



St. John's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 1 Friday 9th September 2022

Our values: At St John's we are: Joyful in our faith , Aspirational in our learning, Confident in being me, Caring in our hearts.

WELCOME BACK!

We are all delighted to welcome you all back to school this week. The children have settled in very quickly and have shown a great attitude towards their new learning already. A special welcome to our new pupils and their families who have started in Reception. We also extend a warm welcome to all our new children in other classes and their families who have joined St John's this year.

Our Values

Last year the Governor's embarked on a project to capture the values of St John's. To establish what makes St John's special and what values do we wish to instil in our young people as they grow up and move on from us.

We consulted parents, children, staff, Governors and the wider community.

We had a great response and it really gladden our hearts when we read all the fantastic adjectives used to reflect our school and its ethos. After further discussions we now have our values. I introduced them to the children on Monday and am now sharing with you.

At St John's we are:
Joyful in our faith
Aspirational in our learning
Confident in being me
Caring in our hearts.

We hope you agree that these values capture our school, it's ethos and what we hope for all our children now and in the future.

Our next project is to review our vision for the school and what we aim for within the next 5 years. We will again be seeking your thoughts on this as we move forwards and grow together.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to hear children read in school. If this is something that is of interest to you or you would like further information, please fill in the web form attached to show your interested and the class teachers will get back to you. Please note that all volunteers will need to have DBS clearance (which school can do for you)

UNIFORM

It is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their uniform at the beginning of term.

A reminder that:

- Socks should be plain grey or white (small coloured trim on the girls socks is fine)
- Earrings must only be gold or silver small studs please. No hoops
- Children should bring a coat with them every day in case the weather turns.
- Shoes must be black and well fitting. Slip on shoes are not good for school as they often run around at playtimes.
- Children can wear an analogue watch to help them learn the time. No smart watches or fitbits are allowed.

Please do ensure that **all** items of clothing and equipment including water bottles are clearly and permanently labelled with your child's name. This makes it much easier to reunite lost items with their owners!

Children are permitted to wear their Summer uniform up to the October half term holiday, weather permitting!

A reminder that children are not allowed to wear jewellery including fabric bracelets, nail varnish, transfers/tattoos for school. Boys and girls whose hair is shoulder length or longer should wear it tied back, and long fringes should also be clipped back when working.

Please ensure that hair ties and bands are in school colours, brown or white and not overly flamboyant!

Many thanks for your co-operation.

**SAVE THE DATE:
MACMILLAN CANCER CARE
COFFEE MORNING**

We will be holding a coffee morning to support this cause on the morning of **23rd September 9.00-10.00.**



Please do come along for a coffee/tea and some cake. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents, especially if you are new to our school. We only ask for a small donation towards Macmillan cancer care. If you are able to donate any cakes to this worth cause we would appreciate it.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We have a number of children in school who have severe allergies to wheat, gluten, dairy, eggs, almonds, hazelnuts, peanuts and a variety of fruits. We ask that children not to share food when in school.



As some of our children are severely allergic to nuts we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL**. Please be mindful of this when preparing any lunchboxes. If children have peanut butter for breakfast can we ask that you wipe their faces and brush their teeth before coming into school.

If your child has any allergies please do ensure that you have told school about it.

ABSENCE REPORTING

If your child is unable to attend school, please ensure that you inform the school office as early as possible on the first morning that they are away. The best way to do this is to ring school and leave a message on the absence line or email: office@stjohnshorsham.school



HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Please find below a reminder of the term dates for this year. **Please remember that term time holiday is not permitted.**

KEY DATES 2022/23

29th September - Individual school photos
Monday 3rd October—Thursday 6th September
Year 6 bikeability training
Monday 24th— Friday 28th October Half Term
Monday 31st October Inset Day
Wednesday 16th November - Flu vaccinations
1st—31st May year two SATS
8th - 12th May Year six SATS
5- 23rd June Year four multiplication checks
5th to 16th June Year one Phonics check week

PTA

Hi all

Just to let you know that the AGM for the Friends of St John's will be held on **Thursday 6th October**.

This is the first meeting of the year. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be drinks and nibbles. It is a very sociable event.

The current Chairs will be standing down and looking for the next brave soul to take on the role of Chair and Vice Chair.

The Friend's of St John's has traditionally been very active organising events such as: discos, cake sales, sponsored bounces, Christmas and Summer fayres. As a school it is chance to raise much needed funds to buy the children things that will enhance their school experiences.



If your child is in **Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 or Year 6** please pay special attention to the summer dates as the children have statutory assessments during the summer term and **must** be in school for them.

Unless there is exceptional circumstances holidays cannot be granted during term time. The County will issue fines per parent that takes a child on holiday in term time



Guten Tag!

This half term our focus language is German as this is one of the many languages spoken at St John's. The children will be learning a few words, phrases and numbers in German, and will be answering the register in German too. We will be asking any German speakers to help their classes too. If any German speaking parents or children would like to bring in souvenirs, photos etc to show their class, then please contact Mrs Curtis via the office. Danke Schön!

Frau Curtis



MFL (modern foreign languages) at St John's

KS2 children learn French with Mrs Curtis for one hour each fortnight. Year 6 also learn Spanish in their summer term, as a taster 2nd language before secondary school. Reception and KS1 will also learn some French later in the year.

MFL is taught through songs, games, role plays, conversation pair work and authentic texts. Children practise and develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. The children are encouraged to have a go and have fun learning a new language! Year 6 also use French for real to write to penpals in France.

MFL embraces our school ethos, to celebrate the vast cultural diversity we have at St John's (over 20 languages are spoken by our children and staff!). We also have a focus language each half-term for all children to learn a little and of a new language.

Each half-term there will be suggested MFL homework, to reinforce learning in class. This will be sent out by Mrs Curtis via class teachers. It will be using free websites and practising new vocabulary or grammar points, through listening, speaking and reading skills (rather than written work).

Merci beaucoup! Muchas gracias!

Young Interpreters at St John's!

If you are in KS2 and speak another language fluently at home, you have the chance to join our Young Interpreters. You need to be a kind, caring person, a good listener, willing to help others. Some children arrive here with very little English, imagine how hard that must be! We need you to help these children to understand and speak English. You may also need to show new parents around the school if you speak their language.

You will receive training from Mrs Curtis, a badge and certificate, as this is a very important role in the school. You will be buddied up with a KS1 reader, and have regular sessions in the library to help them read in English (you may use your language skills to translate for them too).

If you are interested, please see Mrs Curtis in the library at 2pm on Thursday 15th September. Current Young Interpreters, please join us to talk about your role.

A 7 mile walk for charity

Aria walked an impressive 7 miles on September 3rd for St. Catherine's Hospice. She started at 10pm at night!

Aria would love to reach as many people as possible to help her to raise money for St Catherine's hospice.

The link is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Danielle-Murphy17>

She would be very grateful for your support.

Well done from all at John's, what a

Fantastic thing to do!



Yesterday, Saana, our German speaker in Year 6, gave a fantastic presentation all about Germany to her class! She taught us about the German language and how it is linked to English. She showed us where Germany is on a map of Europe. She also showed photos of delicious German sausages (weisswurst), pretzels and hamburgers! And she told us about German festivals and traditions, especially the famous Christmas markets. Finally, Saana taught us some German greetings and numbers. Danke Schön Saana!

