

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1.1 Thursday 3rd September 2020



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year 2020/2021. Welcome back to those of you who are established parents, and also a special welcome to our parents of our new Reception children and those parents of children who have joined other classes in Key Stage 1 and 2 this week.

This is our first "regular" newsletter since March 2020; it seems a very long time ago that we were sending home school news in this way and the Headteacher COVID updates soon replaced these when we were forced to shut the school back in the spring.

What a lot we have all been through together since then, along with several different versions of "school" both here at St John's and with home learning.

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week and to return to some sense of normality, although we have had to make many changes to the way the school day is run. I am sure there may be a few more to come as we settle in and fine tune our approach, as well as responding to the local and national situation regarding COVID. My prayer for us all, as we start the term, is that we stay safe and healthy. Also, that we can keep the school open for all, supporting the children's positive welfare and wellbeing, to catch up with their missed education and for them to begin to make solid progress in their learning moving forward.

I have to say that the children have been amazing already this week. They have come back positively and with such enthusiasm, After a busy few weeks getting ready for the start of term, it has been a real tonic for us all to see their smiling faces and be able to chat with them about their experiences over the last few months. Our school family feels complete again, and that is a very positive step for us all – children, parents and families, and staff.

I must also thank you for your patience, understanding and positive response to the systems and procedures we have put in place. I fully appreciate none of this is ideal, and having over 300 children arrive and leave everyday with their parents/carers requires very different management under COVID, compared to what we were doing prior to the summer break. I understand many of you, especially those of you with younger children, would like to be able to come into the grounds and up to the doors when you drop off and pick up, and have the chance to talk to the teachers. I am sure you will appreciate that, to keep proper social distancing and everyone's safety, this just is not possible at this time. Similarly, ensuring acceptable safety measures throughout the day is proving to be particularly challenging but we are working hard together to ensure this is in place. Everyone, especially the children, have taken it in their stride and it seems to be working well for now. Hopefully, things will continue to improve and we hope to be able to ease back more. I will keep you informed of any changes that we make in the coming days and weeks.

In the meantime, please can I ask that you bear with us, remain patient and continue to support us in our efforts this term, as your cooperation in following the guidance, including the parking situation, really does make a huge difference.

I wish you all well for the coming term and I will continue to keep in touch with you via these weekly newsletters, as well as via specific COVID updates when necessary.

If you wish to discuss anything at all please know that I am available via telephone, email, and can arrange face to face meetings from the middle of next week, where necessary. Please contact the office if you wish to speak to me and I will do my very best to get back to you as promptly as I can.

Breakfast Club and After School Care Club

Both provisions will begin from Monday 14th September 2020.

Breakfast Club will run daily from 08:00 to 08:45

After School Care Club will run from 15:15 to 16:30 Monday to Thursday for the remaining weeks in September. We hope then to be able to offer longer sessions, starting on 5th October, and I hope to be in touch with you about this soon.

In the meantime, booking **forms for Breakfast Club and After School Care Club will be made available via the school website tomorrow (Friday 4th September 2020) from 16:00**. Please download the forms you require, complete and email to school office. Due to COVID restrictions, we can only offer a maximum of 30 places at both clubs and these will be allocated on a strictly first come, first served basis.

Some reminders re pupil belongings

Please minimise what your child brings to school each day. They have their own set of resources here in school and we are supplying everything they need, apart from a personal water bottle and lunchbox.

Backpacks - Please DO NOT send your child to school with a backpack. We are not using the cloakrooms at present and there is no room to store them in classrooms, which means they become a trip hazard.

Personal hand sanitisers - Children may bring their own hand sanitisers to school, providing they are sensible with them. Please ensure they are clearly named and that your child is reminded to look after them and keep them safely about their person for use during the day.

PE Kit - On PE days your child needs to come to school already dressed in their PE kit, wearing their sweatshirt or cardigan as well if the weather is cold. They should wear trainers to ensure they have adequate footwear throughout the day.

For now **PE days are as follows:**

KITES – Wednesdays and Fridays
HAWKS – Mondays and Thursdays
EAGLES – Tuesdays and Fridays

OWLS parents will be contacted separately to confirm arrangements for PE once they are in school full time.

Year 6 Reading Books

Eagles staff have asked that children in Year 5 and 6 bring their own reading book to school and that this is replaced weekly. If your child is unable to supply their own book they will be allocated one from school. Again these will be changed weekly. All books should then be quarantined for at least 72 hours before they are used again.

Headteacher Surgeries

As well as making an appointment to see me about a specific issue or concern, I will be available for an informal chat by running two Headteacher Surgeries on Thursday 10.07.20 between 09:00 and 10:00, and again on Wednesday 16.09.20 between 13:45 and 14:45. If you wish to make use of these times to meet with me and have a more informal chat about any aspect of school provision you will be most welcome. However, due to the current situation numbers will need to be limited to ensure safe social distancing. Please email the office to indicate your intention to attend.

Medications in school

Please be reminded that if you require us to administer any form of medication in school, then you will need to contact the office and complete a medication form. These will need to be completed for the new academic year,

even if your child was previously receiving medication, to ensure all information is correct and up to date. Please hand the form and medication to the staff on gate duty.

Eagles children walking to and from school independently

Children in years 5 and 6 may walk to and from school independently. If your child is new to year 5, or you have yet to complete a form for your child now in year 6, please contact the office and they will issue you with the necessary paperwork. No child in Eagles will be allowed to leave the school premises unless we have a form, signed by the parent/carer.

Uniform orders

There are still outstanding uniform orders that need to be collected. Please come to the main gate with your order number on any school day between 10:00 and 14:00 and the office staff will issue you with your order.

School Calendar

We are still putting the finishing touches to the school calendar for this academic year. We hope to be able to share all forthcoming dates with you in next week's newsletter.

With every best wish

Ian Doswell

Headteacher

E-Safety



[Link to Parent Zone for weekly updates >](#)

Please be reminded that general safeguarding information can be found on our school website under the policies section. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for our school in Mrs Nicola Short, or Mr Doswell in her absence. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of any child in our community please do not hesitate to contact them.

(Although these events are not endorsed by the school, they are shared with you for your information).

JUNIORS OPEN REGISTRATION EVENING



9th & 16th September
5:30pm - 6:30pm



Please confirm your attendance to this email address;
somersetgryphonsclubsecretary@outlook.com
Due to COVID-19 we require prior knowledge of attendance.

AGE 8-14 YEARS OLD

Come along, bring your friends & see if you would be interested
in joining our junior hockey teams! All abilities welcome!

Bring an appropriate adult as they will need to complete forms
etc. Use your own hockey sticks & water bottles, spare sticks &
hand sanitiser will also be provided.

SOMERSET GRYPHONS H.C.

CLEVEDON SCHOOL, BS21 6AH

