

Headteacher Newsletter – October 2017

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

You will have received a leaflet from school with your child about the charity 'Love In A Box'. This is a charity we support each year through the Cathedral and is a lovely activity to spend time with your child completing over half term. Find a shoe box, cover it in wrapping paper (preferably Christmas themed) and then fill it with little inexpensive gifts. The leaflet gives more guidance regarding age and suggestions. It helps our children to realise how fortunate they are and how some children around the world are less so. It is a tangible way for them to see 'love and charity in action'. They then can bring the box into school, feeling proud and receive housepoints. Thank you in advance for supporting this important cause. Competitive sport has been taking place this term. Mr Caws, our sports leader, has been busy choosing teams, completing risk assessments and attending sporting events. The Y3/4 football team both boys and girls have achieved well and after the first round of tournaments we are placed joint 1st in the football LASP legacy. Let's hope we can hold onto that position for the rest of the term with the next round of football tournaments!

Many of you will know that next week is Mrs Bridge's final week in school before she goes on Maternity Leave. She will return at the end of the Summer Term but hopefully she will visit the children once the baby is born and she is able to be up and about. The role of Deputy Headteacher will not be covered by another person during her Leave but we have employed teachers to cover her Year 6 Booster sessions and PPA mornings. I know that I, personally, will be counting down the days until her return but, like us all, wish her a very restful and cherished time at home with her new family. I will of course let parents know when the baby arrives.

Dates for diary

16.10.17 Parent/teacher meetings 2-4.30

17.10.17 Parent/teacher meetings 8.30-10.30

18.10.17 Parent/teacher meetings 3.30-6.30

18.10.17 Forest School Year R

19.10.17 Cinema Night (The Smurfs)

Half Term 21st - 27th October

8-10.11.17 Y6 Residential trip

12.11.17 Remembrance Service in Arundel Town Square.

14.11.17 School photos

15.11.17 Open Day for new Reception starters 2018.

17.11.17 Reading and Phonics Workshop for Reception Class parents (9-10am)

4.12.17 Nativity for Rec, Y 1 & 2 @ 2.15pm

5.12.17 Nativity for Re, Y1 & Y2 @ 6pm

6.12.17 Nativity for Rec, Y1 & 2 @ 9.15am

6.12.17 Deanery Advent Service 6.45pm

8.12.17 Make it morning

General info:

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

Punctuality award winners: The punctuality award was given to Y1 with 1 'late' recorded.

Cross Country: Well done to our KS2 Cross Country team who ran in the Locality group of schools tournament on Monday and a special mention to Amelie in Y4 who gained a bronze medal.

Harvest: Thank you for the donations so far. We are still collecting. Children will receive house points for their donations.

Mobile phones: If your child brings a phone to school because they are walking home alone then please ensure the phone is handed into the office. The phone must be switched off before arriving on the premises and stay switched off until off the school site.

Reading Buddies: Thank you to those who have volunteered to be a Reading Buddy in school. We are very grateful. Please let the school office know if you do have some time to spare each week, even if it's only an hour.

School jumpers: PLEASE make sure jumpers and cardigans are very clearly labelled. With the weather being cold and then sunny, children are taking their jumpers and cardigans off on the playground and then forgetting to pick them up. Please check when you are washing uniforms that you have the right items for your child and return any that do not belong to you. This term, we already have amassed a vast amount of jumpers in Lost Property and you may want to come and look through them. Many thanks.

Reading and Phonics Workshop:

On Friday 17th November @ 9-10am, Mrs Lloyd and I will be running a workshop for Reception Class parents. It will give you an overview of the different ways children learn to read and also give tips and suggestions about best supporting your child as they learn to read. If you have an older child and have already been to the workshop previously, then please do not feel you must attend again.

Harvest:

Yesterday we celebrated Harvest Festival. Thank you for the donations of dried foods from home (tins, biscuits, pasta etc.). The Harvest collection will soon be packaged up and taken to the local residents in Arundel who live in The Priory and Warwick Court. Children can still bring their item/s into class for the next week and will be given housepoints in return.

Secondary School applications:

Please ensure you have completed your child's application to secondary school by 31st October 2017.
<https://eadmissions.westsussex.gov.uk/prefs.php>

Open Day:

Please spread the word! This will take place on Wednesday 15th November. Two sessions:
 9.15-11am
 1.30-3pm
 All prospective parents of children starting Reception Class in Sept 2018 are very welcome.

Parent/Teacher Consultations:

These take place next week. Please make sure you have made an appointment to see your child's class teacher. This is an opportunity to see how they are settling into their new class and to find out what is expected of them during the rest of the year in terms of achievement. You may also have a few questions you would like to raise. Writing them down may help prompt you to remember to ask them during the meeting. A polite reminder though that each appointment time is 10 minutes so please do not over run and delay others.

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.

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	232
Brotherton	240
Warene	236
Fitzalan	173

Parent Class Representatives:

Most of our Class Reps have agreed to stay on as the rep for this year and will move up with the class. Please see the website if you are unsure who they are. Reception Class need a Class Rep and an email with more details will be sent out soon. This role can be as big or small as you want to make it. The crux of it is to arrange social get togethers occasionally, and be available to transfer information between school and parents as and when needed.

Returning paperwork:

For children in Reception Class, Class 1 and Class 2, please try to hand any paperwork into the office rather than via book bags. There is a green postal box in then school office entrance which is checked daily. Please use this to return reply slips or any relevant paperwork. Children often forget to hand the slips in themselves and so they sit in book bags unread. Many thanks.

Headlice:

Please check your child's hair regularly for headlice. As per the school uniform policy, all hair longer than shoulder length should be tied back in a ponytail or preferably a plait.
<http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com/>

Starting school 2018:

Parents with children due to start school in September 2018 must apply online between Monday 2 October 2017 and Monday 15 January 2018. The WSCC form can be found at:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

If you are applying to our school under a 'Faith Category' then you also need to complete the Supplementary Information Form on our school website (found under the Admissions tab) and return it to the school office not WSCC. To clarify - it does not need to be completed unless your child has been Christened or Baptised and you have the certificate as proof.

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!