

24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

No 37

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

We have hardly had time to catch our breath as we hurtle towards the end of our school year. There have been so many memorable moments! Year 2 were superstars in their **maypole dancing**, it took a lot of concentration and co-ordination to make it look so easy! Year 1 performed their version of '**You Can Count on Me**' and put Bruno Mars to shame, well done for such amazing team work and a particular well done to Miss Hill for rising to the challenge of learning how to play the ukulele for the song after being inspired by a school visit, a great growth mindset!

Sports Day was a roaring success and the bucket and sponge finale race will most definitely be repeated next year! Your children displayed great sportsmanship in supporting each other in their successes and in achieving personal bests. The families should be commended too for their bravery in taking part. What a fantastic team spirit all round.



What a better way to finish the year than by celebrating our achievements and successes. Thank you so much again for taking the time to fill in feedback questionnaires. Your feedback was **overwhelmingly positive** with **ALL parents** recommending the school to another parent and the vast majority strongly agreeing with this statement! You have told us that we have many **strengths** (above 80% strong agreement) that are highlighted in green and listed below which relate to **safeguarding and pupil well-being** as well as **links with the community** and the **impact of our Christian values and ethos**.

My child is happy in school

My child feels safe at this school

My child is well looked after at this school

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| The school has good links with the church and local community  |
| The school gives opportunity for my child to have a rich spiritual, moral, social and cultural Education |
| I have a good understanding of the school's values that underpin our Christian ethos                     |

Our **area for development** (above 10% disagreement statements) is related to improving information from the school about your child's progress.' We can quickly address this as we have been thinking ahead about improving our communication with parents and have already signed up for a new school app called '**Marvellous Me**' that allows us to send positive messages home related to curriculum, learning, attendance, school values, school events and so much more. Parents will be able to download the app to their phone and receive individual or group messages about their child from teachers and other staff. We feel that this will be a more personalised and positive way to communicate with you and will be asking for your feedback so that we can review how well it is being received.



More information is available on the 'Marvellous Me' website:

'Marvellous Me is free for parents, it tells you about the wonderful things that your child is learning, and pings you when they've been praised for good work, a great character skill, or received school rewards. It makes you smile, feel proud, and inspires better home learning support and encouragement. It enriches family conversations about school and makes it easy for parents to help their children's education and say: 'Well done!' Plus, it helps you to stay on top of homework, events and other school tasks. You'll get exciting alerts if you use it on your smartphone or tablet.'

Leaver's service is always a highlight of the year despite the meaning that some of us are moving on; our role is to ensure these little learners are ready to go with open hearts and enquiring minds. That they are confident to make choices and celebrate the learning gained from making mistakes. To take with them their learning tools that ensure they are lifelong learners. We wish them every success in the future and they are always welcome back. We were supported in our service today by Mrs Rosanna Cole and Mrs Myra Johnson - as much as Reverend Clare wished to be with us, she is not yet fully recovered from her illness. We do miss her very dearly and wish to send our thoughts and prayers to her for a swift recovery. *She has asked that we pass on that 'due to her illness it is with much regret that this year's holiday club planned for August has had to be cancelled. Apologies for any disappointment caused.'*

As we reflect back on the last year we feel very proud of our school. The children and adults have worked together despite a number of changes to make our community thrive. As a leadership team we will continue to work hard and collaborate with other schools to make sure we are the very best we can be.

Have a fantastic summer! See most of you in September.

**Mrs Stevens**      &      **Mrs Bliss**  
Head of School      Executive Head

Our value for this half-term is:      **Friendship**  
*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 'Two are better than one, if one falls down, his friend can help him up.'*

# St John's Infant School

## Parents' Questionnaire January 2019



| No | Question   | Agree strongly | Agree | Disagree | Disagree strongly | Don't know |
|----|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| 1  | My child is happy in school  | 81%            | 19%   |          |                   |            |
| 2  | My child feels safe at this school   | 85%            | 15%   |          |                   |            |
| 3  | My child is well looked after at this school   | 85%            | 15%   |          |                   |            |
| 4  | This school deals effectively with bullying  | 35%            | 23%   |          |                   | 42%        |
| 5  | This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved   | 58%            | 42%   |          |                   |            |
| 6  | My child is taught well at this school   | 54%            | 42%   |          |                   | 4%         |
| 7  | My child is making good progress   | 73%            | 23%   | 4%       |                   |            |
| 8  | My child receives appropriate homework for their age   | 42%            | 46%   | 4%       |                   | 8%         |
| 9  | This school meets my child's particular needs  | 62%            | 38%   |          |                   |            |
| 10 | This school helps me to support my child's learning  | 46%            | 64%   |          |                   |            |
| 11 | I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress                                 | 31%            | 58%   | 11%      |                   |            |
| 12 | There is good communication between school and parents   | 46%            | 50%   | 4%       |                   |            |
| 13 | Would you recommend this school to another parent?   | 81%            | 19%   |          |                   |            |
| 14 | This school is well led and managed  | 65%            | 31%   | 4%       |                   |            |
| 15 | The Headteachers (Head of School / Executive Head) are approachable and open                             | 69%            | 31%   |          |                   |            |
| 16 | The school is forward looking and keen to continually improve  | 61%            | 35%   |          |                   | 4%         |
| 17 | The school has good links with the church and local community  | 85%            | 15%   |          |                   |            |
| 18 | The school gives opportunity for my child to have a rich spiritual, moral, social and cultural Education | 81%            | 19%   |          |                   |            |
| 19 | I have a good understanding of the school's values that underpin our Christian ethos                     | 81%            | 19%   |          |                   |            |



  
 Elstead & Villages  
 Sure Start Children's Centre

## The Parenting Puzzle

Raising children can be puzzling at times, but puzzles have solutions....



Our next course is on the:  
 10/11th and 24/25th Sept @ 9.30–11.30am  
 Elstead & Villages Children's Centre  
 GU8 6DH

The *Parenting Puzzle* Nurturing Programme is a 4 week course that encourages and supports parents and carers to enjoy bringing up children of all ages and helps them get the best out of family life.

It offers positive, practical ways of guiding children so that they learn to handle both their feelings and their behaviour.

Please contact us for details or to book  
 T:01252 706915  
 E:ccoutreach@st-james-elstead.surrey.sch.uk

There is a suggested voluntary contribution of £2 per week to cover costs of a course book and refreshments









## Akuma Beavers Charity Cricket Day

In aid of Shooting Star Children's Hospice


Sunday 28th July @Churt CC  
 Arrive by 12:30, £2 Entry


What's going on?

-  Face painting
-  Music
-  BBQ
-  Raffle
-  Kids games with prizes



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### School Catering Assistant Vacancy

The position of School Catering Assistant plays an important part in the school day by serving the children with healthy and nutritious food, allowing them to be focussed and helping each one to fulfil their full potential.

Helping prepare and serve food is just one aspect of this varied role. Setting up the dining area i.e. tables/chairs, serving children and assisting with cleaning duties are all part of a typical day's work.

You will need to be an enthusiastic person with good customer service skills who can communicate with colleagues and customers alike, so your friendly disposition will have every opportunity to shine.

The position is term time only which provides the flexibility you may also need around other commitments.

Previous experience would be great but not essential as full training will be provided along with the opportunity to join the Local Government Pension scheme.

#### Salary & Working Hours:

10.00 hours per week from 11.30am to 1.30pm per day our hourly rate will be £9.00.

#### About the Team:

The team at St John's is small, being one caterer and one catering assistant. Working closely together they take pride in the quality of the food provided.

If you would like more information about this job, please phone the District Catering Manager, Sue Hattley for an informal chat on 07968834420

To apply, please log on to [www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs) and search in job category for 'Catering', you will see an advert titled "Catering Assistants Surrey-wide Register of Interest". Follow the instructions to apply for this and other local vacancies.

## Free and fun-filled summer holiday activities for families with children under 5



| Activity  | Date and time  | Location                                   | Is Booking Required? |
|---|--|--|----------------------|
| <b>Alice Holt - Ranger in a bag</b><br>Come along and join us, as we venture through Alice Holt Woods with our backpack full of activities and fun.                           | Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July<br>10am - 12pm (approx.) | Alice Holt Forest                          | Yes                  |
| <b>Baby Group</b><br>22nd July - sing & sign session<br>29 <sup>th</sup> July - beach theme<br>5 <sup>th</sup> August - Indoor garden<br>12 <sup>th</sup> August - messy play | Mondays<br>1.30 - 2.30pm                                 | EVSSCC<br>GU8 6DH                          | No                   |
| <b>Hartbeeps</b><br>Join us for some musical, magical fun with Hartbeeps  | Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> July<br>10am - 11am              | Elstead Youth Club<br>GU8 6DG              | Yes                  |
| <b>Mess Around</b><br>Come along dressed for mess!  | Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July<br>10am - 11am           | Wrecclesham<br>Community Centre<br>GU9 8TJ | Yes                  |
| <b>MAD Academy</b><br>Join in with music, movement, rhythm and dance!   | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10am - 11am             | Elstead Village Hall<br>GU8 6DG            | Yes                  |
| <b>Play and Learn</b><br>Activity to be confirmed   | Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10.00am - 11.00am    | Wrecclesham<br>Community Centre<br>GU9 8TJ | Yes                  |
| <b>Yoga with Sport 4 Kids</b><br>Join us for children to learn basic yoga poses whilst playing and having fun   | Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10am - 11am            | Elstead Youth Club<br>GU8 6DG              | Yes                  |
| <b>Sport 4 Kids - Multi-sport</b><br>Super hero themed sporty fun!<br>Encouraging children's confidence, motor skills, coordination and physical development!                 | Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10.30am - 11.30am   | Wrecclesham<br>Community Centre<br>GU9 8TJ | Yes                  |

For more information contact us:

T: 01252 706915

E: [ccadvice@st-james-elstead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:ccadvice@st-james-elstead.surrey.sch.uk)

W: [EVSSCC.org.uk](http://EVSSCC.org.uk)



elstead & villages children's centre



Boundstone, Brook, Churt, Dockenfield, Elstead, Frensham, Lower Bourne,  
Rowledge, Shortheath, The Bourne, Tilford, Thursley, Wrecclesham

*The aim of the children's centre is to improve: child development and school readiness; child and family health and life chances; parenting aspirations and parenting skills.*