

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

Uniform webshop: pmsgschoolwear.co.uk

Finance/Lunches: paymentsstjohns@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Issue 11

Friday 27th November 2020

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Hector (Ash) Luca (Oak)

Betty (Hawthorn) Harrison B (Poplar)

Rubus (Beech) Honey-May (Fir)

Joe (Rowan) Sophie (Willow)

Leo A (Sycamore) Ethan (Maple)



THE HAPPINESS HUNT

Our school has been specially chosen to participate in 'The Happiness Hunt', joining four other primary schools who have each been partnered with one of five care homes across Mendip. The idea is that the schools and care homes fill their boxes with letters, pictures, crafts and challenges and then swap them with their partners to spread the happiness, and 'Make the Sunshine'.

Our Happiness Hunt partner is Rowden House Care Home in Frome, and this week, children in Maple class filled our latest Happiness Box and sent it to the residents. We also invited them to film themselves singing or waving, so that we can include them in our whole school Christmas performance, 'Children of the World'.



WRAP UP WARM

Children do need to come to school in warm school uniform. Our heating is on, and windows are only open the tiniest amounts to allow the flow of ventilation required by Public Health England when children are in the room, but windows are opened wide when children leave the room, to fully ventilate the room as required by PHE. Classrooms are feeling somewhat cooler than what the children may be accustomed to.

Our advice would be to layer up with a vest or t-shirt under their uniform, and have an additional fleece or sweatshirt that can go over their normal uniform. Tights or leggings might be beneficial under skirts or trousers. When children attend in their PE kit, they really do need jogging bottoms, tracksuit bottoms or leggings; it is too cold for them to be sat for the majority of the day in shorts.

Children also do need a proper winter coat, which is warm and waterproof, with gloves and hat in their pockets. It is so important that we get the children outside for fresh air as much as possible, and as such we are going outside in light rain and when it is cold, so children need to be able to wrap up warm!

CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN'S

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Each class has been making their own post box together, ready to start posting their cards to each other. Children may only post cards to children and staff in their own class this year, although there will be a post box behind the front desk for children to post to those staff who are not based in classes. If they wish to give to children in other classes, please could parents organise this out of school. All cards need to be posted by **Monday 7th December** so that post boxes can be sealed and quarantined. (Please avoid licking envelopes!) Nearer the time, we will announce a card opening day.

NATIVITY / CAROL SERVICE

We will be performing 'Children of the World'. Each class has been given a song to learn together and children in Years 2, 3 and 4 will also be preparing a reading. We will arrange props and costumes, and the end result will be available on the school website before the end of term.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We have managed to arrange a bubble-friendly Christmas lunch, which will be over two days:

Monday 14th December
Christmas Lunch for Y3 & Y4 (two sittings)

Tuesday 15th December
Christmas Lunch for Reception, Y1 & Y2 (three sittings)

The payment items have now been set up on Parentmail - please make sure you make your child's choices, and make any necessary payment. Children in Reception and Years 1 & 2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals, but we still need to know their choices please!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

All orders placed online with David Wiltshire, our school photographer, have now been delivered to school.

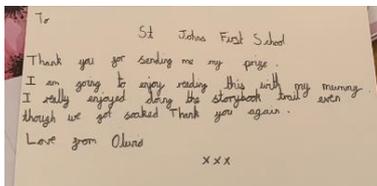
We will send them home on Monday next week, to ensure they have been quarantined appropriately.

YEAR 4 EGYPTIAN DAY

Next Wednesday 2nd December, children in Maple and Sycamore classes will be having an Egyptian Day. They will spend the day doing lots of Egyptian-themed activities and learning, and may dress as Egyptian characters all day – gods, goddesses, pharaohs, cats etc. We can't wait to see what everyone looks like!

STORYBOOK TRAIL

We had this lovely thank you card in the post this week...



SEND ACTIVITIES

Emailed with this newsletter, you'll find the Winter 2020 and February 2021 community inclusion and activity calendars, which have lots of activities and resources available to children and young people with SEND.

Click on this link to find more activity information and ideas:

choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/leisure/activities-for-families-during-covid-19/

LEARNING NEXT WEEK

Our value is 'Hope'.

Sunday 29th is first Sunday of Advent

Reception

Maths - 2D shapes.
English - Naming and describing 2D shapes.
Phonics - ai, ee, igh, oa. Tricky words 'was', 'my'.

Year 1

Maths - Place value within 20. One more, one less
English - Doing 'Exciting Writing' on Dogger's adventure.

Year 2

Maths - Money. Coin recognition and adding totals of coins.
English - Writing about how penguins adapt to their habitat in Antarctica.

Year 3

Maths - Adding and subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers.
English - Using the internet to research and create fact files about Mary Anning.

Year 4

English - Writing an information booklet.
Maths - Perimeter.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you believe that your family may be entitled to free school meals, called 'Pupil Premium', please let us know. You don't need to have the meals, but by registering for them you will be entitled to additional funding for your child's trips and other school activities. This applies to children in all Year Groups.

If you haven't been eligible in the past, but your circumstances have changed, you may be eligible now. If you think you may qualify, or you would like to discuss Pupil Premium in more detail, please call school to speak to office staff.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Roll up, roll up!

We may not be able to participate in the usual festive school fundraising events this year, but some St John's parents have come up with a COVID safe virtual event to raise much needed funds for the school. Enter the virtual raffle be in with a chance of winning this huge bounty of Christmas goodies worth over £75 for all the family.



Tickets cost £1 each (or buy 6 for £5) and can be purchased through ParentMail. Why not see if any friends and family would like you to purchase a ticket on their behalf?

Tickets must be purchased by 9.00am on Wednesday 16th December and the winning ticket will be selected on Thursday 17th December.

DIARY DATES

Weds 2 Dec	Egyptian Day
Mon 14 Dec	Christmas Lunch - Y3 & Y4
Tues 15 Dec	Christmas Lunch - Rec, Y1 & Y2
Fri 18 Dec	End of term
Mon 4 Jan	Inset Day - School closed
Tues 5 Jan	First day of term

CHRISTMAS AT THE MERLIN THEATRE

The Merlin Theatre, Frome, will be running a charming family Christmas show, '**Bea and the Winter Winds**', from 16th - 19th Dec. Tickets from £7.50 for children (babes in arms free).

There will be 6 shows over 4 days, including a '*Relaxed Performance*' during Saturday 19th, with changes in sound levels, lighting etc. plus several other adjustments to ensure this experience is as inclusive as possible for all.

Strictly limited number of booking-only tickets available at all shows to allow for socially-distanced seating. (No walk-ups.)

Full details at www.merlintheatre.co.uk
or contact merlintheatreoffice@gmail.com