

St. John the Evangelist Church School

NEWSLETTER



Term 2.1 Thursday 5th November 2020



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust
'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2 of this academic year. I hope you all had a very enjoyable mid term break and managed to find some quality time to spend together as a family.

It has already been quite a week; you may already feel overloaded by everything that is currently going on and all the changes that have had to be put in place in all aspects of our lives as we now enter the first day of the new national lockdown. I appreciate this continues to be an incredibly challenging time for everyone and I hope the few changes we have made to school procedure this week have not added to your anxiety or stress levels. My apologies if this is the case and do please talk to me or a member of staff if you wish to chat about anything at all, if you feel we can help, and certainly about any question or concerns you have regarding school at the moment. If you have not read the COVID update that I sent out on Tuesday 03.11.20 it can be found by following the link below:

[Headteacher COVID Update 02.11.20](#)

Please be reminded of the change to drop off and pick up times and the new way we are grouping families for this.

Children with surnames that being A to E (inclusive)

Drop off between **08:30 and 08:40** Pick up at **14:45**

Children with surnames that begin F to N (inclusive)

Drop off between **08:40 and 08:50** Pick up at **15:00**

Children with surnames that begin O to Z (inclusive)

Drop off between **08:50 and 09:00** Pick up at **15:15**

This is for all children in all bases (including OWLS).
Please drop off and pick up your youngest child first.

Please remember that we also need your full support - to keep COVID out of school, to protect our children, protect the staff and protect our school community! This can be done by:

- *Wearing a face covering at all times when bringing your children to school and when collecting them at the end of the day.*
- *Drop and Go – please do not stand in playgrounds waiting for school to open or stand outside the gates to see your children go in or to watch them in classrooms, or to have conversations with other parents.*
- *Parking away from the school and walk your children along Fosseyway – please do not drop your children outside of the gates and do not park within the restricted traffic zone.*

Please pass these messages onto any family member/adult who may be dropping off or picking up children. Thank you for continued support with this. It is greatly appreciated.

School work for children who are self isolating

From 22.10.20 we are required to provide work for any child who has to be absent from school because they are self isolating. This does not apply if they are away from school awaiting a test result. However, if they have to be absent due to a member of their household being unwell with COVID or being required to isolate because of Track and Trace and therefore be in quarantine/self isolation for 10 to 14 days, we will supply work that they can complete at home.

It will not be possible for teachers to work "live" with children via TEAMS for example, as they will be working with their classes in school. However, we will endeavour to send home guidance and work within 48 hours of you notifying the school of the need to self isolate.

If your child is unwell with COVID or any other illness there is no expectation they complete school work for the duration of their illness.

Also, if a parent is unwell with COVID we appreciate it may be difficult for your child to complete work, so please do what you can and do not put added pressure on yourselves. Do what you can manage.

COVID absence and Income Based Free School Meals

It is the expectation for all schools to ensure those children in receipt of income based free school meals continue to receive this level of support should they be absent due to any aspect of COVID – this includes:

- When a child is absent because they are unwell with COVID symptoms or told they have a positive case.
- When a child is in self isolation due a member of the household being unwell or as a result of a Test and Trace notification.
- When a child is awaiting a test result or isolating whilst a member of their household are awaiting a test result.

Once you have notified us of your child's absence you will then be contacted to arrange for food packages to be either delivered, or for you to collect them from school.

Parent Consultations

These will still take place next week on either Tuesday 10th November or Thursday 12th November. Please remember to book your 10-minute appointment with your child's class teacher, using our online booking system (details have been emailed to you previously). All consultations will take place via video link.

Send a Cow fundraising

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously to our Harvest Fundraiser for the Send a Cow Charity. You raised a wonderful £228.00 which will be sent to Bishop Ruth's appeal for Send a Cow.

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 would ask you to make a minimum donation of £1 for your child to come to school wearing their spotty accessories. This can be done via ParentPay.

Poppy Appeal

We were hoping to be able to sell poppies, as we have done previously. Due to COVID-19 these will not be on sale in school this year and the British Legion have asked that you purchase your poppies via supermarkets and other essential shops during this lockdown period.

Remembrance Day

This takes place on Wednesday 11th November 2020 and we will be marking the occasion with a special worship in school, broadcast to each class via TEAMS. If your child is part of a uniformed organisation (Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Beavers etc) they may wear their uniform to school, unless it is their PE day when they will need to wear their PE kit.



Remembrance Sunday

Children from our Ethos Committee have written prayers, which will be used in the Remembrance Service at St John's Church, this coming Sunday. My thanks to Mrs Simmonds for making this possible.

Father Brendan Clover has taken over from Father Trevor Jordan at St John's and has been working with the school since September. Please see a message from him below.

Thank you so much to the pupils who have provided prayers for us to incorporate in our Remembrance Sunday Eucharist this coming Sunday. Because of the lockdown we have recorded this act of worship which will then go out on our YouTube channel at 10.30am. So, if you would like to hear yourselves reading the prayers that is where you will be able to do so. The link is below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXx7_SFimiEKOaf_PwAnS4Q

Currently the church is closed except for private prayers but every Sunday we will be live streaming the Sunday Mass and it would be lovely if you could join the priest via the internet who is there praying for you, for parents and carers, for the school, and for the parish.

It is so good that you are all at school and we want to celebrate our links with you all. Please know that we are holding you all in the prayers of the parish.

Fr Brendan

Remember, Remember the 5th of November!

Avon Fire and Rescue have asked us to share a timely reminder about Firework Safety. This can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Colder Weather

As the weather turns colder, please ensure your child has the correct clothing for the season. This includes a warm coat and may include hat, scarf, and gloves. Please can we ask that you ensure all items of clothing are clearly named.

Attendance

Attendance for w/b 19th October 2020 was an impressive 98.4%.

Attendance for the whole of the first term (September 2nd September to Friday 23rd October 2020) was 97.7%. Again, a super result and well above the national expectation. Thank you to everyone for helping to keep our attendance so high.

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 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.

Community News

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

Safety information from Avon Fire

Dear Schools,

We at Avon Fire & Rescue Service hope you, your colleagues and pupils are well.

As Bonfire Night approaches and to ensure our community's safety, please find attached our Bonfire Night flyer detailing how to stay safe during the festivities. We ask that you please support us in reaching as many people as possible across the Avon area by forwarding this flyer to your school's family and stakeholders social media groups. We have also created this fun but important fire work safety message with Fido the fire dog! aimed at children but great for all ages to watch making sure children stay safe within our communities this Bonfire night.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sm8s2vlcpqI&t=106s>.

As well as this, please be aware that there is further safety information that can also be passed on to parents and guardians on our website at <https://avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/events-and-celebrations/fireworks>, watching this YouTube clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y0NMZtatew> and on our Twitter and Facebook feeds. If you are able to share these key safety messages in some form, for example via email, newsletter, or school website, please let us know by responding to this email.

We @AvonFireRescue hope you and your loved ones have an enjoyable and safe Bonfire Night.

Kind regards,

The Children and Young Persons Department,
Avon Fire & Rescue Service

<https://www.avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/events-and-celebrations/fireworks>

Bonfire safety

If you are planning to have a bonfire, ensure you make it as safe as possible for you and your family by following this advice:

- Build your bonfire well clear of buildings, garden sheds, fences, trees, and hedges. Make sure you have a bucket of water or garden hose nearby
- Only burn dry materials and never use flammable liquids or accelerants
- Never leave the bonfire unattended
- Keep your loved ones well away from the bonfire

Fireworks

If you are purchasing your own fireworks this year, make sure you make your own fireworks display as safe as possible:

- Ensure they are marked with the British Standard safety number 7114 or the CE safety mark - A reputable retailer will sell fireworks that comply with this standard.
- Keep your fireworks in a closed box or tin and out of reach of children.
- Light fireworks at arm's length and make sure everyone stands well back.
- Never return to a lit firework: if it has not gone off, it could still explode!

Sparkler Safety

Sparklers are a fun way for children to enjoy firework celebrations, but they can cause injuries if not used safely:

- Always supervise children when using sparklers and follow the instructions on the packaging
- Light sparklers one at a time
- Ensure children are wearing gloves and keeping their sparklers at arm's length
- You could even put the sparkler in the end of a carrot, making it even safer to hold!
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to put sparklers in after use

[Click here to download our Fireworks Safety leaflet](#)



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- Candles and Lanterns

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www.avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/events-and-celebrations/bonfire-night



@AvonFireRescue



AvonFireRescue



Are you a man suffering from domestic abuse?

You are not alone

One in every six men will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime

Please call the ManKind Initiative's helpline and speak to our dedicated team who can provide support and information

National Helpline for Men **01823 334244**
Weekdays **10.00am – 4pm**

www.mankind.org.uk

ManKind Initiative
Charity Number 1089547

AT HOME SHOULDN'T MEAN AT RISK

#YOUARENOTALONE 

Support services are open and police will respond to incidents of domestic abuse as a priority. Household isolation rules do not apply.

Always call **999** in an emergency. Press **55** to alert the operator if you cannot talk.

For local support call Next Link on **0800 4700 280** (24/7) or access their Live Chat facility at www.nextlinkhousing.co.uk

For more information visit: www.saferstrongerns.co.uk/DA