



Newsletter.....



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September 2017

Welcome back after the long summer hols! We hope you all had a restful break and are now ready to start a new and exciting year!

Attached to this newsletter is an update regarding our position with regard to academy conversion and our proposal to join Staffordshire University Academy Trust. Exciting times ahead!

THANK YOU

To everyone who helped in any way during last term - it was a very busy time!

WELCOME.....

To Eleanor Stone who joins our Nursery group.

To Henry Doubell and Charlie Smith who join Year R.

To Bertie Doubell who joins Year 4.

To Miss Becki Hickman as our new Busy Bodies Play Leader (formerly Play Worker).

To Miss Emily Williamson who is our new Busy Bodies Play Worker and Lunchtime Supervisor.

We hope they will be very happy here!

WELL DONE.....

To Tilly Oulsnam (Year 4 last year) who has been shortlisted for an award in the Best Kept Village Poster competition.

TOPICS

The topics for the first half of the Autumn term are (Curriculum booklets will follow shortly):

	Main Topic		RE
Class 1 (Yrs N & R)	Ourselves		Why do we celebrate?
	Main Topic	Science	RE
Class 2 (Yrs 1 & 2)	Great Fire of London	Animals including Humans	Festivals
Class 3 (Yrs 3 and 4)	Romans	Forces and Magnets	How do Muslims worship?

The whole school will celebrate Roald Dahl Day on Wednesday, 13 September with activities in school - dressing up is not required.

A number of visits are being finalised in connection with topic work and letters will follow:
Class 3 - Roman Soldier to visit All Saints First School, Denstone

Class 2 - Great Fire of London day at St Augustine's First School, Draycott in the Clay
 Classes 1 and 2 to visit Tesco in Uttoxeter for Farm to Fork activities

Class 3 Roman Feast: Class 3 will be holding a Roman Feast in school on **Wednesday, 18th October** from 2.30pm. Parents are invited to join the fun - togas optional!!

CLASS 1

'Show and Tell' will take place on Friday afternoons for Reception and Nursery. The children can bring one small item that will fit in their school bags - a timetable has been sent out separately to show when it will be your child's turn.

We would ask that children do not bring toys and games from home at any other times to avoid them being damaged or misplaced. Thank you!

EXTRA CURRICULA

Starting next week:

Day	Time	Activity/Club	Year Group	Led by
Monday (from 11 September to half term)	3.15 - 4.15	Football*	2,3 & 4 (16 places)	Burton Albion Community Trust
Wednesday (from 13 September to half term)	3.15 - 4.15	Cheerleading Club*	1 to 4 (20 places)	Amy Simcock

* separate letters sent.

SCHOOL TEAMS - new this year!

The children throughout school have been put into 3 teams: Red, Blue, Yellow. These teams will be used for special events such as sports days and World Book Day. The children can earn team points for respectful behaviour and for working hard. At the end of each half term the team with the most points will receive a 'reward' eg an extra play time.

PE



PE will take place for the whole school on Mondays led by Progressive Sports. It would be appreciated if you could please ensure your child has a **full school kit** as follows to allow for all weather conditions:

White PE t shirt with school logo

Navy (or black) shorts

Blue or black jogging bottoms

Trainers and pumps

The fitness of the children is to be checked in a fun activity session on **Thursday, 5 October** run by Premier Sports.

PLEASE NOTE: With the aim of maximising time and reducing lost property, we are going to trial the following up to Christmas:

All the children should come to school on **Mondays** dressed for the day in full school PE kit for their lesson with Progressive Sports.

- Please can all children come to school in PE kit on **Thursday, 5 October** for the fitness checking session.
- **Classes 1 and 2** will need to bring PE kit in to school on **Thursdays**.

SWIMMING

Swimming recommences on **Tuesday, 12th September** for Years 3 and 4. Please ensure all kit is named and the girls have swimming hats. Please ensure the boys have close fitting trunks as swimming shorts are not allowed for lessons. Goggles are discouraged as the lessons significantly focus on water safety and they will only be permitted with parental consent.

HARVEST

Our Harvest Service will take place in church on **Thursday, 28th September** at 9.15am. As in previous years the children are invited to donate produce in non-returnable containers. These will be carried to church on the morning of the service. All parents are invited to attend. The produce will be sold during the Sunday morning service with the proceeds being donated to Christian Aid.

IMPORTANT - SCHOOL MEALS - PLEASE READ

As you know, all children in Years R, 1 and 2 are eligible to receive a school meal funded by the Government under the Universal Infant Free School Meal initiative. The children may still bring a packed lunch if they wish but it is important that they do not order a school meal if they have brought their lunch with them. It would help us if all eligible children could have a school meal on **Thursday, 5 October** as this is one of the dates on which the Government bases its funding, thank you!

If your child is in Nursery or Year 3 or 4, lunches continue to cost £2.20 per day - £8.80 this week, £11.00 next week. It would be appreciated if this could be paid on Monday morning each week. If you would prefer to pay for the half term this will be £74.80 - cash or cheques payable to Staffordshire County Council.

Important - It may be that your child could be eligible for **free school meals due to household income**, even if they are currently receiving the funded meals mentioned above. You may not be aware that the number of children claiming free school meals due to household income can bring more funding in to school in the form of the government's Pupil Premium. It is the eligibility that counts so your child can bring sandwiches from home or receive the free meal for Years R, 1 and 2 but still be registered for free school meals. An instant yes or no decision can be received regarding free school meal entitlement using the online application process available at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals Parents can complete this application themselves or school staff can do it for them (with parental agreement), and a confirmation of entitlement and the start date should be printed and handed to the school office. For more information or help with an application, please see Mrs Pemberton. Applications need to be submitted as soon as possible for funding to be received in 2018.

ATTENDANCE

A little reminder.....the door opens and the bell is rung at 8.50am each morning. The children are requested to line up in their year groups and are then led inside by a member of staff. Registers are left open until 9.30am. A child arriving between 9.00am and 9.30am will be marked as late. Any child arriving after this time without a valid reason will be marked as having unauthorised absence.

The registers are regularly checked by Local Authority officers who follow up any issues especially persistent lateness, and they will take further action should this be deemed necessary.

HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Should you have any questions, issues or concerns regarding your child, please make arrangements to see the class teacher in the first instance or Mrs Bennett (Head of School) or Miss Robson or Mrs Walker (Co Executive Headteachers).

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent consultation sessions will be held on **Monday, 2 October** 3.30pm to 5.00pm and **Tuesday, 3 October** 3.30pm to 6.00pm, giving the children time to settle in to their new classes. Letters will follow shortly but if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

KEY TO MUSIC (K2M)

The children in Years 3 and 4 will again benefit from K2M provided by Staffordshire Performing Arts and funded by the school. The children will have a music lesson each Friday morning which will include singing, musical activities and violin tuition. Each child will be supplied with a violin to practise at home and there will be concerts for parents during the year.

FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Every September, the local newspapers run a 'First Day at School' feature for children joining Reception. Over the next couple of weeks photographers will be calling into school to take these photographs. All the Reception children will be included unless you specifically request that your child is not. Please advise Mrs Pemberton as soon as possible.

DATA CHECKING SHEETS AND PRIVACY NOTICE

Data checking sheets will be sent home shortly. Please check these carefully, especially **emergency contact numbers. Please sign to confirm the accuracy of the information and return to the office.** A Privacy Notice giving details of who the school may need to share information with will also be included.

TEXT MESSAGING

We use our text messaging service for reminders and any late school closures eg snow closures. Please ensure that you update us with any new mobile contact numbers. We will text **one** nominated parent.

Please DO NOT use the school mobile number to text or telephone the school.

CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA

It is imperative that if your child ever requires the use of an inhaler one should be kept in the school office together with a completed asthma care plan. If your child has an inhaler in school, please ensure that it has not gone out of date and the details on the care plan are current. Please see Mrs Pemberton.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please respect our neighbours and **DO NOT PARK** on or opposite the yellow lines outside the school gates or block any gateways. We have been approached by the vendors of one of the properties opposite the school requesting that we do not park in front of their property as they feel it may deter potential buyers. Please also mention this to anyone else who may be dropping off or collecting your child.

ADMISSIONS 2018

Please ensure you, or anyone else you may know of, have completed an 'Expression of interest form' available from the office if there is a child due to start school in September 2018 or Nursery during the year. This **CANNOT** guarantee a place but ensures we are able to forward either a school Nursery application or a Local Authority application for Reception at the appropriate time.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It has been noticed that the standard of school uniform, particularly PE kit, has fallen recently and would politely ask for your co-operation in returning to the high standards we aim to maintain! The school uniform comprises:

White shirt (Years 1 to 4)

School tie (Years 1 to 4)

Navy polo shirt with school logo (Nursery and Reception)

Navy jumper or cardigan with school logo

Grey trousers (boys)

Grey/navy trousers, skirt or pinafore (girls)

Black/grey socks (boys)

Grey, white, navy socks or tights (girls)

Black or navy shoes

There are new ties, jumpers, cardigans, summer dresses and PE kit with the school logo available to purchase from the office.

The School Association recycles unwanted school uniform and offers it for sale (current stock in the entrance hall). Please pass any clean clothing you wish to donate to the office, particularly PE kit. Thank you!

LOST PROPERTY

PLEASE, PLEASE ensure all school uniform is clearly named. We spend so much time trying to find owners for cardigans, jumpers and PE kit - thank you for your co-operation.

A lost property box is kept in the office. All un-named and unclaimed clothing will be given to charity.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Denise Wheat, our School Photographer, will be in school at 9.00am on **Tuesday, 17 October** to take individual and/or family group photographs. Nursery children who are not usually in school on Tuesdays are welcome to attend. If you wish to include siblings that are not in school, please arrange this with Mrs Pemberton.

HELP PLEASE!

Is there anyone with a couple of hours to spare to help Mrs Prince keep the front playground looking good please? It looks amazing at the moment and it would be great if we could keep it that way. Mrs Prince has kindly offered to continue coming to school for the time being. Helping out could include supervising a small group of children with weeding and planting the flower beds and keeping the greenhouse well maintained. This will require an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Please see Mrs Bennett or Mrs Pemberton.


SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

A Scholastic book club magazine is attached to the Newsletter. Any orders generate 20% back in books for school. If you wish to place an order, please hand in to the office by **Friday, 22 September** (cash or cheques payable to St Peter's School Association).

'BUSY BODIES' OUT OF HOURS CLUB

Please may we remind you to complete the separate diary with your requirements, in advance where possible.

The charges are as follows:

	Mornings	7.50am to 8.50am £4.00 (to include light snack and drink)
	Afternoons	3.15pm to 4.30pm £5.00 (to include a light snack and drinks) 3.15pm to 6.00pm £8.50 (to include a light snack and drinks)

Please note: we can accept childcare vouchers towards payment of fees - please see Beki Hickman for more information.

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

All parents are automatically members of the School Association (PTA). The date of the next meeting and AGM will be advised on the noticeboard shortly. We are very grateful to the School Association for all the fundraising that takes place throughout the year.

School Association - 50 CLUB

The winners at the end of term were:

£20 Mrs H John

£15 Mrs L Stanley

£15 Mr I Briggs

**Subscriptions for this year are now due as soon as possible please - see separate letter.
New members welcome!**

SAL'S SHOES

The School Council at All Saints' First School, Denstone is organising a second hand shoe collection in aid of Sal's Shoes, a charity which collects shoes to distribute in Syria and Africa. Please place any shoes you wish to donate in to the marked collection bin at the front door. Thank you for your support!

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

We are often asked to distribute various promotional materials and wish to remind you that these do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the governors and/or staff.

REMINDERS

- Please ensure all children bring a coat to school each day.
- Years 3 and 4 - please pay dinner money on **Monday mornings** (£11.00 per week) - cash or cheques payable to Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
- PLEASE CHECK BAGS EACH NIGHT FOR NOTES, READING BOOKS ETC
- If your child is to be absent from school due to illness, please contact the office by 9.30am on the first morning.
- In line with NHS Norovirus guidelines, if your child has been sick or had diarrhoea after school or during the night, please keep them at home for at least **two days** following the last bout.
- Please wait to ride bikes and scooters until you are out of the front playground.
- Please supervise your children in the playground before and after school and please discourage them from climbing on the walls and swinging on gates - thank you!

WHOLE SCHOOL - REMEMBER WEAR PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON MONDAYS

CLASS 3 - REMEMBER SWIMMING KIT ON TUESDAYS

CLASSES 1 & 2 - REMEMBER TO BRING PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAYS

CLASS 3 - REMEMBER VIOLINS ON FRIDAYS!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY/CALENDAR/NOTICEBOARD!



Dates for September	Applies to	Event/activity
Monday, 4 th	Staff	INSET day
Tuesday, 5 th	All	Autumn Term begins
Monday, 11 th		Football Club with Burton Albion starts
Tuesday, 12 th	Years 3 and 4	Swimming commences
Wednesday, 13 th		Cheerleading Club starts
Thursday, 21 st	Reception	Tesco Farm to Fork, Uttoxeter (am)
Friday, 22 nd	All	Scholastic books order deadline
Thursday, 28 th	All	Harvest Service 9.15am in church
Dates for October	Applies to	Event/activity
Monday, 2 nd	Class 3	Roman soldier visits Denstone (am)
Monday, 2 nd	All	Parent Consultations 3.30pm to 5.00pm
Tuesday, 3 rd	All	Parent Consultations 3.30pm to 6.00pm
		Continued overleaf

Thursday, 5 th	All	Fitness checking - PE kit to be worn
Friday, 6 th	All	50 Club application deadline
Tuesday, 10 th	Class 2	Tesco Farm to Fork, Uttoxeter (am)
Tuesday, 17 th	All	Individual and family photographs (am)
Wednesday, 18 th	Class 3	Roman Feast in school 2.30pm
Friday, 20 th	Class 2	Great Fire of London workshop at Draycott
Monday, 23 rd to Friday, 27 th	All	School closed for half term
Monday, 30 th	All	INSET Day