

Headteacher Newsletter – September 2017

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

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Welcome back to the new academic year. Children are looking smart and are keen to settle quickly into their new year group. Listening to many of the children it seems that most have had some lovely family time either at home or away. We of course welcome our new families into Reception Class and the Reception children seem to be taking it all in their stride as they get used to their new teacher, friends and classroom. You will have noticed that Reception Class are using the green gates to enter and exit (at the side of the school) and this means that we are now locking the car park gate between 8.40am and 3.30pm.

We started the first week with a whole school assembly on 'Kindness'. Reminding children that to be kind is one of the greatest attributes a person can have. Please ask your child about this and hopefully they will be able to talk to you about it. You will all have received our RE inspection report by now. If you haven't had time already, then please do read it. It will reinforce what you already know about our school and remind you that your child's spiritual wellbeing and safety at school is paramount to us.

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Meet the Teacher sessions both this week and last. If you were not able to attend then please ask for a time to catch up with the teacher or wait until the week of 16th October for Parent Teacher consultations. One of the key messages mentioned was to hear your child read from YR-Y6 regularly each week and to record it in their home link books or reading records. Times tables also featured but more about this will be sent out over the coming weeks.

Dates for diary

18.9.17 Clubs start this week
20.9.17 Forest School Year 1
25.9.17 Y6 Residential meeting 6pm
27.9.17 Forest School Year 2
4.10.17 Forest School Year 3
5.10.17 Grandparent Tea (1.45 and 2.30)
9.10.17 Cross country team event 3.30 TLA
11.10.17 Year 3 Pizza Express trip
11.10.17 Forest School Year 5
13.10.17 PE day Year 6 (SPH)
16.10.17 Parent/teacher meeting 2-4.30
17.10.17 Parent/teacher meeting 8.30-10.30
18.10.17 Parent/teacher meeting 3.30-6.30
18.10.17 Forest School Year R
19.10.17 Cinema Night (The Smurfs)
Half Term 21st- 30th October

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 Y3 with 0 'lates' recorded.

Coats: All children must bring a coat to school (named). If they do not have a coat in school then they will not be able to have an outdoor playtime. The children know this rule.

PE bags: All children need to have their full PE kit in school every day. If they are attending clubs then please ensure the kit is returned the following day. PE is a statutory requirement for every child. Please remember to name all items.

Clubs: You will by now have received confirmation of the clubs your child has been enrolled into. These start on Monday 18th September.

Food Bank: There is a basket in the front entrance of school for any donations for the Food Bank. This is taken periodically to the bank where it is always thankfully received.

Reading buddies: If you can spare any time each week to come and hear readers in school, we would be very grateful. This could be parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or neighbours. They will be asked to complete a DBS check before induction. Please contact the office if you are interested on 01903 882115.

Punctuality: Already we have children arriving late to school. If your child is arriving later than 8.55am on the playground, they will be marked 'late'. Please give your child every opportunity to start the day well by arriving on time.

Home School Agreement

Soon, your child will be bringing home an information pack. It is essential that forms are checked and completed thoroughly and returned promptly. Ensure all of your details are up to date including mobile and home numbers and home addresses.

The pack will include a 'Home School Agreement'. Please take time to read through with your child and ask them to sign it. This is their agreement to work and play according to the school rules.

Harvest:

We will be having a Harvest Festival in school this term. For this, we ask all children to bring dried foods from home (tins, biscuits, pasta etc). The Harvest collection will then be packaged up and taken to the local residents in Arundel who live in The Priory and Warwick Court. Children can bring their item/s into class and will be given housepoints in return. Many thanks in advance.

Roles and responsibilities:

Children in each class will be starting to take on new roles in their classroom. This may be a library monitor, a school councillor, an RE ambassador, a House Captain or an ICT monitor. Please check with your child to see if they have been given a role and check periodically how they are getting on in that role.

Hair styles:

As per the school uniform policy (found on the website), please be reminded that all hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back in school coloured hair bands (red, white or blue) **and haircuts must be cut no shorter than a 3 or 4**. Thank you for your support.

Parking:

I have already received complaints from Anne Howard Garden residents and from residents who live in the Norfolk Estate (opposite school) about parents who are parking inconsiderately and illegally. We have asked residents to note down number plates and we will then contact our local safety officer. Please avoid embarrassing both yourselves and us by adhering to the Highway Code and exercising consideration whilst picking up and dropping off your child.

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	141
Brotherton	161
Warene	151
Fitzalan	134

Summer Fair:

The final amount raised at the Summer Fair was £1,500.

This will be used to fund trips, events, activities for the children at our school.

Children in Year 5 last year raised £180.14 during their Young Enterprise activity (5 for 5). They went to the Lido as a treat and donated the rest to charity.

Thank you for supporting both events.

Homework: Homework books have gone home this week to be decorated by your child. When these are returned, they will be covered in plastic and the homework grid sent out. Homework grids can also be found on the school website under 'School Life' – 'curriculum' and scroll to the bottom.

Reception, Y1 and Y2:

Please ensure all children only bring their school book bag, water bottle and coat to school each day. No children in R, 1 or 2 should be bringing a rucksack to school. These do not fit in trays and are too big for the coat pegs. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Pencil cases are only allowed in school for children in Y3-6.

Sunflower competition:

Please go to <https://www.glyn-jones.com/sunflower.html> to see the pictures of the children who entered the competition and the table of results. We came 3rd and 5th from all schools entered with Caleb and Quinn's entries. All entries are on the results table with their measurements. Well done to all who entered. The children have certificates which they received in assembly.

If you still have sunflowers at home there is an opportunity to enter another competition linked to the Littlehampton Allotment Association. Please measure the head horizontally (not to include petals), take a picture and send into the office email (office@st-philips.w-sussex.sch.uk).

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!