

St John's School
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Head Teacher: Trudie De La Haye
April 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer Term.

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. The Summer Term promises to be another exciting term at St John's School with of course, a continued emphasis on high standards and expectations.

We had a very exciting staff training day on Monday April 16th with Mrs Maggie Eldridge Mrotzek, our Professional Adviser. She supported us in understanding how to maintain "outstanding." We also began thinking about our exciting topic planned for September 2018.

Our whole school Fund Raiser – St John's Unites for Funds- will incorporate the much enjoyed whole school walk and will take place during the morning of **Friday May 11th**. This is an exciting day for our school community. Let's hope the sun shines for us and many people will come and cheer us along the route. Thank you Mrs Jehan for all the hard work you have done for this event. **Fund raising** from this will help us pay for the **exciting new Literacy resources. Please give generously!**

Of late, there have been several reports in national and local news, concerning leave of absence during term time. The Department does not support leave of absence during the term, except for exceptional circumstances – a special birthday, wedding, funeral of a close family member etc. and this would consist of a day or two. Extension of holidays, leaving for a holiday earlier and so forth, is not deemed exceptional circumstance. Mr Matthews and I meet with the School Education Welfare Officer twice a term, where we discuss where leave of absence has been granted. We also track pupil absence on a weekly basis in school. I know this is a challenging situation for many parents and I do empathise; however, attendance in school is a **legal requirement** and I need to support Department Policy with this.

Sports Day is planned for the afternoon of **Friday 29th June** – beginning with competitive races, followed by the whole school fun event. Timings will follow nearer the day. Pop in Afternoon is planned for **Thursday May 17th** between 3:00 – 4:00 pm. The Optional Parents' Consultation afternoon, is **Thursday July 12th**. There is no school on **Monday May 7th** ~May Bank Holiday, nor on **Wednesday May 9th** ~ Liberation Day. Half term is between **Monday May 28th** returning to school on **Monday June 4th**. Year 6 Transition takes place on **Thursday 5th July and Friday 6th July** with the school Transition afternoon happening on **Thursday 6th July. End of term is Friday July 20th at 3:00 pm. Class teachers will inform you of their Class Assembly dates as soon as they are ready.**

Core Values

As this new term begins, we will take time to reflect on "**Thinking, Learning, Caring**" - our core values. We will ensure that through assemblies and class discussions, all pupils are aware of our high expectations of behaviour and respect for the whole community. Thank you for reinforcing these important values at home.

We look forward to sharing an exciting Summer Term with you all.

Trudie De La Haye ~ Headteacher