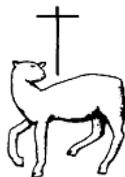


# Newsletter

*"Together, we will give our children...*



*...the roots to grow and the wings to fly."*

St John's C.E.V.A First School Frome

Website: [stjohnsfrome.co.uk](http://stjohnsfrome.co.uk)

Uniform webshop: [pmsgschoolwear.co.uk](http://pmsgschoolwear.co.uk)

Finance/Lunches: [paymentsstjohns@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:paymentsstjohns@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

Issue 1

Friday 11th September 2020

## WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S

Despite all the restrictions, we truly hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday. It is wonderful to see all of the children back in school, happy and ready to learn, after so many months of confusion and uncertainty. We extend an extra warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined us this term; we are delighted you have joined the St John's family. We hope you will all be very happy at St John's and that you feel part of our school community very quickly.

There is a lot to take in if you are new, and we hope that our weekly newsletter will be helpful. It will keep you up to date with school and community events and may well have specific information relating to your child's year group.

Thank you to my fabulous staff for working so hard in their own time to ensure their classrooms were prepared, ready for the children's return.

Thank you, also, to you all for your understanding when we had to make some changes to our timings this week. We do appreciate how difficult and frustrating it can be when things change but we are trying to make systems that are safe and convenient. As always, our priority is the safety of all the children in our care.

Over the coming weeks, please keep a close eye on Parentmail and the school website, as this is where we will post any further changes or short-notice closures.

The eagle-eyed amongst you will have already spotted a change at the top of this newsletter... our 'Learning together, aiming high' school motto has changed. As a Church of England school, we are inspected by the church as well as by Ofsted, and there is a requirement for church schools to have a Vision Statement which is based on a Christian narrative. We felt it was really important to have a vision statement that was inclusive, in that it has a message that could be accepted by people from any faith, or by those who have no faith. This week and next, teachers are helping the children to learn our new motto, 'Together we will give our children the roots to grow, and the wings to fly'. Our full Vision Statement is at the end of this newsletter.

I am looking forward to working with you, in partnership, in the coming year. With very warm wishes for the year ahead,

Mrs Marsland

## READING BOOKS AND RECORDS

Please can all reading books and reading records to be returned to school next week. However many you have, we will be very grateful and no judgment will be made! Children will need to drop all and any of them in to the boxes in the classrooms next week.

## STAFFING UPDATE

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Laura Doran, our new Willow class teacher, who has joined our staff this term.

Congratulations to Mrs Jackson, who completed her placement with us, qualifying as a teacher, and who has now joined the team officially as Beech class teacher.

Until her maternity leave starts, Mrs Dayman-Johns will continue to work from home on our new 'blended' curriculum.

## PARKING

As we begin a new school year, we would like to remind all parents, especially those who have just joined us, that there is no parking permitted in the staff car park, or the car park on Blindhouse Lane (opposite the entrance to Oak and Ash classes) which is **for residents only**. There is also no parking permitted on the lane itself, or on the road outside school. To ensure the safety of all children, please do not bring your car to school.

Have a look at Frome Town Council's 'Park & Stride' map overleaf, which shows where the closest parking is if you have to drive. Both car parks fall well inside our five minute 'Park & Stride' zone. Frome Town Council's campaign is designed to encourage parents and children to walk to school, or to park away from school and walk the last five minutes, in order to make school safer, to reduce emissions, to improve air quality around school and to be more active.

## OUR SCHOOL FACEBOOK GROUP

We would love to see any photos or messages from our Year 4 Leavers as they started in their middle schools this week. In a fortnight, we will say our final goodbyes, as we remove non-members, but before then, we want to know how they all got on!

If you haven't joined already, please follow this link to join the group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsfirstschool/>

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE - FROME LIBRARY

The Summer Reading Challenge went online for the first time this year, while libraries were closed. Although take up has been lower than in previous years, staff at Frome Library are delighted that some local children have been taking part.

If you didn't sign up this year, there is still time to join in! The deadline has been extended until 30<sup>th</sup> September. Staff at Frome Library have some printed materials to give away - including the first stickers - that might help encourage your child to take part!

[Frolib@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Frolib@somerset.gov.uk)

Frome Town Council's  
**'PARK & STRIDE'** map for St John's School



**St John's School**

## Park & Stride

If you have to drive, park at least 5 minutes away and walk to school.

You'll be helping to:

- Make it safer around the school
- Improve the air quality around the school
- Reduce emissions which are harmful to our environment
- Be active - great for our health and concentration

**Key:**

- School
- 5 Minute Zone
- Auction House Car Park - free till 9am
- Lidl Car Park

**Frome**  
TOWN COUNCIL

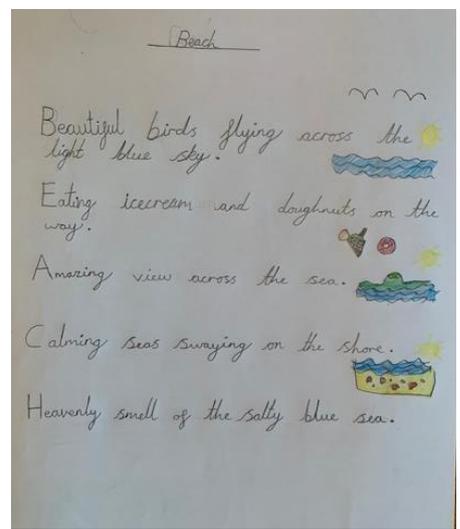
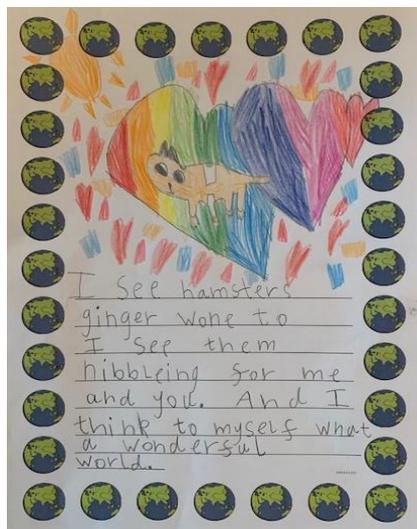
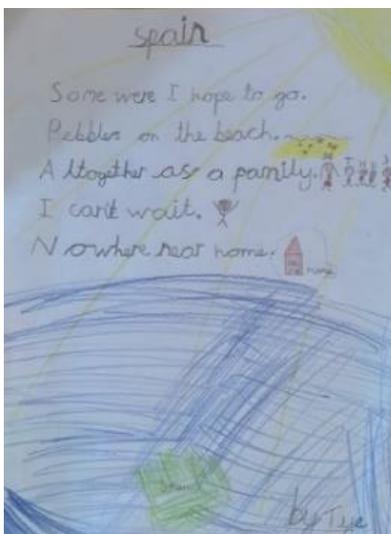
**LEARNING NEXT WEEK**

In this box, every Friday, you will be able to see what your children will be learning in school the following week.

As we let you know previously, for the first two or three weeks, we will be following a whole school topic based around the text 'Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth' by Oliver Jeffers. The focus during this time will be very much around emotional wellbeing and settling back in to school.

Maple and Sycamore have been writing acrostic poems about their special places. Rowan and Willow have written their own lyrics to the song, 'What a Wonderful World'.

Once routines have been established we will send out more information around our curriculum plans and home learning.



‘Together, we give our children the roots to grow and wings to fly.’

As John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, here at St John’s, we strive to prepare children for life – *‘life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10).*

As a fully inclusive Church school, we are rooted in hope. We aspire to nurture and help our children to be the best versions of themselves.

*‘For God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power, love and self-discipline.’  
(Timothy 1:7)*

Our school staff, parents and governors work together to help our children flourish as respectful, confident and aspirational citizens who seek to positively contribute to the school community, local community and the world beyond.

Our vision is based around the elements of the Parable of the Sower in Matthew 13: 1-23. For seeds to grow, they need firm and strong roots. In this parable, Jesus explains that when seeds are planted in good soil, they grow and thrive. When seeds are planted in bad soil or on unsuitable ground, the roots cannot grow, meaning the plants are weak. Jesus goes on to say, when seeds are planted in good soil they grow and bear fruit.

Like birds who nest in trees, the St John’s community aim to nurture their young, who then go on to fly out into the world and flourish.

By sowing the seeds of:

- life to have HOPE
- learning to gain WISDOM
- community to build FRIENDSHIP
- courage to PERSEVERE
- responsibility to gain SELF-CONTROL
- uniqueness to show dignity and RESPECT

together, we will give our children the  
‘ROOTS TO GROW’ and the ‘WINGS TO FLY.’

