



Newsletter 1

4th September, 2015

Welcome Back!

What a great first week it has been! I always love the start of a new school year – baggy jumpers, shiny shoes, new plans and ideas, an overflowing skip in the carpark...but this year I have found it especially exciting. In brief, here's what we are kicking off the year with... The Phase 2 corridor has received a dramatic overhaul – thank you so much to the PTA for donating funds for three new sofas and some accessories. We also now have a designated Music Room (currently just a lick of paint away from perfection!), and the PTA have a walk-in store cupboard. I cannot thank Mr Cox, the cleaners and the rest of the staff enough for all of their hard work over the summer to get the classrooms and shared areas ready to welcome the children back. The whole school feels calm, fresh and welcoming, and all the better for now having children in it!

I am also delighted that as from 2.30pm today, we have a brand new website! I hope you will find it a really accessible and attractive site to use, and we will be continuing to develop some of the areas in the next few weeks (so please excuse any missing bits). We owe a huge debt of thanks to Alan Stone who has dedicated hour upon hour of his time since the spring, building and populating the site. The address is the same (www.st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk) so please drop by and visit!

And finally, this week we have also launched *The Golden 3* with the children (see below) and I think that's probably enough for one week. 2015-16, here we go! Have a fantastic weekend.

Andy Bowman

Dinner Money for Term 1.....

September (16 days) = £32.00

October (20 days) = £40.00

Whole of term 1 (36 days) = £72.00

Please make cheques payable to 'St Stephen's School' with your child's name and class on the reverse.

If paying with cash, please put correct amount in a named envelope.

Thank you.

The Golden 3...We try our best. We listen carefully. We are kind and respectful. These three simple principles are our new school expectations for how children and adults will be.

We wanted a clear and easy to remember basis to support excellent behaviour and our caring ethos, and have spent time in school this week discussing the Golden 3 further.

We now just need to choose an animal to represent each one! All suggestions will be considered!

Teachers launch 2015 Homework Brochures on 9th September 2015.....Our homework brochures are being launched to parents in school next week.

The brochures, which explain the school's expectations for homework in each year group, will be launched on Wednesday 9th September. Each teacher will hold two meetings for parents in their classroom. The first meeting will start promptly at 2.30pm and an identical second one at 2.45pm. You are very welcome to attend either of the two meetings. The reason for two meetings is to enable parents with more than one child to attend two different meetings. Those of you with more than two children will need to make an appointment to see your "other" teachers if you would like to have their homework brochure explained.

The meetings need to finish at 3pm promptly in order for the children to be collected at the usual time and place at the end of the school day.

The brochures will be available at the meetings and be sent out by Parent mail following the launch. Your children's teachers look forward to explaining their year group's homework expectations on Wednesday. If you have a child starting in Reception in September the Reception teachers will give out your brochures at a separate time.

We look forward to seeing you.



Do you have a child starting in Reception 2016?....if so, you are very welcome to come along to one of our visits for prospective Reception parents which we will be holding over the next few months. Also, if you have any friends or relatives with children due to start in Reception next year, please do feel free to pass this information on to them. The visits will be held on Monday 21st September, Tuesday 20th October, Thursday 19th November and Friday 4th December. All visits will be from 9.30am to 10.30am.

If you would like to attend one of these visits, please let us know which date you prefer and we will put your name down.

After School Clubs..... Clubs will start again next week. Please see the attached timetable for full details.

Please remember to notify us in advance if your child is not attending their club for any reason.

PTA News.....

Welcome back, hope you all had a lovely summer! We are looking forward to another great school year, full of fundraising fun. A special welcome to all new parents and carers. You are automatically members of the PTA (Parent Teacher Association), so do come along to a meeting if you can (dates on the PTA noticeboard next to the school office in the reception area). It would be great to see you and we are always looking for new help and fresh ideas.

Class Reps.....

Please let me know the names and details of the new class reps for this year when you can, so that we can arrange a meeting. Thanks so much.

Have a great weekend

Angela

PTA Chair

Coming up in September.....

- 1st & 2nd - INSET
- 3rd Children return to school
- 7th -11th EYFS Home Visits
- 8th - Parents' Meeting for Abernant
- 9th - Launch New Homework 2.30pm/2.45pm
- 17th - New Parents Social Eve 7-8pm
- 24th - Foundation Stage Reading Evening 6pm-7pm
- 25th - Harvest in church 9.45am

Goodbye Mrs Doyle... Sadly for us, Mrs Doyle will not be returning to our team this year. She has been presented with a fantastic opportunity and has relocated to the sunny Cornish coast. Janette has worked here for many years and will be greatly missed by us all, but we wish her very well for her new exciting adventure. Now, where's my bucket and spade...

And finally.....Please see attached letter regarding forthcoming gas works near the school.

