



5th May 2021 * SPRING TERM* ISSUE 11

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you managed to enjoy the bank holiday weekend. The weather didn't seem to be as bad as forecast in the end, although I think we are going to have a somewhat wet week!

Grab a coffee as this newsletter is slightly longer than usual...

Parent/Teacher Meetings: Year 1-Year 6

Last Friday we sent an email to all parents with children in **Year 1 - Year 6**. Thank-you for responding to the email. Once organised the meetings will run through **your child's gmail account** as a google meeting just like the autumn term and during lockdown. When teachers have collated all the meeting requests they will send you a meeting invite. You will see an invite sitting within the inbox of your child's gmail account eg: timmytest@stchrisprimary.co.uk To access this you need to login to your child's gmail account, (type gmail into any internet browser) click on the 9 dots on the top right of the page (the 'waffle'), and then click on gmail, you will find the invite in the inbox. Next week will send a guide via email to help you prepare for the google meet itself.

*The email for parent and teacher meetings has not been sent to reception because the teachers in reception call parents once per term to discuss pupil progress – these calls will continue.

Dates

Tentatively we have started to look at some dates for the summer term. I would like to make you aware of these: R

- New to Reception Induction meeting: **Monday 21st of June at 5:00 PM.**
- Moving On Day: **Wednesday 7th July.** On this day our **nursery is closed** so that we can welcome our new reception children for September into school. The majority of year six pupils spend the day at their new secondary school so we do not expect Year 6 in school on this date either. We use this day inside of school to introduce children to the new teacher for the following year too.
- Y6 Leavers Ball: **7pm -9pm Wednesday 7th July** (details to follow)

We are looking at other dates and will let you know of any other planned dates as soon as we can.

Term Dates and Training Days 2021-2022

Along with this newsletter we have attached the term dates for the next school year. We have set the five training days for the next academic year in addition to this. When we set these days we consider the school calendar carefully and the training requirements for staff. Where possible we book dates that have the least impact on parents. Please make a note of the dates in your diary. The dates are on the school website and as usual our admin team will send home the handy small date cards for wallets and purses.

Friday 3rd September 2021

Friday 22nd October 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Friday 27th May 2022

Monday 25th July 2022

Playpals Holiday Club 31st May- 4th June

I am pleased to inform you that we will be offering a holiday club during May half term. Jodie Davies and her team are currently working on a fabulous timetable to keep your children active and entertained during that week.

COVID Restrictions

A couple of parents have asked me if the staggered times and the face coverings are continuing. The council guide us with regards to our risk assessment and for the time being the same measures are remain in place. Please be assured that the staggered times affect our staff and the way school is organised in a negative way so once we have different advice and we are confident that we can move away from the additional requirements then we will let you know. Until then please support us with the measures that we are required to take.

Nursery

Our nursery continues to be busy and the children really enjoy their time in there. I would like you to make you aware that along with Governors we were reviewed the quality of education for our two year olds in Nursery. We felt for various reasons that going forward we will revert back to only admitting pupils who are three and four years old. As our nursery allocates places on a termly basis, if for example a child turns 3 during a term then we will offer a place the following term providing of course we have a space. We are currently allocating place for September and hope to contact and offer places over the next couple of weeks. We do potentially have some places remaining for three and four year olds from September so if you haven't yet applied or know someone looking for a nursery place for this age group then please contact the school office.

School footwear

I'd like to thank all those parents who have ensured that their child is wearing dark coloured school shoes in line with our uniform policy, as opposed to wearing trainers. Given that shops have been open for some time now the expectation remains that pupils should be in shoes and not school trainers. We do have access to a charity called the boot fund and this enables us to help parents pay for school shoes – if you would like further information please contact us. There is no requirement for shoes to be from for example Clarksthere are many pupils wearing comfortable and well fitted shoes from other shops at a cheaper price. I would also argue that trainers are often more expensive than shoes. It is not fair on the pupils that are wearing school shoes to see other pupils not complying – so please support us with this.

This week...

Our school nurses are in school this week and they will be carrying out the standard height and weight assessments in Reception and Year 6. Parents will have had separate communication regarding the checks.

Our school hall will be closed and used for voting on Thursday this week. If you typically collect your child from a club in the hall then this will be moved to the library door which is located on the car park between the Hall and the headteacher's office – thank-you.

Help in school and at home

We have been working hard in school to try to teach some of the curriculum that has been missed to help the children make progress. Some additional staff have been appointed to help us and we also have some extra lessons taking place in school. One of the things that we are most concerned about is reading – with all the other lessons that require teaching it is impossible for staff to hear 30 children read three times a week. You can help with this by listening to your child read at least three times a week – even better five times a week and don't forget to sign the reading diary. Research shows that children who are heard five times a week have a much better chance of passing assessments at the end of Year 6 and then going on to gain good GCSE's.....We are about to purchase some new reading books and I am sure the children will enjoy choosing these.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Robinson
Headteacher BEd Hons. NPQH