



ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
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27 April 2010

Dear Parent/Carer

A warm welcome back to the start of the Summer terms here at St John's. During the Easter break we were fortunate to enjoy, and continue to enjoy, glorious weather and I hope that you and your family found lots of opportunities to enjoy some time together.

Having confirmed some outstanding dates I have compiled the usual termly diary of school events and have attached the diary to this newsletter. The newsletter itself provides an update on some of the very exciting events that we have planned for the Summer terms and the usual polite 'start of term' reminders. The dates for your diary will be supplemented with further more specific information closer to each event. The school website has been updated with a copy of this newsletter and photographs and details of recent school events. We have also updated the online school diary which can also be found at [www.stjohnskeynsham.co.uk](http://www.stjohnskeynsham.co.uk)

### **Easter Service at St John's Church**

I would like to thank those parents and grandparents who helped to walk our children to St John's Church for our Easter service. Reverend Howells led a wonderful service for our children who thoroughly enjoyed their special Easter celebration.

### **St. John's Patronal Festival**

Our annual St John's Patronal Festival, the first of which was held last Summer, is to be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (12.00pm – 1.30pm). Reverend Howells will begin the festival by leading a short service which will then be followed by a picnic lunch held outdoors in the sunshine (hopefully!). Following lunch, Year 6 will organise a series of traditional games for the children to play.

**Please note:** Given that we will have a picnic lunch, **there will be no hot school meals on Wednesday 23rd June. However, should you wish for your child to have a meal produced by our kitchen our school cook will make packed lunches at the usual cost of £1.90.** The school will, as always, provide plenty of water for the children to drink.

Please note: Given that the children enjoy their roast lunch so much I have arranged for the school kitchen to cook a roast lunch for them on Thursday 24th June, instead of on Wednesday that week, so that the children don't miss out.

### **Charity Fundraising Fair**

I am regularly approached by organisations and individuals interested in raising monies for worthy causes. Sadly, it is never possible to support all the charities that we would like, but from time to time I make every effort to provide opportunities to meet the requests of children who wish to raise money. A group of children from across the school have got together to request that they hold a charity fundraising fair for our annual charity, which this year is the NSPCC. The fair will be held on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 3.30pm in the school hall.** I hope that you are able to support the children's fair and I wish them well in their efforts.

### **St John's Children Shine**

Congratulations to Iona and Millie (Year 6) who as choristers of Bristol Cathedral School recently visited Hannover whilst on a choir trip. The choir's four performances were well received and the children thoroughly enjoyed their visit abroad.

My congratulations must also go to Harvey, Harry and James (Year 6) who recently helped a lady home after they noticed that she was clearly very distressed. After the event it later became evident that the lady in question was suffering from dementia. I am sure that you will agree that the boys acted as a 'Good Samaritans' and that they are a credit to our school.

A huge well done to Niamh in Year 1 who received a runners up award in the Church's Newsagent's Colouring Competition. A picture of Niamh and other local winners appeared in a recent copy of the local paper. Congratulations, Niamh. Another St John's winner!

And another huge well done to Lochlainn and George (Y6) whose team's win over Yate United at the weekend means that Keynsham Town Football Club under elevens finish the season as League B Champions, securing their sides promotion to 'premier league' football next season. Congratulations boys.

## **General 'Start of Summer Term' Reminders**

### ***Before and after school:***

As the weather warms up and the children begin to use the field during the day, may I take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that children should not be cutting across the field, or playing on the field, before or after school.

Please can I also ask that should you need to speak with the School Office either before or after school could you please enter the building from the main school entrance and not cut through the school hall or the lobby area outside of Year 3 from the Infant playground. Please walk around the building and not through it at all times. Thank you.

Finally, can I ask that your children are closely supervised at all times before and after school to ensure that they are not riding their scooters out of your sight.

Our rule prohibiting the riding of scooters and bikes in school has so far ensured that despite there being so many 'vehicles' on site (which is a very good thing and is to be encouraged!) we have yet to have had a single accident, making this rule an important one to continue to enforce.

Thank you for your on-going support with regard to our school rules. It is our rules, and the fact that we follow them, that I believe firmly reflects the organisational standards that we as an 'outstanding' school community expect of ourselves and of others.

### **School Prayer Group**

You are cordially invited to attend the next meeting of The School Prayer Group. The prayer group represents parents, school staff and governors who wish to support the work of the school. The meeting will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday 13th May at 34 West View Road. You are most welcome!

### **School Term Dates**

The term dates for 2011-12 were confirmed this week and I attach these to this newsletter together with another copy of the 2010-11 dates for the forthcoming academic year (Please note that the first day of term in 2010-11, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010, is an INSET Day).

### **Cultural Arts Collaboration with Staple Hill Primary School**

We have been working on a collaborative arts project with Staple Hill Primary School. The project will focus upon the children learning about, and taking part in, a range of multi-cultural art forms. The project aims to celebrate the cultural variation between schools and to make use of our joint local artistic and cultural strengths.

The project will take place in the week commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010 and has been planned to coincide with the beginning of the World Cup, a tournament that unites all cultures. The arts week will take place both at St John's and at Staple Hill schools and although it will involve all of our children the project will principally involve Years 3 and 4, some of whom will travel to Staple Hill school and we in turn will host visits from children from their school. The week will end with a 'World Cup Tournament' where the children will take part in mixed school groups and will represent teams participating in the World Cup itself.

We hope that this project might be an exciting learning opportunity for our children, and that it will lead to further collaboration in the future. More details will follow shortly.

### **Recycling Week at St John's**

St John's will hold an eco friendly recycling week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2010. There will be a variety of exciting activities on offer and the school will host a number of visitors during the week. We very much hope that the whole school community will get involved in recycling week and I will send more details of the activities we have planned shortly, detailing opportunities for parents and grandparents to get involved. Once again, more information will follow shortly.

### **Playground Update**

Upon our return to school I contacted our play contractor with a view to obtaining an update as to how our planning application has progressed during the Easter school closure. I have been informed that should planners adhere to their own internal deadlines then the final written decision with regard to our application should be submitted this week. This means that we should be able to make a start on the play area very soon.

I am also very pleased to be able to inform you that following negotiations with our contractor I have managed to ensure that our St John's play project is to be his work priority at this time and therefore just as soon as we have planning permission confirmed his team will begin work. I'm sure that you will join me in saying that whenever that is in the near future it won't be a minute too soon!

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

## St John's Church of England Primary School

### Key Dates and Reminders:

The following are key dates for your diaries for the remainder of the school year. Parents will receive letters giving details of specific trips and events for your child's class in due course.

<b>TERM 5</b>	
Monday 19th April	School reopens for Term 5 (8.50am prompt) Music Tuition begins, except Guitar Club
Tuesday 20th April	Tri-Golf Club (final session)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	After School Sports Clubs begin this week, including Guitar Club
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 swimming begins
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs Week – please note: no music tuition this week</b>
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception Class New Parents Evening (September 2010 cohort – 6:30pm)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 visit 'The Georgian House', Bristol
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	'Recycling Week' at St John's (details to follow)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 end of year service for parents (9.15am – 9.45am) School closes at 3.15pm (end of Term 5)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>INSET Day – School closed</b>
	*****Whitsun Holiday*****
<b>TERM 6</b>	
Monday 7th June	School reopens for Term 6 (08:50 prompt)
Tuesday 8th June	Year 5 Cycle Training Day [1 <sup>st</sup> of 5 days – 15/22/29 June and 6 <sup>th</sup> July]
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Pedestrian Training [1 <sup>st</sup> of 3 sessions – 17/24 June 1 <sup>st</sup> July and 8 <sup>th</sup> July] Reception 2010 Storytime (2.40pm – 3.05pm – 1 <sup>st</sup> of 5 sessions; 10/17/24 <sup>th</sup> June and 1 <sup>st</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>not</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> July) Children's Charity Fundraising Fair (3.30pm: school hall)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	School Photographer – Class photographs (Year 6 and Reception Classes) Year 6 visit 'The Lifeskills Centre', Bristol
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Cultural Arts Week – in conjunction with Staple Hill Primary School, Bristol
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 visit the 'SS Great Britain'
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	St John's Patronal Festival (12.00pm – 1.30pm)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Infant Music Festival Open morning for prospective parents of Reception class children – September 2011 (09:30 – 11:30). Details to follow

Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Odd Day – Theme: ‘Around the World’
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Junior Sports Day (10.30am – 12.00pm)
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Infant Sports Day (11.00am – 12.00pm)
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 Secondary Induction Day (Wellsway and Broadlands) Year 3 end of year service for parents (9.15am – 9.45am)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Reserve Date for Sports Day
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Residential week – Fairthorne Manor (Botley) Reception 2010 – afternoon visit for Younger Group (1.30pm – 3.00pm)
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 visit to the Forest of Dean Year 3 swimming – final session Reception 2010 – afternoon visit for Older Group (1.30pm – 3.00pm)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year Reception visit to Westonbirt Arboretum – ‘Teddy Bears Picnic’ Year 4 end of year service for parents (9.15am – 9.45am) Year 6 Annual School Reports posted
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 visit ‘Farmer Nick’s Farm’ (all day) Annual School Reports published
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	St John’s School Summer Fair (11.30am – 1.30pm)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 end of year service for parents (9.15am – 9.45am) Year Reception Parent Conferencing Day (1.15pm – 3.15pm; details to follow)
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 and Year 6 Parent Conferencing Day (details to follow)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception Class end of year service for parents (9.30am – 10.00am)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Children’s Instrumental Concert for parents (2.30pm – 3.00pm)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 end of year service for parents (9.15am – 9.45am)
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Service for parents(2.00pm)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of Term 6. School closes for the Summer Holiday at 3:15pm
	*****Summer Holiday*****
<b>Term 1 (2010/11)</b>	
<b>Wednesday 1st September</b>	<b>INSET Day – School closed</b>
Thursday 2nd September	School reopens for Term 1 (08.50am prompt)