

Newsletter

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



"Learning together... aiming high"

Website: stjohnsfrome.co.uk

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Issue 39

Friday 17th July 2020

FROM MRS MARSLAND

As we draw to the end of the academic year, a most unusual and challenging one at that, I wanted to take the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the whole of the St John's community; we have navigated these last few difficult months, with a real sense of togetherness.

THANK YOU...

Firstly, thank you to every one of you for teaching your own children, engaging with our Facebook page and online learning on the school website, and for positive and supportive communication throughout this time. We have appreciated this greatly, and the wonderful photographs, which we have been able to use on the newsletter each week, really do brighten up our days when they arrive in the school inbox.

Your children have done you proud, those at home and those in school. I am so impressed by how the children in school have adapted to the changes in school, and approached them with a sense of responsibility and enthusiasm. I am equally impressed by the wonderful things children have been doing at home. Thank you children.

Lastly, but by no means less important, I must say thank you to the most amazing team of colleagues I have at St John's: I am extremely grateful to our premises team, who have been extremely patient with me, asking them to move furniture from one room to another, yet again, and of course they have been key to maintaining high standards of cleanliness and hygiene, which has more than doubled their workload – thank you!

I am in awe of the admin team who have risen to the challenge of adapting policies, procedures and risk assessment, which have changed at lightning speed, due to the daily updates from the DFE and Government. They have also been fundamental in distributing vital communication. This has all been carried out with their usual professionalism alongside their already very busy roles – thank you!

I am exhausted just watching my teaching and support staff team! Staff who have been working from home have played a pivotal role providing the excellent planning for all children; they have also maintained great communication with you all on the Facebook page. Staff who have been working on site have been equally phenomenal, teaching and supporting our animal buddies. On site or off site, they have all continued to provide their absolute best for the children, with good humour too – thank you!

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S

As always, the Friends of St John's have worked tirelessly right up to the end of March. I know that the committee were greatly saddened that we were unable to hold the summer term events, including the May Fayre with maypole dancing. I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the committee members for organising such great events last year, to raise money for extra things for the school, and thank you to everyone who has supported those events.

This year, three members of the committee, who have played a huge part over the years supporting and leading the Friends of St John's are leaving us, as their children are moving on to middle school. So, on behalf of everyone... Nicki, Tatiana and Lisa, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you have done. I am hoping that I will see all three of them on Monday, when they collect their children, so that I can thank each of them personally.

We will be holding an AGM in September, details to follow in September when we know what September brings!

GOODBYES

At the end of the academic year as well as saying thank you, we say goodbye...

This year, we say goodbye to Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Young, both off to new exciting posts. We wish them all the best with their new jobs; we know that they will be fabulous. They will be sadly missed, as they are great colleagues and lovely friends.

And, of course, it is time to say goodbye to our super Year 4 children, an awesome group of children who started at St John's at the same time as me. I believe that at St John's we have given them the roots to grow and the wings to fly, and they are now ready to fly the St John's nest. I know you haven't had the ending that you truly deserve, but you have all accepted that with great maturity and understanding.

**'You're off to Great Places! Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way!**

COMMUNICATION

Due to the uncertain times we live in, we will remain in contact with you over the summer via email, Facebook and the school website. The school phone will not be 'manned' after today, but the school email box will be checked very regularly throughout the holidays by members of the admin team and myself. So, if you do have any worries or questions, please do get in touch with us via email.

SEPTEMBER UPDATES

The staggered arrival and departure times are:

8.15 / 14.45	Sycamore	Beech	
8.30 / 15.00	Maple	Fir	
8.45 / 15.15	Rowan	Hawthorn	Oak
9.00 / 15.30	Willow	Poplar	Ash

If you have siblings, please arrive at the time when the youngest child is due to arrive. Older siblings can enter with their younger sibling, and make their way independently to their own classroom. There will be lots of staff to support this for the first few weeks.

Sadly, we are unable to allow volunteers in school; we will let you know when this changes.

HAPPY SUMMER

Lastly, here is an end of term message and one last story for you all. I wish you all a very safe, restful and enjoyable summer holiday!

<https://vimeo.com/439258336/2532873884>

Mrs M

FROM ST JOHN'S CHURCH MAGAZINE

'Our schools are 'breaking up'! But this year we have had no celebratory services in church looking back over the past year; no 'One More Step Along the World I Go'. A cheerful conversation with St John's School revealed how much they have enjoyed having some of the children back in school, and the really good things they have all been doing at home and at school. Another conversation with a teacher from a different Frome school, revealed just how much effort has gone into ensuring the physical and mental well-being of their students before they even begin to think about lessons. And now it is the school holiday. But I imagine that much of that 'holiday' will be spent wrestling with the logistical and educational challenges which September will bring.

We wish them all – staff, pupils and their families– a safe and, if possible, restful time.'

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Summer Reading Challenge will still be taking place in libraries this year! Usually children would go to the library to get books, but this year they can still take part - reading books they have at home.

You can sign up here:

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/

There is information here about different ways they can find books even with the libraries being closed:

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/how-to-access-books.



FairFrome
For: People, Social Progress, Social Tolerance

Takeaway Hot Lunches 12.30pm

Mondays at Christchurch School from 20th July
Wednesdays at Hayesdown School from 22nd July
Thursdays at Vallis School from 23rd July

Free to anyone on benefits or low income

Strict social distancing and hygiene practices will be in place and we kindly ask you help us with this to keep everyone safe. Vegan/Gluten free option available.

**Contact us for more information on 01373 488578
or fairfromeinfo@gmail.com**