

“Spurring each other on with the Courage to make a positive change for ourselves and others”

Weekly Bulletin Thursday 25th July 2019

Dear Families

It has been a wonderful year getting to know you, the children and the incredible school that is Totnes St John's. As this year draws to a close I want to wish all the children, their families and all the hard working, dedicated staff at St John's a terrific and well earned holiday.



What A Team!

I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for the fantastic and dedicated staff who are moving on to exciting new roles and projects, and we look forward to regularly seeing those who are retiring from daily service at the school return through our doors to check in with the children and keep in touch with us! Thank you Mrs Sercombe, Mrs Morgan-Pritchard, Mrs Binmore, Mrs Vooght, Ms Sparkes and Ms Merrett- you will be hugely missed but we do hope you keep in touch and wish you all the very best! We also wish Mrs Patterson-Azzopardi well on her maternity leave.

Our Return

The children will return on Wednesday 4th September to a freshly redecorated and repurposed school. The builders have informed us that the new building will regrettably not be handed over until the first week back. Unfortunately this is out of our control, so we will return to school on Wednesday 4th September coming into classes the usual way with just a couple of changes to reflect the new class structures:

Year 6- Year 6 classroom, Year 5- Year 5 classroom, Year 3 /4 with Mr Ansermoz into Year 4 classroom (please enter via the decking with Mrs Baumbach), Year 3 /4 with Mrs Baumbach into Year 3 (along the decking), Year 2 into the Year 1 classroom and Year R /1 to come in via Reception with EYFS children.

We anticipate a swift move into the correct classroom layout on return and will keep you informed about this. In the meantime, the building work continues apace!

New projects for the September term include a re-purposing of the quiet areas and playgrounds and continuing our development of all our school buildings to work for the children- with easy, constant access to our amazing school grounds and play spaces, lots of small group spaces and refurbishment to make our school the perfect place for all our children.

Looking Ahead To Next Year

As well as PE kit, can we ask that children come in with wellies and wet weather outerware: they can keep these items in school. We need to be able to take the children out at any time in the Autumn term as part of our focus on Outdoor Learning. We will be equipping the school with welly and outdoor clothing storage, but we do need to ensure that all children are prepared for thrilling outdoor experiences- whatever the weather!

Leavers

The Leaver's Service and Year 6 events this week have been a tremendous and incredibly moving way to celebrate the great achievements of our Year 6 children over their many years at the school. They have been our chance to express our gratitude to their families in their support for the school, and to mark and thank the Year 6 team who have put so much work and love into this year for their children.

Watching the slideshow that Mrs PA put together showing the children as they were in Reception and the exciting opportunities they have experienced throughout their school lives was a great reminder of an extraordinary journey for the Year 6 class. We are so proud of them!

Introducing ParentPay



From September we will be working towards going 'cashless' as a school and introducing ParentPay as a preferred means of payment for school dinners, clubs – including Breakfast and Teatime Club, school trips and residential. All of our other ACE schools already use ParentPay.

Early on in the Autumn Term we will be sending out individual letters with activations codes to enable parents and carers to activate accounts. You may already be familiar with the system - which is used at KEVICC and most other local secondary schools – if not please follow the link below for further information. An information sheet is also attached to this newsletter.

<https://www.parentpay.com/parents/>

As always, we thank you for your continued support and wish you all a fantastic holiday break.

Mr Funnell & The Staff of St John's