

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

NEWSLETTER

No. 16 – 2017/2018 – 17th January 2018

www.stjbps.co.uk

Twitter - @STJBFINDON

REMINDER – NO PARKING ON SCHOOL HILL THURSDAYS PLEASE

STAFF NEWS

Mrs Fenton

Mrs Fenton will be leaving after Easter due to personal reasons. We are going to really miss her enthusiasm, sense of humour and commitment to the school. She works tirelessly to support children and parents whilst at the same time managing to be a great teacher and developing maths throughout the school. We wish her all the best for the future.

Mrs Lorne

We are all very excited that Mrs Lorne will be having a baby in the near future. She will be working up until Easter before taking her maternity leave. We all wish her the best and look forward to the new arrival.

We will be advertising both these positions this week and will keep parents up to date as we aim to appoint two new members of staff by the end of February.

WORD ART

Along with this newsletter you will receive a Power Point presentation, which I used with the children in Assembly this week. Any children who wish to take part have been asked to use the words on the last Power Point slide to create some word art to promote the Values that we learn about in assemblies. This term we are looking at Respect. The other values are Friendship, Compassion, Hope, Trust, Reverence, Peace, Respect, Responsibility, Truthfulness, Forgiveness, Perseverance, Justice, Generosity, Humility, Courage and Thankfulness.

This is not compulsory but if this is something that you and your child would like to do then please feel free to take part. Please email the word art to the school office – office@st-john-baptist.w-sussex.sch.uk – or bring it in ready for display by Friday 2nd February.

KS2 NETBALL CLUB

Mrs Fenton will be starting Netball Club next Wednesday 24th January until Wednesday 21st March.

If the weather deteriorates during the day, please remember to look at Twitter or call the school office if you are in any doubt about the club running. Many thanks.

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED PLEASE THIS FRIDAY - COOKING & GARDENING

Are you around to help with the cooking and gardening sessions at 9.00 – 10.00 (cooking and gardening sessions) and at 1.10 pm – 2.10 pm (cooking) this Friday 19th January? The helpers' timetable is displayed by the school office. Many thanks.

HAIR ACCESSORIES AND NAIL VARNISH

Could we please ask that children do not wear nail varnish or elaborate hair accessories to school. Long hair should be tied back with narrow Alice bands, clips or bands to hold hair back from their face.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

January	18	Y3 & Y4 Badminton Club starts at 8 am – spaces available
	19	Y5 & Y6 Badminton Club starts at 8 am – spaces available
	24	KS2 Netball Club starts after school
	29	KS2 Angmering Mile – letters going home soon
February	09	Year 4 - Key 2 Music Concert at 2.30 pm
	12 – 16	Half term
	19	Inset Day
	20	Inset Day
	21	Back to school
March	07	Ash & Willow visiting Amberley Museum – info to follow
	20	Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30 pm – letter to follow
	21	Parents Evening 5.30 – 7.30 pm – letter to follow
	28	Easter Bonnet Parade at 9 am – info to follow
	29	Easter Service at church at 9.30 am Last day of term
April	16	Inset Day
	17	Back to school

FROM THE GOVERNORS

A stroll up School Hill

Walking around Findon is quite a good thing to do for many reasons: apart from easing traffic congestion, saving a bit of the planet and not polluting the air that we breathe, it benefits others as it eases considerably the log jam that occurs twice a day at the early-morning rush hour and at home time.

Please can we make one more appeal to all our stakeholders that will help us all (including our Parish Council as they instigate improvements designed to keep us all safe from increasing traffic volumes): please try really hard to keep School Hill free from cars. We have had a number of incidents of late that have threatened the safety of both parents and children; we all need to do whatever we can to ensure that a stroll up school hill, for whatever reason, is a pleasant experience.

Money Money Money

As we all know from recent media reports school budgets are very tight and our school is struggling as much as any other. However there have been two projects of late that it was essential for us to complete.

Two of our school's many assets are its clock and our Findon Windows – a design of window peculiar to the village – which have recently been renovated thanks to a lot of people's efforts and the kind patronage of our villagers. Both projects were challenging and required specialist expertise. The clock was renovated a while back thanks to the Parish Council, in particular the late Len Prior and kind donations from others. The Findon Windows have been an ongoing project whose urgency increased as the existing windows crumbled before our eyes, presenting a safety risk to school as well as increased heating bills due to their thermal inefficiency. Replacement presented all sorts of problems both financial and structural – the windows are set in the stonework of a listed building meaning stone masonry skills were required; making this not just a simple window replacement project.

We are now faced with ever tighter school budgets and yet we still have some repair projects e.g. roof, to complete this year. For all capital building projects for C of E Aided schools the Government and the Diocese only provide 90% of the cost meaning that the Governors have to make up the remaining amount via fund-raising. We are very grateful to our PTA, to the villagers of Findon and to the Findon Sheep Fair Committee who has all made donations this year which triggered the building work necessary to complete the Findon Window project.