



St John the Baptist C.E. Primary School

Website: www.st-john.lincs.sch.uk

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Newsletter

Wednesday, 19th September, 2018

Dear Parents,

This week's news

- **Changes to our Merit system**

For the last three years children have collected merit points and when they collected 50 they gained a Bronze Award, then Silver and finally Gold. Over time when monitoring the system we have realised that it has been difficult to get consistency across all staff in school - with some being more or less generous than others.

After discussions with parents, children and having given the merit system much thought we have decided to make some significant changes - which are:

- All children will have the opportunity to be awarded 2 merits each Friday. These will focus on just two very important areas - how well someone has tried (effort, resilience etc.) and how well someone has behaved (both at break times and in class).
- If children have done these two things well they will be awarded 2 merits. If they have had a blip in the week - but mostly done these things then they will get 1 merit.
- In addition to the 2 merits that everyone can earn there will also be 5 discretionary merits per week available to class teachers. These will be awarded to those who have stood out because of something exceptional that week.
- In Reception and KS1 children will need 20 merits to get their award and in KS2 they will need 30.
- One criticism of our previous system is the every year you started to collect merits towards a bronze again. In our new system merits will roll over to the next year and for both Reception/KS1 and KS2 there will be 9 levels.

Initially in our new system many children will receive awards at the same time, as we expect that most children will get 2 merits each week. To cope with these larger numbers we will give out award certificates and badges throughout the week in collective worship. Because of the numbers involved we won't be able to invite parents to these worship times. However, from October half term we intend to introduce a new celebration worship. This Friday worship will have a number of children and their teachers speaking about their learning and what they are proud of... and we will invite parents to this. It should be possible for all children to be involved in this once throughout the year.

As we are introducing a new system we need to give names to the 9 levels that will run through each key stage and we will need to design 9 different badges. Tonight children will bring home a competition entry form to name the 9 levels and to draw a design for a new merit badge. Entries should be returned to class teachers or the school office by Monday 1st October. The winning entries will receive a small prize, but most of all they will get to see their designs being worn across the school.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – Next Friday - 28th September

We will once again be supporting the Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee morning on Friday 28th September at 9am. Please join us in supporting this worthy cause if you can, thank you!



Coffee Morning in the Main Hall: Come along from 9am – the Choir will be coming along to entertain us all.

Cakes on the Gate - We will also be selling “Cakes on the Gate” so that you can buy cakes as you drop your children off if you are unable to join us.

Children's Break time Cakes – children will have the opportunity to buy cakes at break time – all cakes 50p

Donations of Cakes please - We will also be grateful for donations of cakes for this fundraising event – either home baked or bought. Please send these into school by the Thursday after school so that we can make sure we have enough or the next day– Thank you!

Friends of St. John's School

Friends of School

It was great to see both new and old "Friends" at our informal get together on Monday - a good gathering for the start of the year. We now must get on with ensuring that The Friends continue to go from strength to strength by ensuring a strong and willing committee are appointed at the annual general meeting on Monday 1st October at 6.30p.m.

At this meeting we will be looking to appoint a new chairperson, along with other officer roles. I hope that both existing and new "Friends" might consider whether or not they could take on the chair, vice chair, treasurer and secretary as well as any other roles that we feel useful. Please think carefully about this and if you need to any further details please come and speak with me.

The Friends do such a wonderful job of hosting many important events across the year. As well as raising valuable funds, these events also provide social occasions which are very much valued by the school community. I hope we will see you at the meeting on the 1st October and look forward to a great year ahead.

Paul Reid

- **Reception classes photograph**

The local press, the Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian will be coming into school tomorrow to take the Reception classes photograph for their "Class of 2018" feature. It will be a group photograph and no names are given. Please let the Reception Staff know if you do not wish your child to be included.

- **Flu Vaccinations**

Don't forget to register your child for the Fluenz nasal spray flu vaccinations being offered to all children in Reception, Years 1,2,3,4 and 5. The nurses will be in school on 19th November. Details came home last week of how to register your child online. coming home tonight and also copied below from the School Nursing Team about registering and giving consent for your child to receive the vaccine.

The vaccination will only be given to children for whom consent has been given.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due

This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

From October this year we will no longer be using paper consent forms.

Please click on the following link to complete the online consent form for your child(ren):

<https://www.lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk/>

You will need to enter the following code to ensure the completed form can be correctly allocated to your child's school: EE120613

Vaccination date allocated to your school is: 19th November 2018

The vaccination is free and is a quick and simple spray up the nose. This vaccine is a yearly vaccine.

For further information please follow this link to the School Aged Immunisation Service Flu page

<https://www.lincolnshirecommunityhealthservices.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-services/immunisations/seasonal-flu-vaccination-programme>

If you have any queries please contact the healthcare team on 01775 652144

Yours sincerely,

Maria Turner

Maria Turner
Immunisation & Vaccinations Lead
Lincolnshire Community Health Services

If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you complete the consent form, please contact the healthcare team on the above number.

If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please also complete the consent form giving the reason. This will help us plan and improve the service.

For further information see: www.nhs.uk/child-flu



**Lincolnshire Community
Health Services**
NHS Trust

- **CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COFFEE MUGS**

The order forms for the Christmas cards came home earlier this week – please ensure all orders are back with us by **9am on Monday 24th September**.



Mugs with your child's Christmas card picture and name on can be ordered along with the traditional packs of greetings cards and gift tags this year! An enduring memento of your child's artwork, and useful throughout the year, these attractive mugs could also make the ideal gift for friends and relations! Each one purchased will bring extra money in to school for us to use to provide more equipment for the children.



Why not come and join our Collective Worship in Church - now on a Tuesday morning

We have changed the day we go into Church for our Collective Worship – we are now going on a **TUESDAY** Morning at 9am. As before Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will alternate. Please come along and join us if you can.

You are also invited to stay for a cuppa and a chat at the Church Coffee morning in the Church Lounge after the Service.

The pattern of worship for this term is as follows

25th September – Key Stage 1

2nd October – Key Stage 2

9th October – Key Stage 1

16th October – Key Stage 2



All are welcome to join us for our Harvest Festival Service in Church on Friday 5th October at 2.15pm



School Uniform Order Delays

Unfortunately we are experiencing delays with our school uniform supplier and we are still waiting on delivery of many items. Many apologies to those who have placed orders with us and are still waiting.

Please remember to book your child's hot meals –
Please book meals for week commencing 1st October by midnight tomorrow.

<http://hotmeals.st-john.lincs.sch.uk>

- **Music Tuition**

For children who take music tuition in school, please note that payment is due next week for term 2 (apart from Guitar tuition). Thank you. Please note that if you wish to cancel your child's music tuition for term 2 - **notification must be received by Wednesday 26th September.**



Telephone: 07784499965 during Kid's Club opening hours only.

Our Breakfast Club opens at **7.30 am** (£3.00 per session) and the After School Club runs until **6.00pm** (£6.00 per session).

Bookings should be made using the booking forms, which are available from Mrs. Gilbert, the school office and the school office.

HOLIDAY CLUB OPENING DATES FOR 2018 - 19

October Half term	Monday 22 nd October to Friday 26 th October Plus the Training Day on Monday 29 th October
Christmas	Wednesday 2 nd January to Friday 4 th January
February Half Term	Monday 18 th February to Friday 22 nd February
Easter Break	Monday 8 th April – Friday 12 th April
May Half Term	Tuesday 28 th May to Friday 31 st May

Some important dates for the year ahead:

Friday 5 th October	Year 6 PGL visit
Friday 5 th October	Harvest Festival Service at 2.15pm
Wednesday 10 th October	Open Night for prospective parents
Wednesday 17 th October	Late parents' evening (5.30p.m. – 8p.m.)
Thursday 18 th October	Early parents' evening (3.30p.m. – 6p.m.)
Friday 19 th October	End of Term 1
Monday 29 th October	School Closed – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 30 th October	Start of Term 2
Tuesday 7 th November	Pop Ins at 9a.m. and 3.30p.m.
Wednesday 12 th December	Interim Reports
Thursday 20 th December	End of Term 2
Monday 7 th January	Start of Term 3
Thursday 17 th January	Pop Ins at 9a.m. and 3.30p.m.
Friday 15 th February	End of Term 3
Monday 25 th February	Start of Term 4
Wednesday 27 th February	Late parents' evening (5.30p.m. – 8p.m.)
Thursday 28 th February	Early parents' evening (3.30p.m. – 6p.m.)
Friday 5 th April	End of Term 4
Monday 23 rd April	Start of Term 5
Wednesday 24 th April	Interim Reports
Thursday 2 nd May	Parent Workshops (topic to be decided)
Friday 24 th May	End of Term 5
Monday 3 rd June	Start of Term 6
Friday 19 th July	End of Term 6

Secondary Open Evenings For Years 5 & 6

Spalding Academy – Thursday 4th October - 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Further details from www.spaldingacademy.org.uk or tel: 01775 722484

Bourne Academy – Thursday 27th September – 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Further details from www.bourneacademy.org.uk or tel: 01778 422365