



St John the Baptist C.E. Primary School

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Newsletter Wednesday, 5th September, 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our new school year, we hope you had a lovely Summer and look forward to another exciting and busy year.

A special welcome to our new Reception children and parents who have now joined us, as well as to a few other children who are joining other year groups.

A reminder that our school newsletters come out every Wednesday, please look out for it each week as it is our main way of sharing information with parents about events and news in School. A hard copy has come home to all this week, but future copies will be emailed out – please remember to look out for it every Wednesday to keep up to date. If you do not receive these weekly emails, please let us know so that we can sort out any glitches.

Hard copies of any letters (or just the reply slip) requiring a reply slip to be returned to school will be sent home to everyone to enable you to do so.

As we start our new year, please can we remind you of a few things.....

- **Keeping Safe**

Please may we remind you that all children should keep to the pavements when entering and leaving school and not walk across our busy car park. In particular could our new Reception parents help their children (and pre-school children) to stay safe by not playing around the cars in the car park or on the playground equipment.

We are always pleased to see children cycling or scootering to school – but please be aware of how busy pavements get the nearer you get to school. All children must walk with their cycle or scooter when crossing the road with Mrs Atkins (our Crossing Patrol lady), and you must only walk with scooters or cycles once you enter the school grounds.

- **Contact Information**

We have recently collected up to date contact information to comply with the new GDPR regulations – if you have not yet returned your forms, a further set will be coming home, please return these by **the end of this week**. Please remember it is still essential to inform of any changes of details – contact numbers, address, etc.

- **Children going home from school**

You will know that up until Year 4 we have a “hand over” of children to whoever is collecting your child – as ever please remember to inform the class teacher if your child is being collected by a different adult.

In Year 5 and Year 6 the number of children who take themselves home tends to increase. On the pupil data forms sent home last term children who are now in Years 5 and 6 were asked to inform us as to whether you wished your child to be collected or leave alone – please contact the school office if you wish to change these permissions.

Please also remember that parents should be sure that they are confident that children walking home without an adult does not pose a safeguarding concern.

- **Updated Medical Conditions and Medication**



If your child brought their inhalers or other medication home at the end of last term, please could you ensure that they now come back into school, complete with the appropriate signed permissions forms in order for us to administer medication.

Please also remember to update the school about any new medical or allergy conditions.

- **Naming School Uniform**

Please remember to name **all** of your child's uniform, it really does improve the chances of being reunited with any lost items!

- **Absence from school**

Please remember if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, you should inform school by 9.30a.m. that day. Please contact school on each day of absence unless otherwise agreed.

Also please remember that routine dental and medical appointments should not be made in school time. If you do need to make a routine appointment in school time you should complete a leave of absence form, these should be returned to the school office, along with the appointment letter/card to allow the appointment to be verified. This should be done several days in advance to give us time to get a reply to you. You will need to keep the response with you during the absence in case you are approached by a police officer or child welfare officer.

Government regulations mean that absence from school can only be because of "exceptional circumstances", and it is therefore highly unlikely that time off school will be granted in term time for areas such as holidays. Where absence is unauthorised it is likely that the Local Authority will issue a penalty notice. Requests for term time absence must be made at least 10 days before the absence, except in emergencies.

Absence request forms are available from the school office and on the school website and should be returned to the school office.

- **Hot meals**

Our new menus for the Autumn are now available – all the usual favourites, plus some new exciting dishes for children to try and enjoy. Please remember to book meals by Thursday night for week commencing 17th September - hotmeals.st-john.lincs.sch.uk

- **Tuck Shop**

This year our Tuck Shop will just run on the last Friday of each term, when there will be a special Tuck Shop selling all the children's favourites and treats, with all profits going to a chosen charity.



**Macmillan Coffee Morning –
Friday 28th September**

We will once again be supporting the Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee morning on Friday 28th September at 9am. Please come along and join us!

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!

- **Swimming Lessons**

Class 4CD will start their swimming lessons next Tuesday – please return the consent form if you have not already done so.

If anyone has any school “stock” swimming kit that they have borrowed and not yet returned, we would be grateful if this could come back into school in case it is needed. Also if anyone has outgrown swimming costumes or trunks, all donations gratefully received to enable us to have spares for if children forget their own kit.

- **Flu Vaccinations**

You may be aware that the School Nursing Service have extended their flu vaccination programme this year and all children in Reception, Years 1,2,3,4 and 5 will have the opportunity to receive the Fluenz nasal spray vaccination in school. The nurses will be in school on 19th November. This year the Nursing Service are collecting consents electronically and will be sending us emails to forward on to yourselves shortly.

- **Club letters**

Also coming home this evening for Years 1 – 6 are letters regarding this term's After School Activity Clubs. As usual there is the usual choice of lots of different activities for children to join. Please make your choices and return the booking forms to school by **Monday (10th September) at 9am.**

- **Year 6 PGL Trip – A meeting for parents**

The Year 6 PGL trip will soon be upon us – please remember the last payment is due on 14th September. All payments must be made by this date to secure your child's place. Year 6 staff have organised a meeting for parents about PGL and Y6. This will be on Monday 17th September at 6.30p.m. Please also look out for a form that those going to PGL need to complete.

- **School Merit System**

This week we will be explaining to children some changes that we are making to the school merit system. We are currently putting together a pamphlet for parents that will explain these changes and this will be distributed next week.

Term dates for 2018/19

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| Term 1 | 4 th September – 19 th October |
| Term 2 | 30 th October - 20 th December |
| Term 3 | 7 th January - 15 th February |
| Term 4 | 25 th February - 5 th April |
| Term 5 | 23 rd April - 24 th May |
| Term 6 | 3 rd June 2018 - 19 th July |

Also coming Home

Years 1 to 6: After School Activity Club Letters