



St John's CE Primary Newsletter

5th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school and Happy New Year!

I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break with loved ones and the children are fired up and ready for an exciting time of learning. In 2018, our goal is to ensure every child becomes a happy, engaged and successful learner with our great team of teachers now in place. It has been a delight to see how the children have developed in such a short time and how they are adjusting to the changes in learning spaces and arrangements. It was cheers all round in Collective worship! On leaving school yesterday, I met one of the children who exclaimed 'I can't wait to get back to school!'

Collaboration and Listening to make further Improvements!

As you know, we have always valued parents' opinions and thoughts and as a school we are working on these goals with renewed commitments. But now, I would call on you to be more involved in the teaching of English and maths to support our creative curriculum and promote future independent learners.

Numicon at St. John's - On Wednesday 3rd January, all staff began training to make us even more effective in developing maths skills. The second day of training for staff will be held on Wednesday 10th January. I have organised a separate date where we will be holding a Maths Curriculum Evening on Tuesday 16th January at 18:00. We hope you will be able to join us.

Have a peek at this website <https://global.oup.com/education/content/primary/series/numicon/>

These partnerships are an effective way to bridge understanding on how the school works within the community and can further build upon the achievements of last year's SATs and contribute to improving outcomes for all pupils. These are a few strategies we will continue to use to gather your views and harness our collective energies:

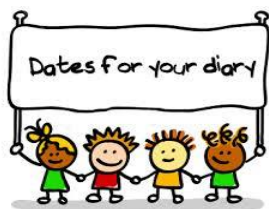
- Parent forums
- Community projects
- Regular parent consultation meetings
- Developing PTA group

We will kick off 2018 with a celebration of the community, and the launch of our 'Inspire to build a community Week' from Friday 12th – Friday 19th January. Every day, our children show their potential and it is a privilege to be a part of this process. We are proud to be St. John's Church of England School in Penge and we know we are on our way to making a great school.

Everything we do this term, is based on our belief that every child is unique and important and with our Christian faith they will be a future inspiration to others; therefore our Christian Value this term is 'Thankfulness for our Community'. We are celebrating with different visitors including The Major of Bromley- Cllr Kathy Bance MBE, students from Kings College and members of the Bromley football Club.

Kind regards,

Ms S Rutherford (Head of school)



Thursday 11th January

Phonics evening for all KS1 in Sapphire Class at 3.30pm

Tuesday 16th January

Supporting your child with Maths - 06.00pm – 07:00pm (all parents)

Thursday 18^h January

Parents Meeting with Executive Head and Senior Leadership Team and Dr Ann McCarthy our Academies Improvement Director representing the Aquinas Trust at 9.00am

Supporting the community

Thank you to everyone who has contributed resources and time to St. John's Church foodbank. If you would like to be added to the list please speak to Mrs Park. During tough times we will do all that we can to support our families in need.

Working in partnership Aquinas Multi-Academy Trust

The Trust's Improvement Director Dr Ann McCarthy will be visiting the school to meet with parents and discuss developments at the school at the next Parent Forum meeting.

New Staff members

Mr Jeremy O'Donovan, Assistant Head Teacher and Senco Advisor to the Trust, is now working with us on Thursdays. He will work with Mrs Park to assist in SEND and interventions across the school. He will be available on gate duties, so look out for his welcoming smile on the gate.

We also have 4 new teaching assistants working across the school. In Topaz class we have Mrs Stimson and Miss Poole, in Tiger's eye we have Miss Bonitto and we will be joined by Mrs Warren in Diamond class very soon.

We also welcomed Mrs Lazarski as class teacher for Tiger's Eye.

Reading with the children

We would like to invite parents and volunteers to give 10 -15minures of reading each morning. From 8.45 am to 9.0 am, if you have the time and are keen to encourage a love of reading, please inform your child' class teacher on Monday 8th January, if you would like to take part.

Attendance Behaviour and Dojos

We are moving in the right direction for school attendance. It is now improving but not at the Ofsted rate yet. I would like to celebrate the children's attendance through a special Head teacher's award for the best class with a fun picnic at Crystal Palace at end of term.

All great learners start with consistent encouragement which works best when school and home work together. We will be rolling out access to Dojo Points to support pupils' attitude and growing maturity in taking responsibility as learners this term. Details will follow from Mrs Brewer of how parents can access the system will follow from Ms Brewer.

P.E Kits

We appreciate that parents have bought school kits before the December changes to the use of tracksuits and trainers. Do be assured that PE kit from the start of the year is still acceptable. Do continue with what is in place, we understand there is a timing issue. The main change has been that pupils come to school wearing kit instead of uniform on that day. Please see P.E leader or myself for any problems.

Music Lesson

We have a Band On the Run for a second year. This is the best way to get children into music and playing an instrument starting with Year 4. If you are interested in developing your child's talents in other year groups please see Mrs Lucy Poole our music leader.

Keep up the good work everyone



Term Dates

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January 2018 to Friday 9th February 2018

Half Term (12th February to 16th February)

Monday 19th February 2018 to Thursday 29th March 2018

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April 2018 to Friday 25th May 2018

Half Term (26th May to 1st June)

Monday 4th June 2018 to Friday 20th July 2018

Inset Day Friday 25th May 2018

Bank holiday Monday 7th May 2018