



All Saints Primary School Newsletter

June 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to our last half term of the year. It has all flown by so fast!

We were immensely proud of our Year 6 children as they completed their National Curriculum assessments before half term. They all put in 100% effort and came to school with a positive attitude determined to be the best they can be. (Thank you to Mrs Kellaway for making the week so special with hot chocolate, bacon sandwiches and pains aux chocolats!) The tests, of course will **not** measure the quality Year 6 have added to our school, the goals they have scored or the lengths they have swum; the music they have made and the songs they have sung. They will not measure how they gave up lunchtimes to help younger pupils or how they have organised events for charity. All the staff at All Saints already know that they are amazing young people and have loved seeing them grow, learn and develop the resilience to face the next steps on their learning journey. Our brilliant Yr6 are now looking forward to a very special time in their primary career – the outdoor adventure trip to Weymouth, the musical performance at The Gateway all leading to their Leavers' Service when we will celebrate them all as the inspiring youngsters they are.

We are looking forward to welcoming into our school our new children for Reception next year as they begin their visits to All Saints ready to start their journey with us in September.

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE ON ATTENDANCE

We wish to ensure that every child has the best possible opportunity to achieve their full potential and make excellent progress during their time in school and we are really pleased that from 2011 attendance at All Saints Primary School has steadily risen. However this year we are seeing a rise again in unauthorised absences and the Governors have asked that I reinforce the reasons for good attendance.

All data related to attendance figures from our own school, schools in general and the government analysis, tells us just one thing. This is that children with good attendance achieve more in school and make better progress than children who miss school on a frequent basis. Setting good attendance patterns from an early age helps children develop resilience and work ethic.

Please remember there are 365 days in the year. 175 of these are non-school days - time to spend on shopping, appointments and family holidays.

Our policy states that All Saints Primary, or any school within the Sherborne Schools Partnership, will not authorise any leave of absence for holidays or similar activities during term time. Obviously we recognise that there are sometimes exceptional circumstances that require parents/carers to take their child/ren out of school for short periods. An application form for leave of absence in exceptional circumstances needs to be completed to obtain authorisation from the Headteacher.

We recognise our responsibility to encourage regular attendance at All Saints Primary School and do so in the following ways:

- by providing a caring and welcoming learning environment
- by responding promptly to a child's or parent's concerns about the school or other children
- by providing regular attendance statistics
- by celebrating good and improved attendance - weekly presentation of 'Tous le Temps' for the class with the best attendance, end of term Attendance Awards for children achieving 97+% and 100% attendance.

- Through regular newsletter articles.
- by monitoring children, informing parents/carers in writing of irregular attendance, arranging meetings to support with them if necessary and referring the family to the Early Intervention Team if the irregular attendance continues.

PENALTY NOTICES

Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities.

Children's Services, acting on behalf of Dorset County Council may issue a Penalty Notice as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school and requires the recipient to pay a fixed amount.

7.2 The amount payable on issue of a Penalty Notice is £60 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of receipt of the notice.

7.3.1 A Penalty Notice may be issued to parents/carers who are failing to secure their child's regular school attendance and are failing to engage with supportive measures to improve attendance proposed by the school or Early Intervention Services.

7.3.2 Where a child is taken out of school for a holiday during term time for 5 days or more without the authority of the head teacher, each parent is liable to receive a penalty notice for each child. In these circumstances, a warning will not be given where it can be shown that parents had previously been warned that such absences would not be authorised.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2015 - please encourage your children to take part!

How the Record Breakers Reading Challenge- will work (The promotion will run from Saturday 11 July to Saturday 12 September in Dorset Public Libraries, Mobile Libraries and Community Managed Libraries)

- Children join the Challenge at their local library/ mobile/community managed library by filling in a registration card and collecting a Record Breakers fold out poster.
 - As the children read six books they will be collect stickers to stick onto their poster.
 - On reading six books and completing the Challenge the children will qualify for a medal which will be given to them in the library. A personalised certificate will be sent to their school for presentation. We will despatch early October.
 - In addition the Summer Reading Challenge website which is live all year will be given a make over for the Challenge and offers a great range of information, useful links, activities and games to compliment the challenge. www.recordbreakers.org.uk
 - In addition, children can explore Wood of Words www.woodofwords.org a place where children and adults can explore the magical world of children's books. Children will need their Dorset Library card to log on and join in the many activities on offer.
 - All Dorset Libraries will have a prominent display of books, posters and book reviews by the children.
- RECORD BREAKERS** - As part of this year's Summer Reading Challenge, libraries across the country will be attempting to set a Guinness World Records title for the greatest number of people making a pledge or promise related to reading.

To set this record we are asking children and their families to make a pledge or promise about reading by completing a special Record Breakers pledge card.

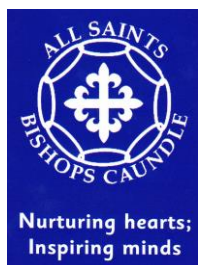
Pledges can be made at selected libraries during normal opening hours on **Saturday 11th July**

- **For a child:** *Visit the library and read over the summer.*
- **For an adult:** *Encourage people they know to read with children this summer.*

Details of libraries taking part in this exciting Guinness World Record attempt may be found on our website www.dorsetforyou.com/libraries

STAFFING

Mrs Harris has been absent from school recently whilst undergoing some medical treatment. I would like to let you know that all is going well but she will not be able to return to work for a further few weeks. We all send our best wishes to her. From September 2015 Mrs Harris has decided to reduce her hours and will be working in the afternoons only.



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As Miss Hosegood's contract comes to an end in July she will be leaving All Saints for a new opportunity at Leweston School. Miss Hosegood has been a lovely teacher for Diamonds Class and we would like to thank her for all her hard work here whilst wishing her much success in her new role.

Miss Paige Markham has been appointed as a permanent new teacher for All Saints and you may get to meet her at Sports Day. We are currently recruiting another teacher to cover Mrs Regan whilst she is on maternity leave and until this post is filled, we are unable to share the school structure and staffing allocations for September.

SWIMMING

Swimming has got off to a great start and our lucky children have access to two swimming clubs in addition to their daily swimming thanks to four members of staff who are willing to give freely extra time to make maximum use of the pool. It is such a great asset to our school and the children make unbelievable progress due to the daily sessions. Please can all donations towards the cost of running this facility come in to school at the earliest opportunity.

TUCK SHOP

The weekly tuck shop is held to help raise funds for the Year 6 residential trip in which we hope that all our children will take part. Year 6 traditionally run the tuck shop and are very grateful for any contributions received for this. However we are currently not receiving enough to enable us to hold a tuck shop. You can appreciate the difficulties of selling out so some children do not get the opportunity to buy a cake! We would like to encourage our children in Year 6 to please get baking!

SUMMER EVENTS

We have much still to look forward to at All Saints, not least of which is Sports Day on Friday starting at 1pm. The forecast is looking good – please remember that children wear a t shirt in their team's colour, a sun hat and sun cream if necessary. Please remember - everyone is welcome!

Also please support:

All Saints' Got Talent – 12th June where our children will showcase their talents and inspire us all!

The Pop Up Restaurant at Stourton Caundle planned and organised by some very supportive parents to raise funds for our school – 19th June.

The Summer Fair on the evening of 3rd July. ASSA are working very hard to provide us with a wonderful family event. Please invite any members of our community along too.

Further details of all these events can be found on our website.

We continue to be grateful for all the support we get from our families in order for us to provide the very best for our children. We are also lucky to have such a committed and dedicated staff at All Saints who are devoted to ensuring our children have such a rich variety of learning experiences.

With best wishes,

Anne Crumpler