

Headteacher Newsletter – September 2018

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

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Welcome back to all our families and a warm welcome to new families who have joined our school community. Thank you for sending your children back to school looking smart and ready to learn. It was wonderful to see so many parents able to attend the parent 'pop ins' to meet their child's new teacher and I know those parents who were unable to attend will ask a friend for the information or contact the office. We also welcome Mrs Moss to our teaching staff and Mrs Runacres who will be taking over from Mrs Kelly in the office as my PA. We are sorry to lose Mrs Kelly, she will be missed.

As we start a new academic year, I have taken the opportunity to remind parents about some of the school rules regarding uniform, hair styles and home learning. Please read the newsletter carefully so you are up to date with this information. Good communication is essential to securing a strong and effective working partnership so please contact us if you have any concerns or queries. You can email the office or arrange an appointment to see class teachers, me or Mrs Bridges or just catch us outside the front at the beginning or end of the day. We are always happy to help, lend an ear or deal with concerns.

Children will be settling into new classroom routines and some will find the change of pace, teacher and classroom more challenging than others. Please be reminded that this time can be a wobbly time for many children. This will get easier as children adjust but if you are worried then please speak to us and we will support you and your child.

Dates for your diary:

17.9.18 Clubs start
18.9.17 Y6 Theatre Makers workshop (hall)
19.9.18 Y2 Forest School
20.9.18 St Philip Howard Open Eve 6pm (Y6)
24.9.18 Y4 Forest School (morning)
26.9.18 Y1 Forest School
27.9.18 Harvest Festival Assembly
4.10.18 Grandparents tea (afternoon)
8.10.18 YrsR-5 Flu vaccinations - Letters sent
10.10.18 Y5 Forest School
10.10.18 Butser Trip Y3
10.10.18 *Wear something purple day*
12.10.18 Y6 Midnight Gang theatre workshop in school

Forest School:

Stuart Slade will again be running Forest School sessions in school this term. Please ensure you consent to your child taking part and pay the voluntary contribution of £6, if you are able to, which covers the cost.

Please also make sure your child wears warm clothing – long trousers and robust, warm shoes and a coat. It can get very chilly in the woods and children must be wrapped up appropriately. This is a wonderful opportunity for all the children to experience hands on, outdoor learning.

General info:

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

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.

Water bottles: Please make sure every child has a water bottle in school daily. This must be labelled and contain only water (not squash).

Hair styles: A reminder about hair styles in school can be found on the website under the uniform section. Haircuts should be no shorter than 4. No shaved heads, beads or extreme cuts. Hair accessories and bobbles in school colours only – red, white and blue.

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

Uniform: Summer uniforms can be worn until October half term. A reminder that school socks must be red, white, blue, grey or black.

Spelling: Spelling tests will take place weekly in Years 1-6. Check book bags for lists and the Curriculum Overviews will also have top up lists.

Times tables: Year 3-6 will have weekly Times Tables challenges on Wednesday. These will be sent home to practise.

Problem Solving and Reasoning Friday:

Every Friday morning, each class will have a Problem Solving and Reasoning lesson. This will be a chance for all children to use the maths skills and concepts they have learned in class and put them into practise within the context of a maths problem. They will be encouraged to persevere and use paper to work out the solution. In some cases there may be more than one result and children will be asked to show their working and begin to understand the language of reasoning.

PE Kits:

Please ensure children have their PE kit in school at all times. All items should be named & the kit must contain:

Coloured House PE t-shirt

Navy shorts

Navy jogging bottoms

Trainers (red, white, blue or black)

Plimsolls

Please add short socks if your child wears tights to school. The school office will ring parents if children do not have their full kit in school.

Reading at Cathedral:

Aoife in Year 6 will be reading at the 9.30am Children's Mass this Sunday at Arundel Cathedral.

Harvest Festival:

We are celebrating our Harvest Festival on 27th September in Celebration Assembly. We would be very grateful for any donations of 'dry food' harvest donations before that date. Children can take them into class and gain 2 house points for each item. They will then be made into hampers and distributed to elderly residents in the local area. Many thanks in advance.

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	113
Brotherton	153
Warene	111
Fitzalan	161

Purple day:

On Wednesday 10th October there is a 'purple' day which is designed to raise awareness of mental health in young people and adults. In today's society there are many friends and family members who live with mental health issues and this will have an impact on everyone in our community at some point.

World Mental Health Day is on 10th October and any money raised will go directly to support our local CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services).

We are suggesting that all children wear something purple to school on this day and bring in a donation of £1 for the event. School uniform must be worn but with something purple in addition. This could be a hair bobble, a hat, a purple arm band, purple socks or shoes etc.

Joseph White:

Joseph completed a charity bike ride in July for the British Heart Foundation. He raised £180. In awful weather conditions, he made it around the Goodwood motor circuit twice (5 miles) and won the children's category, also receiving a letter of praise and prize from the British Heart Foundation. Well done Joseph.

Homework:

Homework grids will now have been sent home via email and are also available on the school website.

<https://www.stphilipsarundel.org.uk/school-life/the-curriculum>

Homework books for Years 1-6 will have been sent home. Please cover the homework books with photos, stickers or pictures. These will then be covered in sticky backed plastic in school to keep the book in good condition. Please do not add pom poms or 3D decorations as the plastic does not cover very well with raised decorations.

Homework for all children is one activity from the grid per week and this needs to be put into the homework book with pride and attention to detail. House points will be given for neat and well planned work. Please only use 2 pages maximum for each activity. Many thanks.

School Angel:

Remember to go through

<https://www.schoolangel.org.uk/st-philips-catholic-primary-school.html> when ordering online. This can be,

for example, Amazon, John Lewis, flights and supermarket shopping etc. The school gains funds through your spending!