

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1.5 Thursday 1st October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week for us all here in school but things are beginning to settle down, and I am extremely proud of your children, as I am sure you are. Their behaviour and attitude to school is always impressive but they are really stepping up now, managing the various changes and limitations as we work within our COVID guidance. It seems things are going to remain this way for some time to come but I would like to reassure you we are continually reviewing and refining our practice to ensure the children have the best possible access to their learning, and also lots of opportunities to socialise and enjoy physical activities and play.

With this in mind, we always aim to use the outdoor spaces in school so please ensure your child comes to school with their jumper/cardigan and a warm coat, especially now the weather is turning colder and wetter.

I will continue to keep you up to date with what is going on and any changes that may arise in the coming weeks. I noticed at the weekend that the link to our rewards and sanctions document on the website was broken. I apologise if you have been unable to access this recently. This is now fixed and you will also find the most up to date behaviour policy for 2020/2021 here, along with the behaviour policy addendum that has been revised to address COVID. This can all be found by following the link below:

<https://stjohnevangelistbwmat.org/behaviour>

Clarification about self isolation

I have been asked by the local authority to share the following clarification about requests to self-isolate:

If you have been asked by Public Health England to self-isolate, we need to remind you that this is a legal requirement. The reason you or your children are being asked to self-isolate is because we want to stop the spread of the virus. There are significant penalties for people who do not adhere to the self-isolation guideline. Self-isolation means that the person concerned cannot leave their home or garden. A self-isolating person can travel in the household car as long as they do not leave the car or come into contact with anyone from another household. They cannot visit other households or, for children, go with parents to the shops.

Friends of School Christmas Cards

In recent years, the Friends of School have run a Christmas card scheme to raise funds for the school. Children have designed cards and then they are bought by parents, with a percentage of the cost being returned to the school. Sadly, COVID has hit again and it will not be possible to run the initiative for this year. I know many of you will be disappointed about this, as we are, but we hope you can understand this decision under the current circumstances. We hope to reintroduce the scheme next year.

Request from OWLS

Sometimes, when the youngest children are playing outside or have accidents, we must provide them with a change of clothes. We have some stock, but this has reduced since the start of term. If anyone has some spare new/nearly new boys' pants and/or socks (4/5-year-old size) that you are willing to donate we would very much appreciate it. Donations can be given to any member of staff on gate duty at the start or end of the school day. Thank you.

Homework

You should have now been contacted by your child's base with details of how teachers will be delivering homework this term. Most homework across the school will be in line with what we have been doing previously, by setting weekly reading and spelling expectations, along with access to MyMaths. Some further homework may sometimes be set in addition to this and this will be sent to your child via TEAMS. We want to keep using this resource as it will be used should we be required to close part or all of the school due to COVID (as was explained in the last COVID update letter).

In order to support you further we have also set up a page for each base's homework on the school website so that you have access to all resources in this way as well – as we did with home learning each week during the school closure.

All homework letters/tasks can be found by following the link below and then choosing your child's base page.

[Weekly homework](#)

Parent survey

Thank you to everyone who has completed the most recent parent survey. The survey closes tonight at 18:00 so there is still a little time left if you have not yet responded. I will report back on the results in due course.

Headlice

We have been made aware that there is an incidence of head lice in school. Please check your children for head lice and treat appropriately. Recommended methods of treatment can be found on the NHS website (link below). Thank you

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

School Lunches

Please be reminded that school meals will **increase to £2.20** from the start of Term 2 (w/b 02/11/20). New menus will follow shortly.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance for last week was an impressive **97.8%**. Well done everyone!

Clevedon School Open Evening for Year 6 pupils

Year 6 parents should now have received information about arrangements for the prospective pupil open evening at Clevedon school (Year 6 moving to Year 7 in July 2021) I have included the link to the school's website where you will find further information.

<https://www.clevedonschool.org.uk/default.asp>

A note from Baz!

As you may remember, Baz is our very own TT Rockstar, who was sending me messages during lockdown to pass onto the children. I have received another and wanted to share it with you and the children in this week's newsletter.

Hey Rockers at St John's !!!!!

It has been a crazy few months and I am very impressed with a few of you who have been rocking out the TTrockstars over the past months. I am hoping to come in soon but the bugs are keeping me away, so I have set up a battle between Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. This will start on Friday 2nd October and will finish at 8 am on Friday 9th October. Remember, just a few minutes a day will make you a better maths rocker.

Peace Out

Baz

School Calendar

Our school calendar has been updated. Please see the school website for further details.

www.stjohnevangelistbwmat.org/about-us/calendar/

With every best wish

Ian Doswell

Headteacher

Please see next page for up to date COVID information.

COVID-19 information

Links to all useful COVID related information for parents and carers can be found below.

Thank you for your continued cooperation with the traffic restrictions outside of the school. We have had one or two parents/family members who have dropped their child/children off, or parked within the restriction area, this week. Please be reminded that this is not currently allowed and access is only permitted for residents, businesses, and school staff/deliveries at this time. If you feel you require special access to park here I would ask that you contact the school to discuss the matter further.

We have received some comments from residents about poor parking in other areas near the school at drop off and pick up times, especially around by Asda and the Crab Apple Pub.

We appreciate this may not be St John's parents but it is important we bring this to your attention and ask for your support to ensure we, as a school community, are not held responsible for this. We know it is difficult when the immediate area outside of school is restricted, but hope you will appreciate why this must remain.

We would also remind all parents and carers that we recommend you wear a face covering when dropping and collecting children, wherever possible, and especially where 2m cannot be kept.

We need to continue to limit numbers of visitors into the school building. Therefore, please continue to contact us via email or telephone in the first instance. Face to face meetings will then be arranged, as necessary. Our contact [email is – office@stje.bwmat.org](mailto:office@stje.bwmat.org).

Please do contact us if you need to, whether that is to ask a question or to seek some advice. We will try our best to respond as quickly as we can.

Your continued support at this time is greatly appreciated by us all here at St John's.

Most Up to Date Key Government Information

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): What has changed – 22 September](#)

[Gov.uk - Coronavirus guidance](#)

[REVISED guidance for staying at home with suspected Coronavirus infection](#)

[Guidance for getting tested](#)

[Guidance for those who are vulnerable](#)

[Gov.UK - How Track and Trace works](#)

[Gov.UK - Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus or symptoms who do not live with the person](#)

[Home Learning Library](#)

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.