



ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dear Parent/Carer

New School Website Now Live

I am writing to remind you that our new school website went live today. The website contains some new key features that parents have told us they will find useful, such as an automated calendar. The new website is intended to be a 'one stop shop' for parents to find links to the information they require and will be an electronic shop window through which St. John's can proudly share its many achievements. Please keep checking the site for new additions as we intend to continue to make further improvements. The website can be found at www.stjohnskeynsham.co.uk.

Text and Email Alerts

I have shortlisted 3 providers of text and email alerts for schools. During the course of the next week or so the Governors and I will make a final decision as to which provider we are to use. I will then write to parents with further details regarding how you can access the service.

These developments form a distinct part of our overarching aim to make significant improvements to our ICT infrastructure. For example, we have recently installed WIFI technology throughout the school and have introduced a bank of mobile laptops for use by children wherever they may be in the building.

It is also my intention to use ICT to improve home/school communications. I want to ensure that the school, through its own proactive provision, will never again be in a position where we have to count upon the reliability of an external website to communicate important information to our families, (e.g. the BANES 'School Closures' webpage). It is my intention that families will have the information they need, when they need it and by a variety of means; via text, email and through our new website.

E-Safety Workshop

There will be a presentation for parents entitled '*What's the best way to keep your child safe on the internet?*' on **Tuesday 26th January 2010, 5.00 – 6.00pm** in the school hall. The presentation will be led by a BECTA ICT Officer who will also be leading E-safety workshops for our staff and children during their visit. Should you be able to attend I hope that you find the presentation useful.

Parent Consultation 2010

May I express my thanks to all those parents who took the time to fill in and return our annual parental consultation questionnaires. Please can you return any outstanding forms as soon as possible. My February newsletter will contain a detailed analysis of the returns for your information.

Cycle and Scooter Racks

You may recall that I recently commissioned a wood carver to make us some bike and scooter racks for installation at both of our school entrances. I have attached a copy of the design to this newsletter. The 'crops' will be installed, weather permitting, during the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely

Mr M R Cottrell
Headteacher