



All Saints Primary School Newsletter

February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

I cannot believe we are heading towards half term already! The time has flown by in the general 'busyness' of school life! We have welcomed Tyler Gold and Thea Adam into Year 3 and we hope they have a lovely time at our school. We have been enjoying our 'Out of this World!' learning and we are very pleased with the response to our community learning evening tonight entitled 'Comets and Cocoa' organised by Miss Newman. We are lucky to have secured the services of Richard Miles who is a member of British Astronomical Association. So if you have been interested in the adventures of Tim Peake come along and be inspired!

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of you who have supported Tuck Shop so well with lots of donations towards this venture. I think this may be the most profitable year ever!!

Thank you also for the response to having the correct and plain (non branded) PE kit in school. The children have been enjoying their games sessions with Mr Noyce and lunchtime training sessions run by Miss Newman and Miss Scott whilst looking very smart. Please ensure there is a plastic bag available for muddy boots!!

School Council along with Mrs Kellaway have been working very hard to ensure that lunchtimes at All Saints are calm and happy. Everyday Mrs Jackson and Mrs Davey award children who they have noticed demonstrating our values. I would like to thank Giorgia, Leanne, Oscar Langford, Dominic, Sophie and Isobel for demonstrating All Saints' values at lunchtimes on several occasions. These are: showing respect, using the correct voice level, helping others and having very good table manners. They were rewarded with a special lunch in the library with extra treats including one of Miss Scott's delicious cakes! Our Bronze Ambassadors- Harry, Trinity and Dominic have also worked on making outside play engaging and fun. They organise Play Leaders each day who in turn run activities for younger children.

Our Sports Teams have been very impressive this term with our netball team holding its own despite very few Year 6 players. Our football team are celebrating two consecutive wins against St Mary's, Bradford Abbas and Thornford School! Huge thanks to team coaches Miss Newman for Netball and Miss Scott for Football and to our wonderful team players. Well done everyone!

PUPIL PREMIUM

Did you know that children from households with lower incomes may be entitled to free school meals and 'Pupil Premium' which is additional government funding given to schools to support your child? It is important to note that even if you do not use the free school meal allowance, the school will still benefit from additional financial support, so we really urge you to apply if you think you could be eligible.

All children with parents who are claiming one of the following benefits are eligible for this entitlement:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

- Child Tax Credit but who are not entitled to working tax credit and whose annual income does not exceed £16,190
- Guarantee element of state pension credit

Applying for this support is simple and takes seconds. You can either apply on-line at www.dorsetforyou.com/369746 or by telephoning Dorset County Council on 01305 221000. You will need your name, National Insurance Number and your child's date of birth and you will be told immediately if you are eligible and the next steps in the process will be confirmed.

SCHOOL DATES

Each term we supply you with a comprehensive 'Calendar of Events' for the term ahead. Please look through them and put important dates in your diaries! Please also note the few events that extend beyond the school day but to which a commitment is required. Currently Miss Davies is working with Sapphires Class as a choir to perform at the 'Youth Makes Music' concert in Sherborne on the evening of 9th March. We kindly ask that you support these events that enrich school provision and help children to develop a sense of pride in the school. All Saints has always been lucky to secure very high levels of support for such events in the past and we would like this to continue.

Unfortunately due to a variety of factors, it is inevitable that there will be some changes to dates from time to time. Therefore we ask that you check our website calendar which is kept up to date of any changes. We also provide a weekly 'What's On' which will include any updates.

SAFEGUARDING

February 8th was Safer Internet Day and Sapphires class had a presentation about online safety. Please take some time to consider the issues and read the flyer sent home alerting of the dangers of the Internet and our role in helping our children remain safe.

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils please contact the school to speak to Anne Crumpler who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The safety of our children is the responsibility of us all.

MISSING IPADS

The missing iPads reported just before Christmas unfortunately prompted a police investigation. Whilst it is sad to report that we did lose the iPads from school as a result of theft, I am very pleased to let you know that the issue has been fully resolved and the iPads will be safely returned to school. Please rest assured that no-one from our school community of Children, Staff, Parents or Governors was involved in this theft. School Governors have undertaken a full review of school security and systems have been improved.

A couple of regular reminders...

ATTENDANCE

It is vitally important that your child attends school regularly to ensure they access their education fully. We will not authorise term time holidays unless in exceptional circumstances. The Department for Education now stipulate that **below 90% attendance** is unacceptable in any school year and that schools should respond proactively with families whose attendance falls below this level. We will always be open to supporting families who request help with their child's attendance.

SNACKS and LUNCHES

Please remember that we are a Healthy School and that only fruit or vegetable 'snack' food is allowed for break time. Children up to Year 2 receive a fruit or vegetable snack from school.

Sweets and chocolate are not permitted in children's lunchboxes, please save them for home time. Thank you for respecting this.

After the break we have Book Week to look forward to, starting on 29th February when we will be inviting two authors into school to inspire the children. In addition we will be hosting our Book Fair along with Books at Bedtime, Book Character dress up day and all the usual book related activities.

Everyone at All Saints wishes you a great half term next week,
Anne Crumpler