

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 1.8 Thursday 22nd October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look forward to the midterm break, I would like to thank you all for your continued support, understanding and patience during the last eight weeks. It seems that each phase of our fight against the pandemic brings new and ever more complex challenges, and this last term in school, and for you at home, has been no different. I know you will join me in thanking the staff for their efforts in recent weeks and we are all readying ourselves for the challenges that will come in Term 2. However, we are also looking forward to continuing to celebrate the many successes and steps of progress (however small) that your children continue to achieve.

We are pleased that we have gotten this far without any major outbreaks, or the need to close down any aspect of school provision, but are conscious that we are indeed fortunate here in Clevedon and the West as a whole, where levels remain relatively low. Our thoughts and prayers go to those who live in areas of the country now in Tier 2 and 3 lockdowns and where infection levels are high, where death rates are increasing and where daily life is ever more challenging.

I hope this forthcoming week will give you some quality time with your children and families, to reflect on the positives, and provide some space and time to enjoy being together.

I wish you all a very safe, restful, and peaceful week ahead.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Further Parent/Carer Consultations are scheduled to take place on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th November 2020, between 16:00 and 19:00. Due to COVID-19 these 10 minute appointments with your child's class teacher will be held virtually.

For this round of meetings, we will be using the video call feature that forms part of our online booking system, which can be accessed via your smart phone, tablet, or computer. Following an upgrade to improve security with the system, parents and carers will now be issued with an individual code to login with rather than using your name. The school office will be emailing these codes to each parent via ParentPay in the coming week.

You will be sent full details of how to use the video conferencing system, and a link to the website, on Tuesday 3rd November 2020. Bookings for Parent Consultations will open at 16:00 on this day.

Completing Forms

All documents that are sent out by school are sent as PDF's. If you do not have the software to complete a PDF form online, there are a number of free apps and available software that you can download to your PC/ipad/phone. Popular ones are CamScanner and Adobe Fill and Sign. Please do look at these to assist you and let us know if you need further support.

Flu Vaccinations

We would like to issue a last call for the return of Flu Vaccination forms. These will be collected from school by the school nursing team on Wednesday 4th November 2020. Any forms received after this date will not be

included as part of the school programme and parents will be invited to attend a clinic at another venue.

A Plea for Expertise

Once we return to school next term, Christmas planning will begin in earnest. Due to COVID we will not be in a position to hold our usual Christmas celebrations, parties, and services. However, we are working to ensure we can still celebrate this special time of year with every member of our school community, and will do our very best to make sure we do so in style.

We are hoping to produce a whole school Christmas Carol Service that can be shared with classes, with parents and carers, and with other members of our community. We would be really keen to talk to any parent who has the experience and skills to both record and edit film and sound footage to a high standard and who has some time to come into school and support us with producing our Carol Service. If you feel this is something you could support us with please can I ask that you email the office in the first instance (office@stje.bwmat.org) and I will then be in touch next term to discuss further.

We will also be sending fuller details to all parents and carers early next term to make you aware of our plans and how we will manage this safely and appropriately both in term of COVID and to safeguard all children.

OWLS - A Polite Request

We have a number of OWLS parents who sit on the climbing frame and also lean against the classroom windows at the end of the day, whilst waiting to collect their children. We appreciate space is tight but we ask that you do not do this and make sure that you observe correct social distancing procedures. Where a distance of 2m cannot be upheld then please wear a face covering. Your support is appreciated and expected. Thank you.

Children in Need

Children in Need Day takes place on Friday 13 November 2020 – more information about this year's appeal can be found here:

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/>

This year has a well-being focus, and a series of activities will be offered to each class across the week leading up to Friday's main fundraiser. There are daily five-minute exercise routines and then videos and activities linked to the "Five Ways of Well-being". Each class will complete workouts each day of the week beginning 9th November. On Friday 13th children will be invited to come to school in PE, clothes accessorised with spots, and will be encouraged to complete Joe Wick's "Ultimate Feel Good Challenge". We will be sending details shortly of how you can give a donation to support your child's efforts.

Attendance

Attendance for last week was a brilliant **98.4%** - again, a really super result. Thank you everyone for continuing to send your child to school regularly under these challenging circumstances.

School Calendar

The full school calendar has been updated. Please see our school website for further details

www.stjohnevangelistbwmat.org/about-us/calendar

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 is 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).

Community News

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