

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

NEWSLETTER

No. 15 – 2017/2018 – 10 January 2018

www.stjbps.co.uk

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PLEASE REMEMBER – NO PARKING ON SCHOOL HILL ON THURSDAYS

WELCOME BACK

We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

We would like to welcome Mrs Penfold, our new Teaching Assistant who will be working in Ash Class. Mrs Penfold has worked for 10 years as a Teaching Assistant at West Park School and is looking forward to being part of our school community. She is already getting to know the children in that class and throughout the school as she begins to settle in.

There are lots of exiting things planned for the term ahead. The children in KS2 will be learning about the Commonwealth and in Ash and Willow classes, their topic is Tyres, Tracks and Trainers. We are hoping to start work on the new bike and scooter racks and the PTA will need some volunteers so please contact Sadie Collis and George Harrex Perks if you can spare some time.

MESSAGE FROM MRS BECKETT

I wanted to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone for the best wishes, cards and gifts, and for giving me such a fantastic send off. As you could see I was totally overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. In fact, I struggled to get everything (particularly the fabulous pink flamingo) in my little car! You've left me with some very special memories of my time at St John's. I have tried to thank everyone personally but think I may have overlooked some of you so apologies if I have. It was very hard to say goodbye so let's say 'au revoir' until the summer! Best wishes to you all for 2018!

ASTRACOLOUR

If your child was absent from school when Astracolour visited us at the end of November, there is another opportunity for individual or family photos to be taken on Wednesday 17 January.

Please let the school office know if you wish your child/children to be photographed on this date.



ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FUNDING/PUPIL PREMIUM

The school gets extra funding for children whose parent(s) receive some kind of income support, e.g. Income Support, Job Seeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit, and Universal Credit. If eligible, then children not only qualify for a free hot school meal, but other subsidies, including a free school sweatshirt and logo polo shirt. If you do qualify for a free school meal, children can still bring in their usual packed lunch and don't have to have the hot lunch.

If you think you may be eligible to claim Free School Meals, please either talk to Mrs Johnson or Mrs Baird in confidence or alternatively look at www.westsussex.gov.uk – (Free School Meals), as soon as possible. **It would be very helpful if you could complete your claim by Monday 15th January at the very latest.**

SCHOOL CENSUS DAY – THURSDAY 18TH JANUARY 2018

As part of Census Day we have to record the number of children in Ash and Willow (KS1) who actually eat a Universal Infant Free School Meal on this day, and this then counts towards the total Government funding that will be allocated to our budget. Therefore West Sussex County Council has worked with Chartwells to encourage as many children in KS1 (Ash and Willow class) to eat a hot lunch. So we will be offering a hot lunch to every KS1 child on this day. If you still wish to send in a packed lunch on this date, please do so.

Menu – Chipolata Sausages or Quorn Pattie, Omelette, Baked Beans, Mini Potato Squares and Bread
&
Blueberry Muffin or Cherry Yoghurt & Granola, Milk or Water

YEAR 4 – KEY2MUSIC CONCERT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

You are invited to a concert on Friday 9th February at 2.30 pm when the children in Year 4 will be singing and playing their guitars. We hope you can come along.

HELP NEEDED PLEASE!

Do you have an hour to spare this Friday 12th January at 9 am to help with the Year 1 cooking session please? Please sign up on the rota in the school office. Thank you.

IMPORTANT REMINDER - 'NUT FREE SCHOOL'

We have some children in our school who suffer severe reactions to nuts. We would request that all our parents/carers be extra vigilant when preparing packed lunches and snack boxes. Please ensure that sandwich fillings do not contain nuts or traces of nuts e.g. Nutella. If packed lunches include processed/packaged items, please check ingredients.

CLUBS

- Sama Karate starts today and is open to all year groups.
- Le Club Francais starts tomorrow after school and is open to children in year R to year 4.
- Freedom Leisure Badminton Club for Years 3 & 4 will start on Thursday 18th January at 8 am.
- Freedom Leisure Badminton Club for Years 5 & 6 will start on Friday 19th January at 8 am.
- We are very pleased to announce that Lee Tillyer from Freedom Leisure will be running a **new Basketball Club** for all children in Year 3 up to Year 6. The club starts on Monday 15th January, 3.20 pm – 4.20 pm.

Booking forms are available at school and if you require any further information, please contact the school office.