

18th January 2019

No 16

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

The children at St John's have had an amazing week of learning; as we have moved about the school we have seen such enthusiastic learners. Whether they have been exploring the wonders of God's world, multiples of 2 or sharing information about Georgia O'Keefe they were using their learning tools effectively.

We had a record number of children in the golden book as we celebrated their displays of love and compassion around the school. Well done everyone we shall look forward to more each week. We also all learned about the 'Invisible String' that joins us to the ones we love no matter how far away they are; what a fantastic message about the importance of love!

We have been looking closely at your valued feedback through the most recent parent questionnaire; we have a lot to celebrate! They were overwhelmingly supportive and incredibly positive, which is very affirming. They also give a good idea of what to focus on in our school improvement plan. We had 53 responses in total (some electronically using Survey Monkey), here are the main highlights:

100% of parents agreed that the school was a good school, that their child was happy here, that St. John's is a safe place for their child and that they are well taught, that the staff and governors are approachable and they are made to feel welcome, that the school deals effectively with bullying and that the staff take an interest in their children. **100% of parents** also felt that the school had good community links, including links with the Church, that they had a good understanding of our values and felt we took a balanced approach and provided an all-round education. The majority of these responses were in the strongly agree category.

98% of parents agreed that the school had high expectations of behaviour which was linked to our Christian values, that the school meets their child's needs, that they receive appropriate homework, that they can easily contact the class teacher and other staff and that the school helps them to support their child's learning.

96% of parents agreed that their child makes good progress and they were happy with the school facilities and children's access to technology at school.

94% of parents agreed that the school is well equipped and innovative and they receive valued information about their child's progress and upcoming events.

92% of parents agreed that the communication at the school is good

90% of parents agreed that there was a good range of after school clubs and wrap around care.

It is clear that parents feel that we have many strengths in relation to ethos, teaching, curriculum, community links and approachability which means they feel their child is safe, happy and successful. Great news!

Although the vast majority of our responses were positive, some parents feel that we could improve communication, after school clubs and wrap around care and we will endeavour to improve these areas. We will continue to send out a weekly newsletter which will be posted on the website and when it is in our control

give you as much notice as we can about up-coming events. We will also investigate other ways to improve communication.

We have collated your responses for the final part of the questionnaire into a 'wordle' below so that we can see at a glance what you liked about the school, but we couldn't resist including one response to, 'The BEST thing about the school is "It feels like a warm hug!"



Our aim is to make sure we continue to provide all of the above so that children are keen and eager to be here and learn! Please can we ask you to help us by working hard to keep your child's attendance as high as it possibly can be! There is clear evidence that higher attendance is an indicator of higher attainment and we know how hard it is for children to catch up after any prolonged absence. Requests for absences during school term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances as dictated by the government. Please also be aware that for our Year 2 children statutory end of key stage testing will be happening during the month of May so they will need to be in school during that period.

In the interest of keeping everyone safe please may we remind you to use the pedestrian gate at the front of the school when entering the school site. We regularly have vehicles legitimately using the car park. You should also proceed with caution when crossing the car park entrance at these busy times of the day.

May we please remind everyone that PE kits should be in school every day - they definitely need outdoor PE kits every Monday.

We are delighted to announce each class will participate in a Chinese dance workshop on January 29th to begin the global celebrations for **Chinese New Year**.

Although it does not seem that snow is imminent, we are certainly feeling the cold. Just a reminder that in the event of any severe weather including snow, we will be informing you about school opening through the website and Eagle FM, the local radio station, as soon as we can that morning. We will aim to do this before 7.30 a.m. but it may take a little time to gather our staff information.

Other diary dates are listed below but also available on the events section of the news and events tab on our website.

Have a great weekend.

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

Dates box:

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 5 Feb	2.30pm	Fox Class Assembly + "Stay & Share" in the hall - all Fox Class parents welcome
Wednesday 6 Feb		Year 1 Trip to Milestones Museum
Wednesday 6 Feb	2.30pm	Badger Class Assembly + "Stay & Share" in the hall - all Badger Class parents welcome
Friday 15 Feb		End of half-term - school finishes at 3.00pm
Monday, 18 - Friday, 22 Feb		HALF TERM
Monday, 4 - Friday, 8 Mar		BOOK WEEK
Tuesday 5 March	3.00pm - 4.00pm	PTA Event - Pancakes in the School Hall
Thursday 7 March		World Book Day
Friday 8 March		MUFTI DAY Children to come to school dressed as a book character (further details to follow)
Sunday 10 March	TBC	PTA Event - Bunny Fun Run for all years Churt Recreation Ground
Tuesday 12 March	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 13 March	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 15 March		Comic Relief Day - further details to follow
Thursday 21 March	1.00pm - 2.45pm	Dress Rehearsal for Farnham Festival at South Farnham Infant School - further details to follow
Thursday 28 March	5pm	Farnham Festival - Farnham Maltings
Monday 25 to 29 March		School/Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 29 March	2.30pm 3.00pm - 3.35pm	Mother's Day Assembly in hall - all welcome Choir finishes
Monday 1 April	3.00pm - 4.00pm	SportsKids Club finishes
Tuesday 2 April	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Cookery Club finishes

Wednesday 3 April	3.00pm - 3.45pm	Spanish Club finishes
Thursday 4 April	3.00pm - 4.00pm 3.00pm - 4.15pm	Art Club finishes Football club finishes
Friday 5 April	9.00am 2.00pm	Easter Service in St John's Church - Last day of Spring Term School closes for the Easter break
Tuesday 23 April	8.30am	First day of the Summer Term



Happy Language Learning



Winners from 2014-2018!

Best Licensed Activity for Children
Aged 5-12 Years

Award Winning Spanish Language Classes!

¡Adelante! Spanish for All teaches the award-winning La Jolie Ronde Spanish language programmes to all ages at St John's C of E Infant School on Wednesdays from 3pm until 3.45pm. Classes involve songs, games, stories, rhymes, and role plays, and are a fun-filled way to get children engaged and learning a new language.

To book a place for your child or if you would like more information, please email nicola@adelantespanish.co.uk.

¡Gracias!



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