



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

Welcome back to this new academic year! We are delighted with how well all the pupils have settled back into school life again and the progress that they are beginning to make already in their learning and general development. I fully appreciate and understand that this is not an easy time for everyone concerned and therefore, we are very mindful of the importance of communicating with you on a regular basis so that you are kept up to date with how school is operating and the expectations that we have of your children and of you in supporting both their learning and development. Everybody's safety is paramount in these unprecedented times and your full co-operation in this matter is vital so that we are not in a position that we have to close the school due someone being diagnosed with the virus. Please take the time at home to instil in your child the importance of high levels of hygiene so that we are all playing our part in keeping everyone safe.

Unfortunately, due to the potential risk that it poses, we are not allowing parents into the school and therefore, we will be offering our induction meetings with parents via TEAMS. If for any reason you are unable to make the meeting, we will record it so that you can listen to it when you are able to. These meetings will take place at the following times:

Sapphire Class – Monday 21st September 12.45pm – 1.30pm

Emerald Class – Tuesday 29th September 2pm – 2.45pm

Diamond Class – Thursday 24th September 1.45pm – 2.30pm

If there is anything that you are concerned about at any time, please don't hesitate to talk to myself at the gate in the morning or at the end of the day or you can email me directly but please be mindful that I will be teaching at sometimes and won't be able to respond immediately.

As it is a new school year it is important that I share with you the key priorities that we have agreed for this year and your support in helping us to achieve these would be greatly appreciated.

These are as follows:

- To continue to raise the standard in reading across the school by supporting pupils in developing an enjoyment of reading.
- To maintain our high levels of attendance and punctuality across the school.
- To continue to support and develop all pupils' learning behaviour, mental health and well-being, resilience, respect and independence through a variety of different activities and constant reinforcement of set expectations across the school.
- To continue to develop all pupils' language through a sharp focus on extending pupils' vocabulary in all aspects of their learning and developing their speaking and listening skills through exposure to a variety of different learning opportunities.
- To embed all pupils' progression in all foundation subjects (History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology, P.E. Music, French and IT) by ensuring the continuity in both the teaching and learning and retention of the knowledge and skills through a variety of different teaching strategies and thorough planning.

We are looking forward to having another very successful year at St. John's School. Have a lovely weekend and hopefully the sun will keep shining for a little longer.

With our very best wishes,

Sue Notley

Headteacher

I am sure you will appreciate the complexity and challenges that the school face at this particular time to ensure that we are taking every measure possible to keep you child safe. It is important that we are working together to achieve this.

Here are some important rules, which we need all parents to follow, in order to keep children, staff and parents safe. **We rely on every parent to follow our procedures so that things run as smoothly and safely as possible.**

Parents will not be permitted to go to the school office at any time.

Please ring if you need to speak to someone.

Therefore, it is essential that you adhere to the following expectations if your child is returning to St. John's School.

- There is an expectation from the school that if you are sending your child to school, that you are agreeing to have your child tested if he/she shows symptoms of the virus, otherwise your child cannot attend school.
- Please note that if your child presents with any symptoms of the coronavirus, they must stay at home and should self-isolate as per Government guidelines. In addition to this, if they show any signs of being unwell, whatever they are that they should stay at home. You will need to inform the school of this.
- It is important that everyone fully understands that this is a public health crisis and any child presenting with cold like symptoms will not be allowed into school unless they take a Covid -19 test and can evidence a negative test.
- Only one adult will be allowed to drop off their child and collect. (Please arrange this in advance, so that we do not have to remind anyone at the gate). If a different adult is collecting, please inform the school in advance.
- All parents will maintain social distancing of 2 metres at all times. This includes your child too, markers will be displayed to help with this outside of the school.
- Please be prompt for drop off and pick up. Please also keep a 2 metre distance if you are waiting on the pavement outside the school. Parents must not congregate together outside or on the school site. Our measures have been put in place for everyone's safety.
- We will be taking every child's temperature as they come into school. If they do have a high temperature they will go straight home.
- Please talk to your children before they come back into school about the importance of hand washing, social distancing and the importance of listening to instructions given by adults in school.
- To minimise risk of contamination, please only bring in blue book bags.
- No scooters or bikes will be allowed on the premises – please keep them at home.

- To ensure safety for all concerned, can you please arrive at the correct time (observing the social distancing measures that are put in place for dropping off and collecting), as we are trying to stagger the entry and dismissal times. Could you please collect your child at the correct time also as stated on the weekly schedule.

With our very best wishes

Sue Notley

Headteacher

DIAMOND CLASS

Both Ms. Chebbi and I are absolutely delighted with how well all pupils in Diamond Class have settled back into a very different type of St. John's School. I am especially pleased with the Year 3 pupils as we fully recognise that this is a really big change for them; they are really stepping up to the mark which is so encouraging to see at this very early stage. This afternoon we had a lovely time in Hillyfields as a treat for the class for completing an excellent week. I am looking forward to our meeting on **Thursday the 24th September at 1.45pm** when I will explain how Diamond Class will work but in the meantime I have outlined below what the expectations for homework are and some general information that I thought would be helpful for you to know:

Homework: Due to COVID-19 we have had to make several changes here in order to keep everyone safe but nevertheless homework is a really important part of a child's learning and we really need all parents support with this. Homework will always be differentiated to ensure that the level of challenge provided will be correct for your child and matches what is being taught in your child's group. The big difference this year is that only reading books are to be brought back weekly but no completed homework is to be returned to school due to potential risk that this poses. All homework will be given to your child on a **Wednesday** and will be expected back to be completed by the following **Wednesday**. If your child doesn't complete the set homework, then they will have to complete it in Catch Up Club on Thursday. We will know very quickly whether pupils are completing their homework at home as all pupils are going to be in daily reading groups so we will be listening to every child read daily and quickly assess whether they are reading at home daily or not. Spellings will be tested on a Wednesday and again we will be able to assess who is learning these daily as well. Daily Maths sessions are very heavily supported and we can tell very quickly if a child is learning their times tables and Mr. Law will be assessing the My Maths homework being completed weekly.

Spellings: Your child will also be given a copy of their spellings on Wednesday and they will need to know them for a test the following Wednesday.

Times Tables: All pupils are signed up on Times Tables Rock Star and will be expected to practise their times tables Monday to Friday. By the end of Year 4, it is a national requirement that children know their times tables and therefore, it is really important that quality time is devoted to this.

Reading: Reading in Key Stage Two is fundamental and is a key priority across the school this year. It is essential that parents take the time to listen to their child read daily so that you are able to support them but also question them on their understanding of what they have read. The really big change for pupils moving into Key Stage Two is that they are now reading to learn, therefore, checking their reading comprehension is really crucial and quality time spent on this will really benefit your child. Children will be given enough reading material to last for a week and they are expected to read for at least twenty minutes from Monday to Friday. As we are trying to reduce the risk of contamination, we will no reading will now be completed on TEAMS.

Book Bags: Every child is required to have a blue book bag and only needs to be brought into school on Wednesday for them to return their reading books and take home their reading material for the week. It is essential that no other homework comes back into school due to the potential risk of contamination.

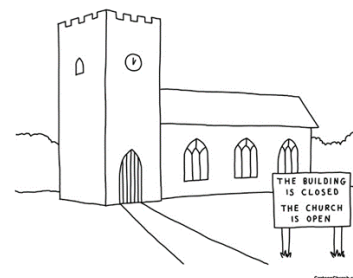
P.E: These will take place on a **Monday** and **Thursday** and an outdoor learning activity on **Friday**, we expect that your child will come into school on those days in their PE kit.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything that you would like to discuss or if you have any concerns.

Susan Notley and Asma Chebbi



A message to follow from Fr Peter



Thank you

Thank you to all parents for your extremely generous gifts and cards at the end of term – it was really appreciated.

Date List for Autumn Term 2020

September		
Monday 21	TEAMS Induction Meeting—Sapphire Class	12.45— 1.30pm
Thursday 24	TEAMS Induction Meeting—Diamond Class	1.45— 2.30pm
Tuesday 29	TEAMS Induction Meeting—Emerald Class	2.00— 2.45pm
October		
Thursday 1	International Poetry Day—Paul Lyalls, Poet to work with all pupils	
Monday 5—Friday 9	Bikeability all week—Emerald Class	
Monday 26—Friday 30	HALF TERM	
November		
Friday 27	INSET DAY	
December		
Friday 18	END OF AUTUMN TERM	1.30pm

Teams/Online Safety

This week, I would like to really emphasise the importance of online safety when using apps. As you may have heard, over the last week or so, there has been a circulation of videos on social media platforms such as Facebook and news in the media about some very unpleasant and quite explicit videos being posted on TikTok. An example of such is provided here - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54069650>. I really cannot stress enough the importance and significance that all parents/carers are fully aware with what your child is accessing when online and what content they are viewing. **Please do take the time to view the following link - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>.** This is a great link from the NSPCC which has been carefully designed to give parents/carers tips and advice to help ensure that your child is as safe as possible when online.

James Stringer.

Term Dates for 2020/2021

AUTUMN	2020
INSET DAY	Thursday 3 September & Friday 4 September
Starts	Monday 7 September
Half-term	Monday 26 October—Friday 30 October
INSET DAY	Friday 27 November
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 18 December
Bank Holiday	Friday 25 & Monday 28 December

SPRING	2021
INSET DAY	Monday 4 January
Starts	Tuesday 5 January
Half-term	Monday 15 Feb -Friday 19 February
Ends (1.30pm)	Thursday 1 April

SUMMER	2021
Starts	Monday 19 April
Half-term	Monday 31 May—Friday 4 June
Ends (1.30pm)	Friday 23 July
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 May & Monday 31 May
INSET DAY	Friday 25 June

SAPPHIRE CLASS

Firstly, I would like to wish everybody a new academic year. I look forward to working with you all. Thank you to all parents/carers in July for your really kind and generous gifts – as always, they were greatly appreciated! I must first of all say how impressed and amazed myself, Mrs Creed and Ms Dall'Aglia have all been with how well every pupil in Sapphire Class! Everybody has come back with a fantastic work ethic and attitude, which has allowed us to have a very productive week in PSHE, Maths and Literacy! **Please see the 'Latest News' part of the website where I have posted photos for you to see!** I have been so amazed with how well Year 1 have adapted to the changes of being in Sapphire Class. They have responded so well to the class procedures and expectations and it has been a real delight to see just how they have settled in considering how big of a change the transition from Ruby Class into Sapphire Class is – they should be extremely proud of themselves. All children have been fantastic in adhering to the safety procedures we have across the school in order to keep everybody safe, so well done everyone! Finally, I look forward to our virtual Teams meeting on **Monday 21st September at 12:45 – 1:30pm** when I will explain in more detail how Sapphire Class is going to work this academic year. Have a lovely, restful weekend.

James Stringer and Tracey Hargate.

RUBY CLASS

The first newsletter of the school year is always a little different for us in Ruby Class because our children have not started yet! However, we have been very busy preparing for our new children to arrive and next Wednesday and Thursday afternoon we are holding 'stay and play' sessions for our new reception children (the nursery session is on the 28th of September) We are really looking forward to meeting all our new children and their families and welcoming them into Ruby Class and to St John's School. Meanwhile Ms Dall'Aglia and I have been working in Sapphire class with Mr Stringer helping to support our 'old Ruby's' as they begin the next part of their learning journey in Year 1. It has been so lovely to see the children so enthusiastic and excited to be back at school and they have all grown so tall!

On behalf of The Early Years team can I also say thank you for all your kind wishes, cards and gifts we received at the end of the term, it was an absolute pleasure to have taught your children and to have worked with you all.

Have a lovely weekend, take care.

Pat Creed & Elena Dall'Aglia

pat.creed@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

EMERALD CLASS

It has been truly fantastic how everybody in Emerald class has adapted to all the new procedures in place. The children have settled down to their work extremely well considering some have not been in school since March. In maths we have been looking at a range of topics linked to number including place value, rounding numbers and finding missing numbers in addition and subtraction calculations. After wiping away the cobwebs, we have really picked up towards the end of the week and have produced some pleasing work. Please make sure your child continues to use 'Timestables Rockstars' to practise their timestables as they are crucial in all the maths this year. In English we have been looking at the Ancient Mayan myth 'The Legend of the Dwarf' the children writing some great diary entries as the mysterious old lady in the story. Please make sure your child wears their PE kit on a Tuesday and Friday and school uniform on the other days. As you may well know we are trying out a new reading record on Teams, please could you encourage your child to complete the sheet each evening, I have shown them how to access the file but if there are any problems please let me know. I hope you have a relaxing weekend and stay safe. Mr Law & Mr Ezel

CALL US

If you're worried about yourself
or someone else

FREE PHONE

0800 923 9009

Domestic Abuse – Help and Support



Barnet, Enfield and Haringey **NHS**
Mental Health NHS Trust

School Nursing Service Single Point of Access

Schools are closed at the moment and things are a bit different but the school nursing team are still here to help. The team can advise and support on any general health concerns for 5-19 year olds including behaviour, bedwetting, keeping healthy, anxiety, sexual health or on long term medical conditions

Who are we? A team of specialist community public health practitioners (School Nursing), qualified nurses with additional training and qualified nursery nurses with expertise in child development and behaviour.

When? 9am-4pm Monday-Friday.

Who can contact us?
Children/ young people,
parents/ carers, school staff
and other professionals

How can we contact?

Tel: 0208 702 6184

beh-tr.CedarSN@nhs.net