

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

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Issue 1

Friday 10th September 2021

WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S

We truly hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday. Thank you for the lovely photos and messages shared over the summer break on Facebook; it was truly wonderful to see what everyone was doing and to stay in touch. It is wonderful to see all of the children back in school, happy and ready to learn, after another year of 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.

On behalf of myself and the rest of my team, thank you for working so closely with us throughout last year, keeping everyone safe and well. We are one of the very few schools in Somerset who did not close a class or year group down during the summer term; indeed our last closure to a 'bubble' was in January. This is a fantastic achievement and a result of our cautious approach in our risk assessment planning and your commitment and support – thank you! Also, on behalf of myself and the rest of my team, a sincere thanks for all of the gifts and special messages sent in at the end of last term; they were very much appreciated, particularly the cards and messages.

We have loved seeing pictures on the school Facebook page of our year 4 leavers in their new school uniforms. We hope you have all had a fantastic time at your new schools. At half term, we will say our final goodbyes, as we remove non-members, but before then, please keep the photos and news updates coming!

New DFE guidance has been published, which does state that we can pretty much return to 'normal'. However, just because they have said we can does not necessarily mean we should. We will continue to proceed with caution with regard to our risk assessment and procedures. Also, as indicated before the summer holidays, some of the changes we had to make last year we have chosen to keep.

After school each day next week, we will be holding a Zoom Session for each year group. They all start at 15.45, which gives you hopefully enough time to get home from school, and will last for no more than 30 minutes. Class teachers from each year group will provide you with curriculum information for this term. If you are unable to attend, please do not worry, we will be posting the PowerPoints from those presentations on Seesaw. Zoom invites to these sessions will be sent on the day of each meeting.

Monday	Year 3
Tuesday	Year 1
Wednesday	Year 4
Thursday	Year 2

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.

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 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.

PARKING

As we begin a new 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, on Blindhouse Lane, or on the road outside 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.

AFTERNOON COLLECTION

We ask that Year 1 and Year 3 parents do not come onto the playground before 15.05 as we have reception children leaving at 15.00.

Also please could Year 2 and Year 4 parents make sure the playground is clear of Year 1 and Year 3 parents before entering.

This is to keep everyone safe, particularly helping teachers and other staff to ensure children are going to the right adult. Please remind children they are not to run straight to parents but need to be released by a staff member.

Lastly, please stay back from gates and doorways, and on the playground away from the areas where the children are being released. It would really help us greatly if you could spread out and give teachers a wave as you see your child being released.

LEARNING NEXT WEEK

Our Value this half term is Wisdom

Year 1

Maths - Counting forwards and backwards.
English - Beginning our new text, 'Tree: Seasons Come, Seasons Go.'

Year 2

Maths - Counting and place value up to 50.
English - Story sequencing and retelling.

Year 3

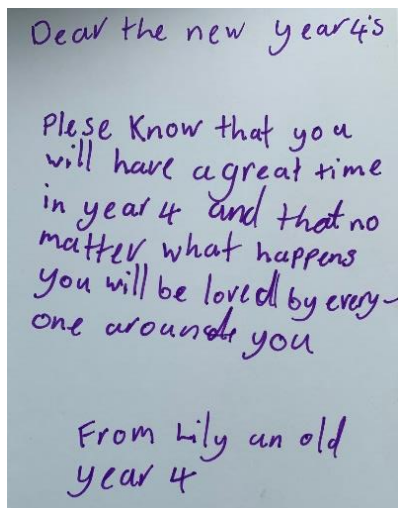
Maths - Place value.
English - Beginning our new text, 'Stone Age Boy'.

Year 4

Maths - Place value
English - Writing a biography of Thomas Edison using headings and sub-headings.

A Child's Voice

Mrs Simenton was given an envelope at the end of the summer term, addressed to the new Year 4, with *very* strict instructions not to open it until the children were in their classes on Wednesday. This wonderfully kind and thoughtful note was inside, and we all think it is absolutely beautiful:



Dear the new year 4's
Please know that you will have a great time in year 4 and that no matter what happens you will be loved by everyone around you
From Lily an old year 4

YEAR FOUR THIS WEEK

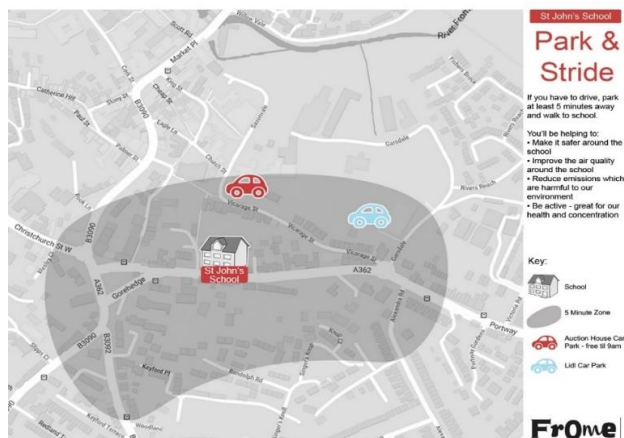
Children in Maple and Sycamore have been writing poems - not just about what they did in the summer holidays, but also what they *didn't* do...

*I didn't buy Saturn.
I didn't blow the Queen up.
I didn't summon a black hole,
Or fall off the Great Tower of London.
I didn't climb Mount Everest.
I didn't see a grenade explode.
I didn't hang glide off the face of the Earth.
Or even swim with dolphins.*

But I did...

*Listen to a story for an hour or two.
Body-board a big blue wave.
Stare at a cheetah run like the wind.
See a big brown wolf*

By Jacob in Sycamore



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

Academic Year 2021/2022

Mon 13 Sept	Welcome Session on Zoom - Year 3
Tues 14 Sept	Welcome Session on Zoom - Year 1
Weds 15 Sept	Welcome Session on Zoom - Year 4
Thurs 16 Sept	Welcome Session on Zoom - Year 2
Thurs 21 Oct	Inset Day - school closed
October 22 - 29	Half Term

At St John's CE VA First School the health, safety and wellbeing of every child is our top priority. We expect all staff, governors, parent/carers and visitors to share this commitment to safeguarding our pupils.