



## Newsletter 21

12<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

**Happy Friday!**.....It's been a great week. The more we talk about kindness and respect the more it spreads, with children around school smiling, talking about the Golden 3 and just generally being lovely. One even said how nice my hair was looking (not even my Mum has ever said that) - proof if ever it was needed that the children are really embracing the idea of the Golden 3 living in our hearts and minds. (Next week's Collective Worship will be on the pitfalls of using flattery to attempt to gain stickers!). Throughout the school there is a real sense of energy and purpose. The new curriculum continues to bring challenges and we are using it as an opportunity to look deeply at how we plan and teach, making significant changes to ensure we are best serving the children. I am passionate about the 'craft' of teaching, and I believe that in order for this to be an inspiring place to learn it must first be an inspiring place to teach. National directives and agendas can make this difficult at times but we are working hard to balance our statutory responsibilities with continuing to work towards the vision we know is right for our children and school. Perhaps the most important indication of whether we are getting this right is the pupil survey which we recently carried out. I will share the results with you next term - they make very encouraging reading.

And with that we find ourselves half way through the year. Enjoy the interval, stretch your legs, have a cornetto and I look forward to seeing you for the second half. Andy Bowman

**ParentMail Parents' Evening Manager**....Texts were sent out yesterday from ParentMail PMX. Please click on the link on the text message and follow the verification process. If your phone does not enable you to do this, please copy the link and type it into your browser instead.

Although the system will not be ready to take bookings until after half term, please register and set up your password beforehand so that when booking is available, you will be ready to make your appointment. If your contact details have changed, or you have not received the text, please let us know.

### **A great week for Sport – again!**

**Table Tennis**....Well done to the St Stephen's pupils who went to the Schools Table Tennis Tournament at King Edwards's School last Saturday.

A clean sweep of medals -

1<sup>st</sup> place went to Edward Mawer, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Leo Ashworth and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Ned Burn.

**Banes Gymnastics Competition**.....Two teams of five pupils from Years 5 & 6 attended the BANES Schools Gymnastics Competition on Monday afternoon. Everyone performed to their best ability on the floor and the vault. Team A, captained by Mia Spearman Armistead, gained the Silver Medal and Team B, captained by Rosie Hamilton, came overall 5<sup>th</sup> in their competition. I was so proud of them all. Well done.

Jenny Newman

### **Vacancy for School Crossing**

**Patrol**....If you would be interested in this role or know anyone who might be, please contact B&NES Council on 01225 396409 or pick up a flyer from the School Foyer.

**Clubs**....Clubs restart after half term, week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Please see timetable attached to newsletter.

**Reading for Rio and World Book Day**.....\_Reading for Rio is causing a friendly rustle and bustle in the library after school and during class sessions as children chase books and information for their challenge sheets. Towards the end of each month we will be awarding certificates in celebration assembly - so don't worry if you have finished a sheet and haven't seen that shiny award yet. You have not been forgotten! Eagle-eyed readers will have already spotted the box for World Book Day quiz entries in the entrance hall. If you are still looking for it - have a peep on Mrs Brocklebank's reading display near the front door.



**Ted Blackman...** We have been saddened to hear of the passing of ex-governor and long-term friend of the school Ted Blackman. Ted served our school as a governor for 20 years between 1988 and 2008, including many years as Chair of Governors. As he left the governing body, Ted wrote this article for the Parish News ( <http://www.ststephensbath.org.uk/downloads/Parish-News-summer-2008.pdf> ) in which he reflects upon his time here. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Elizabeth and family.

**PTA Newsletter.....**

**Plant Sale – get set and sow!**

Calling all budding green fingers to get set and sow! We are looking for seedlings, divided plants and a whole range of garden goodies for a **Plant Sale in May**. The aim is (you've guessed it) to sell plants and swap excess seedlings for new plants. Divisions, bulbs, rooted cuttings, flowers, vegetables – all welcome!

Contact Sophie Penney [ereenlouise@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ereenlouise@yahoo.co.uk)

**Quiz Teams** – teams are selling (thank you), but there is still plenty of room, so gather your friends and book a table today! Payment and entry forms to the office or contact [pta@st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk) Huge thanks to Rachel Allen for the gorgeous poster!

Date for your diary – The PTA have secured a **Bag-Packing Saturday at Waitrose** (can raise up to £1000) – **Saturday April 30, 9am – 5pm** – details to follow, but lots of bag-packing hands required!

Have a great half term and thanks for your support.  
Angela

**Term dates reminder.....**

**February.....**

- 12<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 3
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Beginning of Term 4
- 12<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 3
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Beginning of Term 4

**Coming up in March**

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

**Dinner Money.....** Please see dinner money figures below for payment by Parentpay.

- Term 4 - 28 days = £56.40
- February - 6 days = £12.00
- March - 21 days = £44.00
- April - 1 day = £2.40

