

Headteacher Newsletter – April 2018

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Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope all families managed to recharge their batteries ready for the busy term ahead. I noticed many sun tanned faces in assembly on Monday, so I know lots of lucky families managed an escape to the sunshine over the break.

The Summer Term brings with it many different events including sporting, trips and musical. Please keep a note of the upcoming events on your calendar as you receive them. We try to give parents as much warning as possible about these. Please try to ensure reply slips are returned promptly so that all children have access to the different activities and also to prevent lots of wasted time by our lovely, hardworking office staff in chasing individual families for consent forms.

Before and After School extra-curricular clubs start next week. All families should now know what clubs their children have been accepted into and any for which they have been unsuccessful. If you would like them to be placed on a waiting list, please let the school office know.

The school field is now ready for use after a very wet and long winter. Please remember to send a named sun hat with your child on sunny days, to apply sun tan lotion before they leave home and remind them that sunglasses are not allowed to be brought into school.

Swimming lessons at Arundel Lido will begin on May 11th for Years 3, 4 and 5. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful resource in our town. More details will follow.

Dates for diary

20.4.18 Red Cross Assembly and workshops
23.4.18 Curriculum information sent out to parents
24.4.18 Dance House rehearsal midday & evening performance@ Alexander Theatre at 6.30pm.
25.4.18 Y5 Forest School
30.4.18 Y4 trip to Arundel Museum
2.5.18 Y4 Forest School
3.5.18 Y4 Maypole Dancing
7.5.18 Bank Holiday
9.5.18 Y2 Forest School
10.5.18 Ascension Day Mass Cathedral 10am
11.5.18 Swimming lessons start (Yrs3,4 & 5)
12.5.18 Y5 Locality Art Exhibition at Littlehampton Museum
13.5.18 Holy Communion at Arundel Cathedral at9.30am
14.5.18 KS2 SATs week
14-17th May 8.30am Breakfast for Y6 children daily.
21.5.18 Junior Youth Council meeting
21-25th May Y6 Bikeability
23.5.18 Music in May Concert (evening)
24.5.18 Music in May Concert to school community.

General info:

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

Summer Uniform: This can now be worn for the rest of the term. Please see the website for school uniform policy.

Cafod boxes: If you still have these at home, please return them as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Topics: Each class will be starting a new topic this term which is advised via the class curriculum plan. If you have any information or knowledge about the specified topic that you would be willing to share with the class, then please contact the teacher. Children love visitors!

Water bottles: With warmer weather finally on its way, please ensure each child has a water bottle (named) in school with them daily.

Bikeability: Year 6 have bikeability in the week beginning 21st May. Please make sure that all children have cycle helmets and roadworthy bikes (i.e. the brakes work and tyres are safe and pumped up) for that week.

Mass of Risen Lord: This is taking place on Monday 23rd at 9.30am in the school hall. All are welcome.

Blue bag collection: These are being collected on May 25th. Please bring in by 9am on that day.

Testing:

Year 6 end of Key Stage tests will take place in the week beginning May 14th. More information will be given to Year 6 parents as part of the Curriculum Overview information being sent out next week. All Year 6 children are welcome to attend 'breakfast' in school for these 4 days, starting at 8.30am.

Year 2 end of Key Stage testing will take place in June. These test results are not used for Government assessment tables (unlike KS2 tests). Mr Gall will complete a Teacher Assessment for each child. This will then be recorded and sent off to WSCC the Department for Education and to parents. Teacher Assessment is a gauge of how children perform in the classroom, day to day, against the criteria of End of Year Expectations that all parents will have received in the October Parent Teacher Consultations. These can also be found on the school website.

Year 1 Phonic Testing will take place in the week beginning June 11th. The DfE threshold passmark will be issued in July to all schools and we will share the scores with parents when the Summer Term reports are sent home in July.

Flowers:

On Monday we will be decorating the cross with flowers as part of our Mass of the Risen Lord and this will then be placed outside the front of the school. Please send in any flowers that you have in your garden to help with this. There will be buckets placed outside the front of school at the start of the school day. Many thanks in advance.

Snow Drop Walk:

The Snowdrop Trust annual walk will take place on Sunday 13th May. More information will be sent via email. 12.30-4pm in Arundel Park.

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	49
Brotherton	80
Warenne	80
Fitzalan	57

Governor fund donations:

Thank you very much to those families who have already made and are continuing to make a donation to the school Governor Fund towards the cost of the new boiler and other works. There is no time limit for this so please make a donation at any time if you are able to.

Homework grids:

These will be available on the school website next week. They will also be sent home early next week in homework books and via the Curriculum Overview information. Year 6 will not have a homework grid but will instead be expected to be revising for their tests in May.

A reminder that homework is to be completed every week in homework books, and should be to a high standard. Children need to recognise homework as an important part of the school curriculum.

Sunflower competition:

We will be again running a Sunflower competition organised by Glynn-Jones estate agents. This will take place later in the term. Children will come home with a sunflower seed planted in a pot and need to nurture it over the Summer holiday. In September, it needs to be measured and a picture sent into the school office. There will be a prize for the school with the tallest sunflower. Last year we secured a runner up position and managed a tall, towering 290cm sunflower! The winning entry was only slightly taller.

Facebook:

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

Chicks:

Reception Class will take delivery of their ten chicken eggs on May 8th. The chicks will then hatch over the following few days and stay in school for two weeks. All children will have an opportunity to see and handle the chicks. The chicks can then be rehomed with any families who would like one (or several!) otherwise they will be taken back by the company to be used for further school teaching projects.

Red Cross:

Today, all children in classes 1-5 attended an Assembly run by Red Cross volunteers about the work that they do across the world. Years 4 and 5 then both attended a workshop on basic first aid, delivered by the volunteers. We also have, on loan, Red Cross information boards relating to WW1. Please come and look at these in the school entrance any day next week.