



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

As I write to you for what will be the last time this school year I find myself thinking it impossible that we can already be in July and that the Summer holidays are upon us once again. We have enjoyed another wonderful year here at school with many high points upon which we can reflect with pride – some of which are mentioned at the end of this newsletter. Recent weeks have been filled with class assemblies, class visits and whole school events, all of which have proven to be a fitting end to the school year here at St John's. I write to you now to provide you with a final update with respect to recent events and details of how the school will be organised from September 2010.

Class organisation for the academic year September 2010 – July 2011

Key Stage 1	
Reception	Mrs F Sadowski
Year 1	Mrs S Bruton (Monday – Wednesday) and Mrs W Vye (Thursday and Friday)
Year 2	Miss L Gay
Key Stage 2	
Year 3	Mrs S Bindon
Year 4	Mrs P Postlethwaite (Monday and Tuesday) and Mrs A Percival (Wednesday – Friday) (Mrs K Hillier will return from maternity leave on Monday 1 November 2010 and will teach Monday – Wednesday and Mrs A Percival will teach Thursday and Friday)
Year 5	Mrs K Simmonds (Monday – Thursday) and Mrs C Singleton (Friday)
Year 6	Mr A Spens

Summer Fair

As a result of the PTA's hard work the Summer Fair raised over £640.00. Having made a significant contribution to the funding of our current play project the money raised will support next year's exciting projects; more about these in September. My thanks to our excellent PTA and to those of you who gave of your time to support our Summer Fair. Congratulations go to Millie (Year 1) who wins a £5.00 voucher for having sold the most raffle tickets. Well done, Millie! A special thank-you must also go to Eleanor and Freddie (Year 5) who ran a stall in order to raise funds for the school. Fantastic.

Year 3 Violin Tuition

I am pleased to be able to confirm that I have once again secured funding to enable Mr Fowles, our peripatetic strings teacher, to continue to provide violin tuition for Year 3 next year. This year was the third year that the school has offered this opportunity to every child as they enter the juniors and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the experience, many electing to continue their tuition into Year 4.

School Crossing Patrol

For your information, I write to inform you that on Friday 23 July 2010 the school crossing Patrol will not be operating on Charlton Road, Keynsham. The crossing patrol will also not be on duty on Wednesday 1 September 2010 although this has been designated as an INSET Day here at St John's.

Play Development Work

You will have noticed that work on our play area has been temporarily halted as the contractor awaits new deliveries of materials from his supplier. Our design uses specialist timbers that are of a premium quality having been chosen because they will increase the longevity of the play equipment and decrease the chance of splintering. However, being specialist in nature they are not available commercially in stores and have to be specially ordered.

Our contractor is fabricating much of the play equipment himself but some pieces of equipment that he is not making have to be ordered from a supplier in Germany. Sadly, delivery has been postponed until the last week of July. These delays are the reason that our project will not be completed before the end of term. Instead, we hope to have the play area finished for the children's return to school in September and ready for a grand opening to coincide with our 50th year celebrations.

Music and Club Provision – Terms 1 and 2 of 2010-2011

Can I remind parents that payment for all clubs and music tuition must be made *before* the first lesson or coaching session. I have asked the school office to reallocate places to other children on our waiting lists if payment is not received before the first session. Thank-you.

Sports Clubs

Mondays	Street Dance	3.30pm – 4.30pm (6/09 to 15/11 inclusive – 10 sessions)
Thursdays	Gymnastics	3.30pm – 4.30pm (9/09 to 18/11 inclusive – 10 sessions)

NB We cannot confirm that our Cricket Club will go ahead in September as our cricket coach, Mr Marchant, has been offered professional club cricket in Australia. He is still negotiating his contract and has yet to accept terms, but it would be prudent to assume that Cricket Club will not run until Summer 2011.

Music Tuition

Monday	Violin	(06/09 to 15/11 inclusive – 10 lessons)
Monday	Clarinet	(06/09 to 15/11 inclusive – 10 lessons)
Tuesday	Flute/Fife	(07/09 to 16/11 inclusive – 10 lessons)
Tuesday	Brass	(07/09 to 16/11 inclusive – 10 lessons)

We shall also hold guitar and recorder lessons. More details will follow in September 2010.

School Meals

The Schools Forum has decided that the price of a primary school meal will be £2.00 from 1 September 2010. *Payment for school meals is to be made for the week/weeks ahead on Monday morning, with the child's name, class and days of the week you wish for your child to have a school meal clearly marked on the envelope.* Unless payment for the week's meals is made in advance of consumption on Monday mornings the school will not provide a meal.

Preferred method of payment for school meals is by cheque. Cheques should be made out to Bath and North East Somerset. Thank-you.

INSET Days 2010-2011

The following dates are the full 6 days of INSET school closure for the academic year 2010-11. The dates are;

- Wednesday 1st September 2010
- Monday 1st November 2010
- Tuesday 2nd November 2010
- Friday 18th February 2011
- Monday 28th February 2011
- Friday 27th May 2011

I trust that this information provides you with plenty of notice to put in place the necessary child care arrangements. Term 1 will start promptly at 8.50am (KS2) and 8.55am (KS1) on Thursday 2nd September 2010.

Mr Robertson is leaving us

Sadly, Mr Robertson will leave us at the end of this week. Mr Robertson began work at St John's in January 2010 and was contracted to cover Mrs Hillier's maternity leave. However, I have released Mr Robertson from his contract early to enable him to find more permanent employment elsewhere from September, something that we are unable to offer. Mr Robertson has made a significant contribution to the work of the school and in addition to his teaching commitment he has successfully organised a school allotment, has established a gardening club and has secured 'Eco-School Status' for our school following 6 months of hard work (awarded on Thursday 15 July 2010). Not bad for a teacher only working 2 days a week! I am sure that you will want to join me in wishing Mr Robertson well as he takes up his new post in a primary school in Bristol. Mrs Simmonds will now take over the lead on our Eco-School work. Our school website contains more information about Eco-Schools.

2009-10: A Review

This year has been an extremely busy and a very exciting and productive year in which the school has taken some significant strides forward. Amongst our achievements have been the following;

- Our appointment by the Diocese as an 'outstanding church school' to support the training of aspiring Headteacher's
- Being selected by the authority to run their flagship play development project for primary schools
- Attaining 'Artsmark' - a quality mark to celebrate excellence in the arts
- Attaining 'Eco-School Status' - in recognition of our 'planet friendly' approach to maximising resources, minimising waste and our positive approach to recycling
- Establishing an exciting link with Staple Hill Primary School through our 'World Cup Week', a link that will be deepened next academic year
- The installation of new and bespoke cycle/scooter racks
- A new school website
- A new text service has been introduced for parents
- The installation of WIFI across the school

Finally, I have been appointed by the National College for School Leadership as a 'Leader of Education'. As such, I have been deployed to provide support for a school in challenging circumstances with effect from September 2010.

I should clarify that this is not a secondment and my focus will remain upon leading the work of our school. However, I shall need to spend some time working in the other school. During these times Mr Spens (Deputy Headteacher) will head our school.

And finally,...

It has been another highly successful year where we have maintained the traditions of the past and have continued to build upon them for the future. Next year we celebrate 50 years as St John's Church of England Primary School here in Charlton Park and we have planned a series of celebration events that will include an official opening of our new play area. The school moved to our current site in September 1960 but before that was based on Bath Hill (in the buildings that were, after our school left, reopened as Temple Primary School). When our school was based at Bath Hill it was known as 'Keynsham Parochial School'. Keynsham Parochial School was opened in 1857 and so with over 150 years of history to explore our children will have a lot of fun both celebrating our 50th birthday and looking back to consider what life may have been like as a child attending Keynsham Parochial School in the mid 19th century. I will write to you with more details of the formal opening of the play area and the events we have planned when we return to school in September.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the work of the school. It is greatly appreciated. The future direction for education under the new government remains extremely unclear. Things that were previously thought to be certainties, such as the capital improvements promised under the 'Building Schools For The Future' programme and the 'World Class Primary Programme' that promised a raft of changes, including the introduction of new national curriculum have been axed and in their place there has been the introduction of 'academies' and 'free schools'. In short, the future shape of education in our country is very unclear indeed and we are working in very uncertain and unsettling times. It seems that the only certainty will be cuts, but as yet we do not know where and how the cuts will be made and are equally unsure as to the impact that cuts will have upon the day to day operations of schools. However, come what may I can assure you that the staff, governors and I will continue to hold to the idea of providing excellence in everything that we do and appreciate your ongoing support as we move into the potentially difficult and challenging times ahead. Have a wonderful Summer.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher