



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

Weekly Bulletin Friday 5th July 2019

Dear Families

After School Clubs Questionnaire

Many thanks for all your questionnaire responses so far about clubs next year. If you have yet to respond, please do so. It's really important to know what interest there is in possible clubs we can run next year and extending after school Teatime Club; without knowing your thoughts we cannot plan and we will not be able to take your views into account. Please drop off any questionnaires to your class teacher or to the main office.

Time Capsule Service

This week we (just about!!) managed to squeeze the whole school onto the area in front of the hall to commemorate the new build. Children read prayers, Year 5 sang and Steve Jones from St John's Church blessed the hall extension. The prayers that children have written went into the Time Capsule and are now buried in front of the hall. We decided to bury the capsule in front of the hall - with all the barricades this meant sadly there was not much room for anyone else! We will hold a separate blessing and service when the build is complete that can include everyone, so please do not worry!

ACE Choir Event

On Thursday all of the schools in the Trust - Collaton, Galmpton, Redhills, Shaldon and Totnes St John's - sang together in the Civic Hall. It was a terrific event, with a packed hall full of proud parents and dignitaries, and the children were buzzing with excitement. They sang as schools and as one large ensemble, and made us all feel very proud. There is no doubt that singing and music is a great way of bringing children together, developing listening and attention skills as well as self awareness and self confidence. Well done to all the Year 5 children, and also to Ms Merrett and Ms Broach who supported putting it together. And a huge thank you to Steven Wellington for setting out and putting away the hundreds of chairs for the event!

Sports Day

Don't forget that on Tuesday 9th July next week we are holding our TSJ Sports Day! You should have received a letter outlining all details for the event. In case you missed it, the plan for the day is reprinted at the end of this bulletin after the 'Diary Dates' section

Open Afternoon - Tuesday 16th July

Classrooms will open from 2:15 for parents to drop in and speak with their child about their learning this term. Jim Funnell and Katy Burns will also run parent information sessions about the school's position at the end of this year, our End of Year Outcomes and plans for next year. There will be two information sessions - they will start at 1:30 and 3:15.

Coffee Morning

Please note there will be no Coffee Morning this coming week – 10th July 2019. This half of term we have been holding coffee mornings for parents on Wednesdays 9:00-10:00. They have been great opportunities to discuss the school, plans, improvements and - crucially- gain the views and ideas of our parents. This week we discussed the PTFA, the importance of supporting the PTFA and how easy it is to do. Do make sure you join the PTFA - there are so many exciting opportunities happening across the school, and so many ways to get your voice heard. You can also choose exactly how much or how little you support actively- everyone has busy lives and we are all realistic about who can donate their time and for how long.

Summer Foodbank Referrals

It's that time of year again when Totnes Food Bank is offering food and picnic lunches for families in need during the Summer break. Please can you let Rachel Tucker know, in confidence by July 12th if you would like her to put in a request for you - please add any dietary requirements.

Building Works Access Through Car Park – Teatime and Breakfast Clubs

As the building work nears completion the builders need to carry out a gas diversion within the top car park. This will start this Monday on 8th July, lasting for approximately 5 days. They will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum and there will continue to be a clear walk through route for all, but it will have moved slightly. **For some of this time the usual access to Teatime and Breakfast Club via the kitchen will be blocked. Please access these clubs via the lower temporary office entrance during this time.**

Attendance

Lastly, regular attendance, on time, is absolutely critical for children to make progress. Each week we publish in the newsletter the attendance for each class and the class with highest attendance will receive a certificate. At the end of this term the class with the highest attendance will win a cash prize that they can spend on a class celebration - last term it was Year 6 who used the money to go on a special swimming trip! Well done to Year 3B and Year 4 for being this week's Champion Children!

Percentage Attendance This Week

YR	Y1	Y2	Y3B	Y3H	Y4	Y5	Y6
98.31	95.77	95	100	92.35	100	94.12	99.23

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Mr Funnell & The Staff of St John's

Diary Dates – Summer Term 2019

9th July 2019	School Sports Day KS1 9.30 – 11.00am KS2 1.30 – 3.00pm
10th – 12th July 2019	Year 5 Residential
NO COFFEE MORNING 10TH JULY 2019	Tea and Coffee Morning 9.00 – 10.00am The Yurt
15th July 2019	Whole School Transition Day
16th July 2019	Open Afternoon 1.30pm Parents Information Meeting 2.15pm Open Classrooms 3.15pm Parents Information Meeting
17th July 2019	Year 6 Production 6.00pm School Field
18th July 2019	School Summer Fayre 1.30- 4.00pm (includes performance of Year 6 Production at 3.00pm)
**RESERVE DATE ONLY 19th July 2019	**RESERVE DATE ONLY incase of bad weather on 17th July - Year 6 Production 6.00pm St John's Church
25th July 2019	Year 6 Leavers' Service 1.45pm St John's Church Last Day of Term

School Sports Day – Tuesday 9th July 2019

This year's sports day will be held on Tuesday 9th July here at St John's, on our school field and hard play surface (Green Zone). The day will be split into two halves; EYFS/KS1 before lunch and KS2 after lunch. The exact timings are as follows:

EYFS/KS1 Sports Day	09:30 – 11:00 (approx.)
KS2 Sports Day	13:30 – 15:00 (approx.)

As in previous years, the day will be a healthy mix of team games and individual competition. Children will work their way around a carousel of sporting activities, with their House team (Air, Earth, Fire or Water), amassing as many points as possible for their team. Children will rotate around the activities until they have completed all of them. We have tried, where possible, to place all siblings and relatives together so that families can stay together to lend their support. After the initial carousel of activities there will be House sprint finals (heats will have already taken place during class time), House relays and a long run (where all children are encourage to partake).

The house team scoring the highest combined score being crowned overall winners. There are two trophies; one for KS2 and one for EYFS/KS1. Mr Funnell and Mr Hodgson will present trophies to House captains from both Key Stages. The prize giving will take place upon completion of each of the two Key Stage sessions.

Families and friends of St John's are warmly invited to come along to spectate. Please do check the timings of your child's session and come into school via the new gate opposite Daisy Pre-School.

Children will need to come in on Tuesday prepared for their sporting day ahead. The forecast is for continued warm weather so we would suggest that children come in wearing their full St John's PE kit. They will need to be wearing sun cream and have a sun hat. All of this is obviously weather permitting but all looks gloriously sunny at the moment! If you have any questions about the day please do come and speak to your child's class teacher or to Mr Hodgson.