

Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School

Newsletter – September 2018



Welcome back!

Welcome back to all of our children including our 15 new starters in Robin Class. I hope you have all had a lovely Summer and are looking forward to the year ahead.

The new term has started with just a few hiccups and we would like to thank all the parents who have helped with the opening of the gate at the pub and generally supporting us in the absence of caretaking while Kay has been off. I have spent a great deal of time over the summer talking to the brewery concerning the use of the pub car park for parents and staff. I am really impressed with how quickly they were able to sort out the gate and have a plan in place in order for us to use it at no cost to the school. I am very grateful to them for making us a high priority when clearly they have many pubs to deal with. The relationship between our school and the brewery is good and I would like to maintain this by continuing to keep an eye on any activity that may occur at night. If you do see anything out of the ordinary, please report this straight away to the police. I can only hope that the pub will have new owners again soon and that we will be able to support them.

The new start to the school day is working well and has clearly helped with the parking situation. I have managed to talk to a range of parents and the feedback given has all been positive. I have not received any complaints from our neighbours with regards to parking so I would like to take this opportunity to thank you.

Staffing

It is great to have Kay back - she has been missed by us all especially at breakfast club. I know my toast is not up to Kay's standard! It is good to see Kay back and looking much better.

Ms Hill

Katy will be leaving us mid-October to pursue a new career. Katy has been with us over the last three years and has been a valuable team member. During her time, she has gone above and beyond ensuring that all our children get the very best care. Her ability to manage a healthy budget has given us many opportunities that the majority of schools locally have not had. Katy has lived out our school aims in all that she has done and will be missed by the team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work. We are doing a collection for Katy's leaving and if any parents would like to contribute please send your money into school in a clearly labelled envelope.

Sport

I am delighted to announce that we have been awarded Gold for 17/18 sporting achievements which is wonderful. Our aim is to maintain this award, therefore it is important that we get as many children in school taking part in sport to represent our school and any other clubs they may belong to. If your child has achieved an award with a club, we always want to know so that we can include this in their personal logs and celebrate their successes.

TERM DATES 2018-2019

Autumn Term

Tues 4 Sept – Fri 26 Oct
Mon 5 Nov – Fri 21 Dec

Spring Term

Mon 7 Jan – Fri 15 Feb
Tues 26 Feb – Fri 12 April

Summer Term

Mon 29 April – Fri 24 May*
Tues 4 June – Fri 19 July

*Bank Holiday Monday is on
Monday 6 May 2019

INSET DAYS

Monday 19 November 2018
Monday 25 February 2019
Monday 3 June 2019
Monday 22 July 2019

*Just a reminder that
school dinners are now
£2.10 per day.*

Website

Please visit the school website often as this will keep you up to date on what is happening in school. Please remember if you are not sure about something, ask the class teacher or the school office.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter for current adventures in school.

@StanleyStAndrew

School Development

Our school development areas for this year have been identified as:

- Increasing outcomes in writing to be above the national average.
- Continue to ensure problem solving is embedded into the curriculum.
- Promote well-being for all children and staff.

These three areas make up our focus for the year and help to steer our teaching. We continue to ask for your support by ensuring your child is in school on time each day, they have the correct equipment and attitude ready for learning. Please look at the holiday dates and INSET before booking holidays, as all children need to be in school unless they are ill.

Reading also remains a high priority in school. We do expect all children to read a range of books and electronic books. Please encourage your child to read at home on a regular basis and make sure that you sign their reading record. All children take part in guided reading, individual and shared reading. We are always looking for adults to hear children read on a regular basis. If you think you would like to offer to be a volunteer, please see your class teacher.

Children as Leaders

I would like to announce that our new head girl is Maisie and head boy Archie. They have now taken up their roles and no doubt will continue to support me in my role.

Office managers Sam and Amy have the role of answering the phone and completing office tasks during lunchtime. Reef and Seth will be in charge of sport and will be working with Mrs Richardson to promote this important curriculum area. Toby has the role of Director of ICT and he will be working with our technician to ensure the smooth running of computers and other technology in school. Toby will be working with the FOSS when purchasing new equipment. Haiden and Maya are School Council Leaders and they will ensure that all children in school have a voice. Their role will be to work with Mrs Rowles to promote ideas for fund raising and making general improvements in school.

Ava will be liaising with Rev Ingrid and Miss Grayson to plan and deliver collective worship and exciting RE lessons. Ava will also have the opportunity to help develop the link between our school and Dum Dum in Kolkata.

Amelia is the director of Collective worship. She will be working closely with the adults in church and helping to plan worship in school.

We are proud of our year 6's who have diligently applied for their positions and no doubt will carry out their roles to the best of their ability.

Safeguarding

As the evenings draw in it is essential that we are aware of who is collecting your child. Please ensure that if there is a change in the person who usually collects your child, a member of the team is notified before the end of the day.

Also as part of the 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' guidance, we need to ensure that all children in school have at least two contacts in the event of an accident or as part of our first day call. Please make sure if your phone number or address changes, that you inform the school office.

If your Year 6 child is walking home on their own, please make sure that staff are aware of this. Also encourage your child to walk with other children in the village and have a plan of action with your child if they are approached by a stranger. Next term we will be revisiting stranger danger with all children and giving them skills about keeping safe. If you are late collecting your child, they will be put into after school club where a charge of £4.00 will be incurred.

Parent Hub

We are aware that some parents have been experiencing difficulties receiving messages through parent hub and an email has been sent out from parent hub to all parents who have signed up for the app which explains that they are looking to rectify these issues.

There are some things that parents can try themselves in order to solve any issues with the app and these can be found under Help & Support on the app. If you cannot access the Help & Support section through the app on your phone, you could try to log on through a PC if you have access to one.

If none of this works and you are still having issues, please contact the School Office.

Don't forget the FOSS Fashion Event taking place at the Village Hall on Saturday 6th October, 7.30pm. Tickets are only £5 and include a free drink! There will be lots of lovely clothes available to buy and all proceeds will go directly to the school! It promises to be a great night. If you are interested in attending please pop into the school office for more information.

School Ramble

We will be enjoying another whole school ramble on the afternoon of Friday 12 October. If you would like to join us in appreciating the beautiful Stanley scenery this autumn, please let the school office know.

Collective Worship

Our collective worship theme for next half term is Generosity.

During worship all children get the opportunity to reflect upon their day, lives and experiences. We have been working really hard to give the children the leadership skills to plan and lead worship.

Each day’s worship takes on a slightly different focus such as:

- Worship through music, where all children get involved in learning new songs and performance.
- Current affairs worship helps children to explore what is happening in the news and try to have a clear picture as to why things happen or indeed question why there are no answers to some of the world problems.
- PSHE worship is linked to attitudes to driving their own learning. This gives children an insight into what is acceptable and unacceptable and is a method of reinforcing our behaviour policy and exploring why people behave in different ways.
- Bible stories are told in great depth. They are able to listen to stories to help understand the teachings of Jesus.
- Our final worship on a Friday celebrates children’s achievements over the week. This could be good work, behaviour, perseverance or showing kindness, this list is endless.

Next term our Director of Education, Ava, will be planning and delivering worship along with Amelia.

Kolkata

We continue our link with our sister school in Kolkata – Dum Dum. I have regular contact with Ranu the headteacher who sends me information about how the children are doing and how the resources that we took out last year are having an impact upon the children. This year Mrs Davies will be going to Kolkata in January to further support the teaching and learning of the basic skills. This opportunity impacts upon the children in Kolkata and equally upon our children here. This year we will be asking our children to think about who they are and where they live and to try and create video footage, scrapbooks and photos for Mrs Davies to take out and use as a teaching resource.

Children will have the opportunity to learn a new song in English and the children in Dum Dum will be learning the same song.

Payment for Breakfast & After School Club

As our breakfast and after school club becomes more and more popular we are looking at how we process payments as this currently takes the school office a lot of time.

Whilst some parents choose to pay in advance of sessions, we do have some parents that prefer to pay following their booked sessions. At the beginning of each week the school office are looking at usage for the previous week and sending out payment notices to parents. If you choose not to pay in advance, please could we request that you pay as soon as you receive notice of outstanding amounts.

Also can we remind you that you do not need to book your child in for breakfast club however it is really important that you do book your child in for after school club to ensure that we have the right staffing numbers.

More parents are choosing to pay by childcare vouchers or through the government’s tax free childcare scheme. If you would like more information please ask.

It is also really important that when collecting your child you sign them out on the club register. When doing this please check that you agree with the collection time on the register as the school office use this information to work out how much you owe.

Diary Dates

- Thurs 27 Sept – School photographer
- Sat 6 Oct, 7pm FOSS Fashion Show, Village Hall
- Thurs 11 Oct – FOSS AGM, 3.30pm
- Fri 12 Oct – Whole School Ramble, 1pm
- Fri 19 Oct – Wear Red against Racism Day
- Weds 24 Oct & Thurs 25 Oct– Parents Evening
- Thurs 25 Oct – Flu Vaccine (Reception & Yrs 1 – 5)
- Fri 26 Oct – Break up for Half Term
- Mon 5 Nov – Back to School
- Mon 12 Nov – Christmas Panto in School
- Mon 19 Nov – INSET day. School closed.
- Fri 7 Dec – Christmas Fair, 3.15pm – 6pm.
- Weds 12 Dec – School Christmas Dinner
- Fri 14 Dec – Christingle Service in Church, 9.30am
- Tues 18 Dec – Footprints Theatre in School
- Fri 21 Dec – Break up for Christmas!

Breakfast and After School Club Prices

Breakfast Club

7.45am – 8.45am
£4.00 per child

After School Club

3.15 – 4.15pm
£4.00 per child

3.15pm – 5.15pm
£8.00 per child

3.15pm – 6pm
£12.00 per child