

Headteacher Newsletter – February 2018

St Philip's Catholic Primary School, London Road, Arundel BN18 9BA

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Over the half term break, every classroom will be having a brand new interactive 4K Ultra HD board installed. This will mean that teachers will have updated software to access for their planning and delivery and it will also ensure that children are experiencing the best possible resources and teaching opportunities available. Whilst this is obviously quite an expensive purchase, the Governors feel it a valuable and essential investment in IT and an effective use of Governor funds. The Governor Fund is money made up from rental income from The Learning Tree, fund raising events, such as Cinema Night and school discos, and of course parental donations from 2017. The Governors will be sending out a letter soon requesting parental donations for 2018.

As with all things, school trips are becoming increasingly more expensive. We of course want to offer exciting and experiential learning to all of the children here at school and as such, teachers plan trips to link in with class topics. Some trips are becoming pricey and some parents may feel it is not affordable. When we plan an outing, we can only go ahead if we have enough parental contributions to make it viable. As a school, we would much rather parents tell us that it is too expensive and they cannot pay the amount than not say anything. It may be that with increasing coach and venue costs, we plan our trips to be local, walkable events and therefore more manageable for parents in today's economic climate. Your feedback is always welcome.

Remember Monday 19th February is INSET and children return to school on Tuesday 20th February.

Dates for diary

19.2.18 INSET day

20.2.18 School starts back

21.2.18 Y4 Forest School

26.2.18 Fairtrade Fortnight starts

1.3.18 World Book Day (dress up)

1.3.18 Y5 Chichester Planetarium visit

5.3.18 Geography week in school

8.3.18 Lent Penitential Service (KS2)

16.3.18 Y5 Night in the Museum

18.3.18 Family Art Workshop

19.3.18 Parent Teacher Consultations 2-4pm

20.3.18 Parent Teacher Consultations 8.30-10.30am

21.3.18 Parent Teacher Consultations 4-6.30pm

21.3.18 Deanery Enrichment Day

29.3.18 Break up for Easter

Sickness:

A reminder that Department for Health guidance advises that children should not return to school until 48 hours after their last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea - even when children appear recovered. Our school policy is in line with this guidance and is in place to ensure the sickness is not spread to others.

Thank you for your support with this.

General info:

Website: All information is regularly updated on the school website www.stphilipsarundel.org.uk

BBC2 500 words competition: This is now open for children to submit their stories. Closing date is February 22nd. Please take a look at the link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4h26FXFQ4KfM V7VVSbJxY3g/500-words-2018>

Books to shout about: The voted winning book from our school was 'Oi cat'. We will submit this to WSCC Library Service and await to hear the overall winner from all school submissions. We will be informed of this on World Book Day on 1st March.

PE kits: Whilst you have PE kits at home over half term, please check that children have all they need. The checklist is on the website in the 'uniform' document. Please ensure children return to school on the first day back with their kit and it is all named.

<http://www.stphilipsarundel.org.uk/images/PDFs/schooluniform.pdf>

Y2 Gymnastics: Well done to the Year 2 team who came second place in the recent Locality competition.

Lego club: Some Year 6 children are running a weekly lunchtime Lego club this half term for all ages.

Ash Wednesday: Please note that Cathedral Mass on Ash Wednesday (14th Feb) is 10am NOT 8pm as previously stated.

1st day of absence letter:

I will soon be sending out a letter informing parents that if we do not receive a phone call on the first day a child is absent, then we may need to escalate this to a referral to M.A.S.H (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub). This is in line with safeguarding all children who are on our school pupil roll.

The office staff will continue to phone home on the first day of absence (if we have not received a call) but if parents do not ring back after a message is left, I may need to action a referral. It is essential that we know that children who are not in school are safe.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-42612997?mc_cid=89dbf67187&mc_eid=30beebf65c

Cafod:

Your child will have brought home a Cafod collection box recently (1 per family). Please use it for any loose change during the season of Lent and return to school before the Easter break. Thank you in advance.

Consultation on parking:

You will have received an email from the school office informing you of proposed changes to parking restrictions outside school. This will have an impact on parents necessitating you to park further along London Road for pick up and drop offs. WSCC Highways have reviewed all school parking and this is their proposed plan for our school. If you have comments either positive or negative then please respond as detailed below. Please note that any proposed changes have children's safety at the centre.

Any comments or objections about the proposal must be received before 22 February 2018. These may be submitted via the response form on the WSCC website, by e-mail to tro.team@westsussex.gov.uk or in writing to TRO Team, West Sussex County Council, The Grange, Tower Street Chichester, PO19 1RH. For legal reasons, only correspondence including a full name and address will be considered. Please quote reference JEA8012-MM in all correspondence.

Houses:

We have 4 House teams. These names are taken from the school crest (which belongs to the Duke) which is split into 4 quadrants and are the families from the Duke of Norfolk's Coat of Arms.

House point scores for this week:

Houses	Weekly scores
Howard	135
Brotherton	153
Warene	139
Fitzalan	157

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March:

Please see the letter sent out regarding book character dressing up on that day. Year 5 will be visiting the Planetarium on this day so will need to wear school uniform. A Book Swap and 10p book sale will also take place in school that day. Your 'Shelfies' should be sent in advance of 1st March to the office email address.

Travelling Book Fair:

Thank you to those families who supported the Book Fair this week by buying books. Thank you also to those parents who helped to run the fair. We made a fabulous £575 in commission which will be spent on new books for our school library.

School Angel:

This is a website that raises funds for our school through online shopping. It is extremely simple to use. You need to simply click on the link. They will then offer a wide selection of shops including Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, Next, Boots, Clarks and many more. Click on the logo and this will take you to the website as usual and you can shop as normal. We will receive a percentage of your spend at no cost to you.

It is easy to do but it is a case of remembering to do it!

<http://www.schoolangel.org.uk/st-philips-catholic-primary-school.html>

Booking holidays or your weekly grocery online shopping is a perfect way to use this website.

Facebook:

Please go onto our school website www.stphilipsarundel.org.uk and click on the Facebook icon. Click the 'like' button on the page to ensure you receive updates.

Sporting update:

Well done to our Kurling team who represented the school at a competition this week.

Year 4 and 6 are continuing with Hockey Coaching after half term.

Year 1 and 2's Gymnastic coaching will finish this week and Year R and Year 3 will have weekly Gymnastics coaching on Wednesdays after half term.

We will have a PE teacher from St Philip Howard High School coming into school next half term to teach Tag Rugby skills to children in Year 1-6.

Teams continue to be selected for a range of sporting competitions each week.