



# St. John's CE Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

### November 2017



#### **HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME**

For over two years now, the school has issued the same advice regarding term time holidays. Following instructions from the government, we are no longer able to authorise any requests for such absences. Therefore, for that reason, please could we make a special request that you don't arrange holidays during term time. Apart from the potential fine (Oldham MBC have, since September 11<sup>th</sup>, reintroduced fines for term time holidays of longer than 10 sessions (5 full days)), it is particularly disruptive, not only for the school, but also for your children. They will miss out on important lessons and this all needs catching up. It is also important to note, that you may be asked to account for unexplained absences, which means that going on holiday and not informing school is unacceptable. Therefore, please inform us if your child is going to be absent.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Thank you for bringing your children to school on time and every day. We are still monitoring the attendance of children very closely and will continue to send out invitations to Attendance Panel Meetings to all children whose attendance (less than 90%) or lateness is causing concern. Please inform the school office if your child is going to be absent for any reason.

#### **NURSERY AND RECEPTION APPLICATIONS**

Application forms for places in both the Nursery and Reception classes starting in September 2018 are now available from Mrs. Parkin at the infant site office. Once completed, the application form must be returned to the school. However, applications for a place in the Reception class **must also be made online to Oldham Council**. The closing date for this is 10<sup>th</sup> January (for St. John's applications) and 15<sup>th</sup> January (for Oldham). For further information on this process, please contact the school (0161-681-5270) or the council's Admissions Team (0161 770 4213).

#### **FRESH FRUIT IN KS2**

Fresh fruit is sold on a daily basis in the KS2 playground at break time. This usually includes those fruits that need no preparation, such as apples, bananas and pears etc. The cost is 20p per piece and can be bought on a day-to-day basis. This initiative has now been taken over by the Y6 Enterprise Group who are finding new and interesting ways of raising money for the school. The other alternative is that the children bring their own fresh fruit, but **not** fruit winders or fruit flakes etc. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

#### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Information about the school, including important up-coming dates and events will be on the school's website, which can be found at [www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk). Copies of this letter and any other 'whole school' letters can be found on there. Copies of any class, or year group specific letters, can be obtained from the relevant school office, or the class teacher.

#### **UPCOMING EVENT:**

16<sup>th</sup> November: Glodwick Trip for Year 1 and Year 2  
16<sup>th</sup> November: BikeAbility for Year 4  
17<sup>th</sup> November: Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need  
18<sup>th</sup> November: Church Christmas Fair / Choir Singing  
20<sup>th</sup> November: Individual photographs in KS1  
8<sup>th</sup> December: KS2 Christmas Fair  
11<sup>th</sup> December: Artefact Theatre – Infant Site  
12<sup>th</sup> December: Infant Christmas Nativity (am)  
13<sup>th</sup> December: Infant Christmas Nativity (pm)  
14<sup>th</sup> December: Infant Christmas Nativity (am)  
14<sup>th</sup> December: Junior Christmas Panto Trip  
18<sup>th</sup> December: Junior Nativity Performance (pm x2)  
20<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Dinner  
21<sup>st</sup> December: KS2 Carol Service  
21<sup>st</sup> December: School Closes

### **CHILDREN IN NEED – NON-UNIFORM DAY**

There will be a non-uniform day next Friday (17<sup>th</sup> November) to raise money to help support Children in Need. We ask that children bring in a donation of £1 for this most worthy of causes.

### **KS1 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY**

The Key Stage 1 celebration assemblies will continue again this half-term, with Nursery children now also taking part. They take place each Friday morning at 9:15am. Parents, friends and family, are warmly invited.

### **POPPY APPEAL**

Many thanks for your generous support in this matter. The Royal British Legion will be collecting your kind donations next week.

### **CAULIFLOWER CARDS**

We hope you all liked the cards that your children designed and made. Orders should now have been sent home. Not only is this a brilliantly creative way of making cards for loved ones but it has also helped the school raise over £300. Thank you for your support with this.

### **200 CLUBS WINNERS**

Congratulations to the winners of the '200 Club' monthly draws, who each receive £30.

August: Diane Graham – no.43  
September: Laura Fleming – no.40  
October: Jackie Flanagan – no.48

### **HEAD LICE**

It has been brought to our attention that a number of cases of head lice have been reported in local schools. Could you please check your child's hair, as we know you always do, on a regular basis and treat them appropriately if needed.

### **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

Christmas is a very busy time for everyone, but especially those for those in schools. Please keep your eye on the school website and newsletters for dates of Christmas activities, such as Christmas Dinner, Parties and Performances.

### **PARKING**

Could we please remind all parents and carers to be vigilant when parking near school. This week there was an accident outside the KS2 site, which fortunately didn't involve a child on this occasion. If you park close to school, where the children are walking on the pavements, and possibly crossing roads, please be extra careful when reversing and manoeuvring your vehicle. We worry that it is only a matter of time before a careless driver injures a child.

### **ROBINWOOD TRIP**

Could parents of the children going on the 2018 Robinwood Trip please remember that the second deposit of £50 is due before we break up for Christmas on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you so much for the donations of chocolate and sweets for the church and school's Christmas Fairs. Without your continued support in these matters, we wouldn't be able to run events to raise money for School Fund. Also, we'd like to thank those who attended the KS2 Disco last night. We raised over £300 that will go towards funding school trips and getting visitors into school.

### **INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

The children in Key Stage 2 had their individual photographs taken this week, and should hopefully be bringing them home tonight. Apologies for the mix-up with the family photographs because of the late arrival of the photographer. The Key Stage 1 individual photographs are on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, so anyone wanting a family photograph, with children from both sites on it, needs to go to the Infant / Nursery Site at 8:30am.

**For further information contact the relevant sites: 0161-681-5270 (EYFS/KS1) or 0161-681-5713 (KS2). You can visit the school website at [www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk) which contains the Infant site blogs. Thank you for your continued support Miss L.Bonter (Head of Nursery/Infant Site) and Mr. C. Gibson (Head of Junior Site)**