

Headteacher Newsletter – March 2017 Vol 2

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

Tel: 01903 882115 Email: office@st-philips.w-sussex.sch.uk

Website: www.stphilipsarundel.org.uk

It was wonderful to see so many parents attending Parent/Teacher Consultations last week. Hopefully, all parents will now have a clear understanding of how their child/children are progressing both socially and academically and are clear about the areas for improvement that their child specifically needs to focus on in each subject area. I hope too that you were able to see how much your child has improved since they started the year in September and see the pride and care they take in their books.

Parents of children in Years 5 and 6 received a letter this week reminding them about the age limit of social media sites. The legal age to access any such site is 13. Children under this age are not mature enough to understand how messages can be taken out of context and how easy it is for them to be connected to a site or people that/who are not appropriate for their age. I have warned children and parents that if I am aware of any children in our school on Facebook, Instagram or similar then I will press the 'report' button on the site. This is to protect our children.

This week we have also been having a 'crack down' on behaviour, some children's attitude towards adults and the occasional use of bad language. A huge majority of our children comply with school rules at all times and are courteous and considerate. However, there is a small minority of children who try to push the boundaries. I have explained to the children that we are actioning a 'zero tolerance' policy on the use of any bad language or any child who is disrespectful to adults. They know that I will be contacting parents if they carry out either of these two things. Thank you in advance for your help in supporting us to ensure our children are polite, well-mannered and respectful young people.

Dates for diary

21.3.17 Fire and rescue visit YR, Y2, Y5

21.3.17 Y6 visit to Weald and Downland

24.3.17 Y5 Eco summit trip

30.3.17 KS2 Lent Penitential service

31.3.17 In school retreat day for pupils

6.4.17 Cinema night

7.4.17 Y5 'Wonder' workshop at TLA

7.4.17 Break up for Easter holidays

8.4.17 Allotment tidy up (9.30-12)

24.4.17 Children return to school for Summer Term.

Parking and safe driving:

Thank you to all who are parking safely near to school and further along London Road. I have received concerns from parents who walk along London Road, to school, particularly by the Cathedral. It seems some parents are not waiting until the road is clear but instead, mounting the pavement in order to drive further down the road. Pedestrians walking on the pavement are understandably concerned for their own safety. We are all busy people with places to be but are those few extra seconds you save by driving in a dangerous manner, worth risking the life of a child or adult?

Please also see Additional Parking attachment sent with this newsletter.

General info:

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

Camel trek: The final total raised for Cafod is an amazing £1458! We have enough to buy 3 camels for 3 families in Ethiopia. Thank you to all families for their generosity.

Red Nose Day: 24th March is Red Nose Day. Home clothes may be worn on this day in exchange for a donation towards the appeal. We have now sold out of Red Noses - thank you to all who bought & donated. Anyone still requiring one could try a Sainsbury's store.

Year 5: Year 5 will be on their Eco Summit trip next Friday when it is Red Nose Day. Those children will need to come to school in school uniform but can wear their red nose.

Allotment tidy up: A parent has kindly cleared several loads of cuttings from the allotment in preparation for the tidy up on 8th April. Many hands make light work so please come along and help us to weed and cut back plants. If anyone has access to a trailer on that morning then we would be very grateful for its use and a trip to the tip afterwards.

Water bottles: As the weather starts to get warmer, may I remind all parents that all children need to bring a water bottle to school daily. This is kept in the classroom and can be replenished throughout the day. These can be bought from the school office for £1.45 if you need to replace the one given to the children initially by 'The Friends'.

Year 5: Congratulations to Y5 who won the Deanery Sports event held at St. Philip Howard Catholic High School this week.

School Council visit:

The School Council were invited to hold their half termly meeting at Arundel Town Hall this week. They had the opportunity to have a Q&A session with the Mayor. Thank you to the staff at the Town Hall for facilitating this.

Maths Challenge:

Well done to our Year 3/4 maths team who went to The Littlehampton Academy yesterday for a Locality Maths Challenge. They gained bronze medals.

Adult fitness activity:

I have been asked to alert you to this opportunity; 'I have been running a little boot camp at the Folly after drop off on a Tuesday morning. It's free and open to all including those with babies. I have completed a personal training qualification and run it to keep my fitness up and to grab some fresh air. Its 30 minutes so short and sweet but a great way for parents to socialise and feel healthy '.

Academy consultation:

A reminder that you can still register your thoughts about St. Philip's becoming part of the Catholic Multi Academy Trust, Bosco CET, online via

<http://www.schooltools.org.uk/surveys/tsr7ybg98/>

This is open until March 31st. Very few parents have commented so far, so please have your say before the deadline. All comments will be viewed and taken into consideration by the Governing Body but there will be no decision imminently.

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	262
Brotherton	269
Warenne	287
Fitzalan	286

Sports update:

Well done our Year 6 Hockey and Football teams who went through to the finals during the last couple of weeks. They played well and represented the school well in both their attitude and team work.

Well done also to the table tennis team this week and to the Year 1/2 football team who gained 2nd place last week.

Goblin Kit Car:

Goblin Kit Car Club will be running for Years 5 and 6 on Fridays. Thank you to those parents who responded to our plea for help. The club will be run by Mr Gall, Mr Calder and Mr Engerran but any other parents are more than welcome to come in and help during the sessions each week and to support the team at Banjo Road race in Littlehampton on May 20th

Uniform Sale:

We will be holding a uniform sale at the front of school on Wednesday 22nd March both before and after school. Please send in any uniform that is in good condition but no longer fits your child and come along and see if you can find a new jumper, skirt or polo shirt that does fit! All proceeds to go back to the school fund. Thank you.

School Angel:

Click on the link, type in school name and then 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>

Flights and holidays can be booked via this too!

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.

Clubs:

Extra-curricular Club letters will be sent home before the Easter break. Clubs will commence 2nd May for the Summer Term and finish week ending 14th July. Please look through with your child and return the slips no later than 3rd Apr. We will notify you on 26th Apr of who is in which club.

Students:

We say goodbye to Miss Johns who has been carrying out her teaching practice in Year 2 for the last few months. We wish her well as she starts applying for teaching jobs for September. We welcome back Mr Grainger into Year 5 who children and parents will recall spent some time with us in the Autumn Term. He is completing his final teaching practice at our school and this also means extra support for Year 5 children.