

NEW TERM

Please could we remind parents and carers of a few things to help all children and staff during this new school year:

St John's is a nut-free school. Please ensure your child does not have nuts of any kind in their lunchbox.

Please send your child to school with a water bottle; they will be encouraged to drink plenty of water, and to refill it often.

All children need to keep a school PE kit on their peg **at all times** please. They should only need to be taken home and washed at the end of term. PE kit should also include a hairband to tie long hair back. If your child is unable to do it themselves, please tie their hair back before school.

Please do not send children to school with birthday sweets or treats. However, you may bring them after school so that children are able to share them with their friends in the playground.

Please name everything so we can return lost property quickly.

Please make sure your child has a coat in school.

If your child is asthmatic, they must have a prescribed inhaler in school at all times. Please ensure it is in date and named.

Lastly, thank you for the effort you have all put in to ensuring the children look so smart for the new school year! Your children are a credit to you all.

THE NEST

SMSC - We will talk about and share our goals and targets for this term.

Art - Children will create their own 'Five Little Friends' chain display, using templates and coloured pencils.

English - We will read and discuss the story, 'Five Little Friends'.



OUR LEARNING WEEK AHEAD

Our Value is 'Thankfulness'

Reception

Maths - Counting songs.

Phonics - Letter sounds S, A, T, P

Year 1

Maths - Place value - 1 to 10.

English - Phonics. Starting our new text "The Very Hungry Caterpillar".

Year 2

Maths - Exploring 1s and 10s in 2-digit numbers

English - Writing sentences using adjectives and nouns.

Year 3

Maths - Place value.

English - Creating fact files using our new text, 'George's Marvellous Medicine.'

Year 4

Maths - Place value - Egyptian number system.

English - Story writing combining Ancient Egypt with a traditional tale.

THE LONDON BRIDGE CHALLENGE FOR DIABETES UK

Mrs Marsland is attempting to complete the ten mile London Bridge Challenge on Sunday 29th September for Diabetes UK. Mrs Marsland has chosen to participate in this charity event because she has family members affected by diabetes, and we also have our own little Livia in Year 1 who lives with Type 1 Diabetes. With Leo's help, she has been training hard during the summer holidays to prepare for this walk. If you would like to make a donation to the charity or sponsor Mrs Marsland you can do so in person to Mrs Alexander at the front desk or through the Just Giving Page:

[justgiving.com/Claire-Marsland?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=Claire-Marsland&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=Q4By4bb6a](https://www.justgiving.com/Claire-Marsland?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=Claire-Marsland&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=Q4By4bb6a)

PARENT PARTNERSHIP SESSIONS

Make a note now! We have arranged the following sessions for parents to come into school to join their children in class activities:

Y1 - Thurs 10 October 9.30am

Y2 - Weds 9 October 9.30am

Y3 - Tues 8 October 9.30am

Y4 - Weds 2 October PM



FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

friendsofstjohnsfrome@gmail.com

AGM

Wednesday 18 September 5.30pm School

We would like to invite all parents, carers and staff to the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St John's School on Wednesday 18 September. It's a chance to find out about the Friends, to discuss ideas for events and fundraising goals, and to meet or join the team! Do let us know before the meeting if you would like to find out more about the roles on the team - we will be voting in a new committee at the AGM and would love to welcome some new team members.

We look forward to seeing you there.

DIARY DATES

Wed 11 Sept	Year 4 Egyptian Day - Dress up!
Weds 18 Sep	Friends of St John's AGM - 5.30pm
Weds 2 Oct	Parent Partnership - Year 4 PM
Fri 4 Oct	World Smile Day
Tues 8 Oct	Parent Partnership - Year 3 9.30am
Weds 9 Oct	Parent Partnership - Year 2 9.30am
Thurs 10 Oct	Parent Partnership - Year 1 9.30am
Mon 14 Oct	Parents' Evening
Weds 16 Oct	Parents' Evening
Thurs 24 Oct	Inset Day - School closed
Fri 25 Oct	Inset Day - School closed
28 Oct - 1 Nov	Half Term
Fri 15 Nov	Children In Need
Tues 17 Dec	Flu Immunisations in school
Tues 17 Dec	Christmas Lunch
Fri 20 Dec	Last Day of Term
Mon 6 Jan	Inset Day - School closed
Feb 17 - 21	Half Term
Thurs 5 March	World Book Day
March 18, 19, 20	Liddington Residential - Y4

At St John's CE VA First School the health, safety and wellbeing of every child is our top priority. We expect all staff, governors, parent/carers and visitors to share this commitment to safeguarding our pupils.