

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: pmgschoolwear.co.uk

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

Issue 2

Friday 18th September 2020

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Imogen (Hawthorn) William (Poplar)

Logan (Beech) Rafael (Fir)

Rowan (Rowan) Patrick (Willow)

Ellie (Sycamore) Lola (Maple)



A special award was also given to the whole of Fir class.

THANK YOU

Thank you, everyone, for continuing to support us with all our new arrangements. We are having to find new ways of doing lots of things that are usually so familiar to us, and the children in particular are helping us to do this.

For instance, today we had our first whole school collective worship, complete with this week's headteacher's awards, on the smart boards in classes via Teams. Also, children in Year 4 are working hard preparing a virtual school tour, as we will be unable to have our usual Open Mornings for prospective parents.

FROM ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Like many occasions, Harvest will have to be very low profile this year – no harvest suppers, no singing of hymns. St John's church is planning that the first Sunday of October should be Harvest Festival, and we are inviting people to send in pictures to provide a visual display in the church for the services.

Remembering the school's contribution to the virtual Well Dressing earlier this year, we thought that you might like to contribute photos for our Harvest display in church.

Please email your photos to: amandacrook@blueyonder.co.uk

We are also talking about the practical aspect of Harvest Festival. While we won't have the usual marvellous display of goods in church, Mrs Marsland is happy for donations of food items to be brought to school for the Fair Frome Food Bank. In this year of all years, they will be even more grateful for our community generosity.

Staff at the Food Bank have requested some items in particular, and there will be collection boxes in the playgrounds next Friday 25th September for any donations of the following:

Soup, Tinned fruit, Tinned custard, Sauces for rice (curry sauce etc) Tinned vegetables, Biscuits, Coffee, Juice/squash, Sugar, Toiletries. (Please do not send in any fresh produce.)

If you would like to make a financial donation instead, you can do so via this link: localgiving.com/charity/fairfrome

ONLINE LEARNING

Teachers have been busy working on our new online learning platform for Years 1-4 called Seesaw, which we hope to have live by the first week in October – we will show children how it works in school... send home logins... and provide a virtual training session for parents for those who would like one. We will continue to use Tapestry for reception children. These learning platforms will mean that children will be able to access learning from home if they needed to.

INTERVIEWS

In school on Wednesday next week, we will be interviewing candidates for the position of Deputy Head. We will keep you informed of the outcome in next week's newsletter.

DATA COLLECTION

Next week your child will bring home an envelope containing a **Data Collection Sheet** which contains all the details we currently hold for them and you.

It is our duty to give you the opportunity to check and amend these details, so that we can communicate with you quickly and efficiently. Please could you read your child's sheet very carefully, make any necessary changes, then return it, even if you have made no changes.

Please return all completed forms to staff on the front desk, or to your class teacher, as soon as possible. Thank you.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Somerset School Admissions' online portal for applications for children to start school in September 2021, or to transfer to a junior or middle school, is now open. The closing date for Primary Phase Admissions (including first to middle) is 15/01/2021.

Parents can apply online at:

somerset.gov.uk/admissions

Information for parents is also available on:

facebook.com/Somersetschooladmissions/

READING BOOKS AND RECORDS

Thank you for all reading books and reading records returned to school this week. However, there are still a lot outstanding. Please check over the weekend and bring back any you have on Monday; after that date, we will email any stragglers..!

LEARNING THIS WEEK

As we let you know previously, for the first two or three weeks, we have been 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.

This week, children in Beech and Fir classes have been making handprints, and writing down their hopes and dreams for Year 2 on rockets. Then they used all of them to make these beautiful world displays:



'ONE DAY LIKE THIS'

Somerset Music Online Performance
[youtube.com/watch?v=QX9uEMzFxy0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QX9uEMzFxy0)

This video has been able to virtually reunite nearly one hundred members of the Choirs, Orchestra and Concert Band from over thirty schools and colleges across Somerset and fourteen universities across the UK. It was a huge team effort, and an exciting project in a year with so little music-making. It celebrates the amazing achievement and talent of our young people in Somerset.

The Somerset County Youth Orchestra, Somerset County Concert Band and Somerset County Youth Choirs, are amazing opportunities for children and young adults to be involved in music making at a high level. For more information on how children can get involved, please email:

somersetmusic@somerset.gov.uk

OUR SCHOOL FACEBOOK GROUP

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

If you haven't joined already, please follow this link to join the group and **answer all four questions** to be accepted.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsfirstschool/>

