



St. John's

Catholic Primary School

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7 September 2018

WELCOME FROM MRS BONO – HEAD TEACHER



I hope you had a very enjoyable summer and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends. We have had a wonderful start to the new school year and I couldn't be more proud of the children – old and new. I have been wandering in and out of classrooms a great deal and the children in all classes have been so settled, focused

and keen to do their very best.

We have introduced new school rules this term, they are 'Ready, Respectful, Safe'. We have also introduced house point tokens which we will be pouring into giant tubes during some of our Celebration Assemblies. The children have told me that they love the new tokens as they look professional, are organised and give them a great sense of pride when they are awarded one. The staff loved them so much that they all demanded to be in houses so they could gain house points too – we have had the discussion about not unfairly awarding too many housepoints to their own house!!

Please take some time to read our new behaviour policy, you can find this on our website or by following this link:

<http://www.stjohnshorsham.school/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Behaviour-Policy.pdf>

We have lots planned for the coming half-term and hopefully this newsletter will answer lots of your questions and give you a better idea of what is coming up.

Happy reading

Mrs Bono
head@stjohnshorsham.school

ATTENDANCE

Since the start of school last week, I have received a number of requests for time off from school during term-time. May I please remind you that unless there are exceptional circumstances I will not authorise time off when the school is in session. Most of the requests cite stressful family situations and whilst I understand that you would like to take your family away to cope with these, holidays during term-time (even under these circumstances) will not be granted. This seems to be a pattern as I received exactly the same sort of requests in September last year. We have only just returned to school after 6 weeks off and it is really important that children are in school with their friends.

Children are only in school 190 days of the year, which means they are not in school for 175 days. Being in school supports children socially, emotionally and academically. They learn best when they are in school every day. The routine of school can be incredibly beneficial to children when they are dealing with deaths, illness and other difficult life-circumstances. Being with their friends has enormous social and emotional benefits.

If you would like to read the Attendance policy go to the following link:

<http://www.stjohnshorsham.school/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/St-Johns-Catholic-Primary-School-Attendance-Policy-2017.pdf>

I am always happy to meet and talk about attendance so please just book an appointment through Mrs Tyrrell.

A FEW REQUESTS...

P.E. kit—Please make sure that your child has their P.E. kit in school every day (they can take it home on Fridays to wash). The P.E. t-shirt must be white and not yellow—thank you for your support with this.

Water bottle (we have school water bottles for sale in the office for £1.50) —it is really important that your child has a named water bottle in school with them every day. This is in addition to the drink in their lunch box. They keep this in class for when they feel thirsty.

Book bag and reading record—please make sure that your child has their book bag in school every day with their reading record. This helps us to record when we have read with them and see how they are doing at home.

Please can we ask you not use the staff car park or park unsafely or inconsiderately when you are dropping off or collecting. We do have an arrangement with nearby Office Outlet for parents to park there and walk the short distance to the school. Please see Mrs Tyrrell in the office to obtain a parking permit. This week, we had complaints about parking from residents who have threatened to go to the police and the papers about “your inconsiderate parents”. We really want to avoid this and can with your help.

Finally, can we remind you that unless you have signed in at the front entrance you are not permitted to walk through school. This is to safeguard the children—we really appreciate your help with this. If you want to see the class teacher and cannot catch sight of them at the end of the day, please ask for them at the office.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please can you ensure that we have all your emergency contact details and correct home addresses. Unfortunately, last term we had quite a few occasions where we needed to contact a parent urgently and were unable to reach them on any of the numbers we have on our system.

If your child has any medical issues, please ensure you come to the office and fill out the relevant paper work. Thank you

HELPING US WITH FOOD ALLERGIES



Currently in our school we have a number of children who are allergic to food products. These include allergies to wheat, gluten, dairy, eggs, almonds, hazelnuts, peanuts and a variety of different fruits. We want to ensure that we avoid any case of children having an allergic reaction in school and need your help!

Traditionally at St. John’s, when it is a child’s birthday they bring sweets or cakes in with them to share with their classmates at



the end of the day. We are now going to break with tradition and ask that you no longer send in food products for your child to share with others. It can be very difficult for children to watch their friends eating things they can’t and even harder to say no to something they would love. We want to remove these difficulties from them and are grateful for your support with this.

We would also ask you to be mindful when packing your child’s lunch.

We do have some children with such severe nut allergies that the dangers of being in contact (even through the air) can have very significant implications to their health.

Chocolate spreads have always been a favourite sandwich-filler, but from now on, we would ask you to avoid these as many of them contain nuts. Even those that don’t are often made in factories where nuts are present.

If your child has an allergy and you haven’t informed us, please make sure that you do. If they are prescribed an epi-pen, we need to have two of these in school. With severe allergies we will work with you to draw up a health-care plan for your child.

If you have any medical queries or questions, please speak to Mrs Sutlieff who is in charge of First Aid in school. Thank you.

HEAD GIRL & HEAD BOY



Welcome back to St John’s! We have definitely enjoyed our first few days in year 6. I am sure that the rest of the school has enjoyed their first few days too. In addition to the new topics and teachers there are three new rules to the school. “Ready, Respectful and Safe”. These are the Golden Rules. They are probably the most important rules and we have been discussing them in class. We think it’s going to be a great year.

Violet – Head Girl

Welcome back to St John’s. As being head boy I have to look out for people remembering the golden rules. They are “ready, respectful, safe”. I think we are going to make this year great.

Sean – Head boy

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

At St John’s we have a range of after school activities for the children to take part in. Our clubs are bookable via the app every term. Some of our more popular clubs with limited spaces change every half term so it is important to check the app for details on this.

From September 2018 the school has made the decision to charge for our after school clubs to enable us to buy the resources needed. Clubs will be charged at £5 per term and a maximum of £10 per family.

Along with our Teacher & Learning Assistant led clubs we also have outside agencies who come in and teach Karate and sports. All these link can be found in the after school club tile.

MUSICAL SOIREE

We are excited to let you know that we will be holding our musical soiree on Tuesday October 30th @ 6pm in the school hall. This evening is for children who are currently learning a musical instrument to show off their talents. Nearer the time we will send out applications asking which instrument your child will be playing and what grade they are. This event will be ticketed; we will only be able to let you know how many tickets are available per family once we know how many children will be performing. Please look out for more details via the app nearer the time.

READING REWARD SCHEME

We will be running our reading award scheme again this year. To gain an award children must read every day for 15 minutes and this should be recorded in their reading record and signed by a parent.

Awards are as follows: -

- 50 reads = Bronze
- 100 reads = Silver
- 150 reads = Gold
- 200 reads = Platinum
- 250 reads = Diamond
- 300 reads = Outstanding

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & FAIRTRADE

Olá!

Portuguese is our new language this half term! The children will be learning a few phrases, numbers, greetings in Portuguese, as well as a little about the country and culture. If you speak Portuguese and would like to come in to help, please let me, or the office know.



Obrigado!

International Storytelling Day on Thursday 18th October

If you speak another language and are free to come in and help on 18th October, please let me or the office know. If you can stay for the morning, or afternoon, or even just for a slot of 30 minutes, that would be wonderful. I will give you more details if you can. Many thanks! Mrs Curtis

CAFOD

"It is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing"

Blessed Oscar Romero

Dear parents/carers,

On Friday 5th October we will be supporting Brighten up the World - CAFOD Harvest Fast day.

Today as you read this letter, millions of families around the world are living in extreme poverty. Families do not have enough food and children miss out on school. Your continued support is helping to change this. Acting for you, CAFOD has worked alongside the poorest communities in El Salvador for more than 40 years. With you support CAFOD are helping families to escape poverty and transform communities. Please follow this link cafod.org.uk/schools to see the difference they CAFOD have already made.

- ***£1 buys one week's attendance at a childrens club, safe from gang violence***
- ***£38 gives a family grains, vegetables, organic manure and livestock to start a farm***
- ***£105 buys chickens and materials to start a family business.***

Along with supporting CAFOD we would also like to support St John the Evangelist this year with their Nightshelter. Through, Horsham Churches Together, overseen by Horsham Matters, St John the Evangelist will be providing a Nightshelter and food for those in need during the winter month's.

Your child is invited to dress in bright colours for the day in exchange for food/monetary gift donations.

Could your child please bring in the following;

EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 – Tinned food, dried pasta, cereal, rice (non preishables only please) for , Horsham Churches Together Nightshelter.

Year 3,4,5 & 6 – Monetary donations to CAFOD

Once again thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Warmest wishes

Mrs Bono

COMMUNICATION

School app - SZAPP, see the office for more details

School Website - <http://www.stjohnshorsham.school/>

St. John's on Social Media

School Facebook Page— <https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnshorsham.school/>

School Twitter Page— @StJohnsHorsham

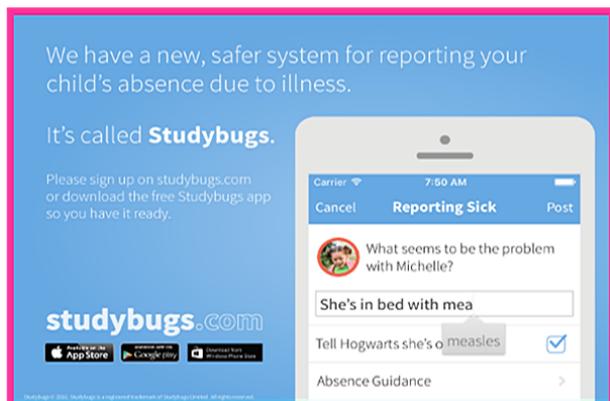
St. Therese Twitter— @StThereseHorsh

St. Francis Twitter— @StFrancisHorsh1

St. Ava Twitter— @St_Ava_Class

St. Nicholas Twitter— @StNicholasClass

REPORTING AN ABSENCE



You may remember at the end of 2017 we told you that St. John's was helping the NHS Public Health by changing our system for reporting absence. We are now using a more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

FAMILY HELP

Horsham Hub

Enabling Families Information for Professionals

Do you know a family/parent who would benefit from a conversation with one of our Family Support Workers/ Assistants?

The aim of the sessions:

- Supporting families to find Solutions
- Enabling parent/carers to work towards their goals
- Find what works and try out suggestions
- Know what support is out there

Session Details:

- Appointments will be available on selected dates at venues across the Horsham Hub area.
- Families can book one appointment only, these will enable us to talk with the family and identify need.
- A termly flyer will be produced with venues, dates and times
- Sessions will be held between 9.30-12.30pm
- The room will be needed 9.00am-1.00pm
- An appointment slot will last up to 45 minutes

To make an appointment **families** can call 07525211177 or
Email HorshamHUB@westsussex.gcsx.gov.uk

Possible outcome of appointment:

- Signposting to relevant support
- Strategies and tools for parent to implement and test
- Follow up phone call by Enabling Families Team to review progress
- Signposted to Enabling Parents Course
- EHP to be initiated by School/Setting/Process Team
- MASH Referral

If you would like to know more about Enabling Families or would be willing to provide a room/venue for a session / Pop up session contact the Horsham Hub Process Team.

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S - PTA

Dear Parents,

What a great year we have had! With your support we have been able to run 29 events this year including discos, movie nights, sponsored bounce, mother's day photo shoot, dress down days, summer fete and lots lots more!

Our total amount raised September '17 - June '18 (after expenses) is £11,240.00!

The main purchases this year have been 3 clever touch interactive boards for year 4, 5 & 6 at a cost of £2,500 each! This is truly amazing as it means every classroom can now benefit from the advanced learning these screens bring.

We have also contributed again to the outside learning area £1,200 and we have purchased a school BBQ & popcorn machine for use in future fund raising events. We were also so happy to organise an end of year treat for the whole school - Cue the arrival of a 98ft giant rumble in the jungle inflatable!

We have had some great support this year and would like to say a huge thank you to those parents and teachers that give up their time to attend meetings or help at events.

Whatever you can do to help even if it is just one event once a year - it is a huge help! If you would like to join the volunteer bank for next year and be in the loop for what is happening and what help is needed please let us know by emailing friends@stjohnshorsham.school

Most of all thank you to every child and parent that have supported the events by turning up and buying tickets or cakes etc and getting involved. You can see how every little event has amounted to big changes in our school.

The Friends AGM for 2018/2019 will be on Tuesday 2nd October @ 7.30pm in the school hall. We are looking for a Vice chair and a Secretary so if you would be interested in either of those roles please get in touch.

Job descriptions for these roles can be found on our tile on the app.



**St. John's Catholic Primary School
Open Day for 2019's new starters**

Wednesday 19th September 2018 @ 9am
Friday 21st September 2018 @ 9am
Monday 24th September 2018 @ 9am

All sessions will start with a presentation from Mrs Bono (the headteacher) followed by a tour of the school by some of our amazing children.

We would love you to come and see how we Learn to Love & Love to Learn!

Call 01403 265447 or email office@stjohnshorsham.school to reserve your place.

www.stjohnshorsham.school

DATES FOR THE DIARY

7 Sep	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 1 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM
	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 2 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM
	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 3 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 4 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM
	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 5 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM
	Open session/meet the teacher - Year 6 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
	Academic Mass @ St John the Evangelist (coffee & cake in hall after) 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM
20 Sep	School photographs 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
4 Oct	St Francis Mass at St John the Evangelist 10:10 AM - 11:00 AM