



Newsletter 16

8th January, 2016

Happy Friday! Well the winter certainly arrived this week! Snow is definitely in the air so I thought it would be worth reminding you of how you will find out if school is to be closed or disrupted. If I have to make the decision to close the school I will inform parents by 7.30 in the morning and this will be announced on the Banes website at (<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/school-closures>). I will also text you via Parentpay. In the past, text message services have run slowly due to the additional mobile traffic so I will also 'Tweet' the news (@StStephensPri) which is often more immediate and put a note on the website. I must emphasise that we will endeavour to open the school if at all possible even if it is a later start to allow us to make the school site safe. As you will appreciate we have to take into account the safety of everybody travelling to, and accessing, the school as well as the staff to pupil ratios once we are here and we will make the best decision we can for all.

Thanks... You may remember in last week's newsletter I asked for help to replace our playground piano, our current one having sadly succumbed to the weather, and I am delighted that Year 6 parent Kate Thornton has very kindly offered to donate her outgoing piano to the school. We are going to decorate and weather-proof it before it takes up its place on the courtyard playground. Thank you Kate!

Have a lovely, warm weekend....

Andy Bowman

Walk to School Breakfast in Breakfast

Week.... We will be holding a walk to school breakfast on Wednesday 27th January in the school hall. This will start at 8am and you are all welcome to join us.

Breakfast week is a national initiative to encourage children to eat breakfast before coming to school and to try different types of breakfast foods.

If your child is a school council member in Phase 2 please could they come to school before 8am to help out with serving the breakfasts.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you there.

Katie Warlow

Story Box Theatre 11th February.... Please don't forget to return your slips and voluntary contributions of £2.50 to the office, as we can't take payments by ParentPay for such a small amount.

Musical Club..... Musical application forms will be available to download from the school website on Monday and copies will also be given out in class.

Reading for Rio! Olympic Reading Challenge starts in style.... Our Olympic Reading challenge has been running for a week and already the library is buzzing with busy readers.

Children are starting to fill up their bronze challenge brochures with details of their latest school library books.

If your Bronze challenge brochure has been mislaid, pop into the library and ask Mrs Smith or Mrs Brocklebank for one and get reading!

The library is now open after school on a Thursday as well as on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 3.20 to 4.15pm when new books can be chosen, research carried out and the record cards updated.

Good luck!



PTA News.....

Ragbag/Textile Bank

Now that the ragbag is open again (hurray!) here is a quick reminder of what it can accept. Clean, dry clothing, which should be in a plastic bag and securely tied. Shoes tied in pairs and also in plastic bags. This is to prevent items getting wet, which makes them unusable, even inside the textile bank (rain can get in!). The ragbag does not accept duvets and pillows. Thank you.

Supporting the PTA

A number of parents have asked if they could support the ongoing work of the PTA, which is a registered charity, by making a regular donation. We are considering setting this up as an option for those people for whom it would make life easier. This will not change our exciting calendar of fundraising events and activities! We must also stress that this is not a suggestion from the PTA or the school, but a response to a number of requests. If you would like to register interest in this type of support please email pta@st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk

Dates for your diary.....

Second Hand Uniform Sale – next Friday 22 January, in the hall

Quiz Night – provisional date – Friday 18 March – more details to follow

With thanks for your support, have a great weekend
Angela

Diary dates reminder.....

Coming up in January.....

22nd – Second Hand Uniform sale
27th – Walk to School Breakfast 8am

Coming up in February.....

2nd - Newbarn Meeting 6pm
11th – Storybox Theatre
12th – End of Term 3
22nd – Beginning of Term 4

Coming up in March

1st – Y1 Parent Phonic Check
Information Meeting 2.30pm
2nd – 8th – Book Fair
4th - World Book Day & Dress Up
8th - Y2 Assessment Eve 6pm-7pm
15th – Y6 Assessment Eve 6-7pm
22nd – PTA Meeting
24th – Easter Service
25th-28th – Easter Weekend (school closed Friday & Monday)
30th and 31st Parent Consultations

Coming up in April.....

1st – End of Term 4
2nd-17th – School Holidays
18th - Beginning of Term 5
22nd-25th Year 4 Residential Visit to New Barn, Dorchester.
29th – Inset Day

The Send a Cow Charity..... has places in the Bath Half Marathon on Sunday March 13th. It's free to register, you receive a cow print running vest and you only need to raise a minimum of £200 in sponsorship.

Mums of Issy Barnes (Yr4) and Molly and Eli Williams (Yr6&4) work for the Bath based charity and can vouch for the terrific work they do in rural Africa.

If you would like a place please contact Victoria Barnes at Victoria.barnes@sendacow.org or 01225 871940 by Feb 3rd.

And finally.....Please collect your Tupperware containers and cake tins from Reception as soon as possible. Unfortunately any uncollected boxes at the end of the day on Monday will be disposed of due to lack of storage space.

Thank you.

