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@StStephensPri



## Newsletter 4

## 28th September

**Happy Friday!**

**Harvest Service...** Next Friday we will be gathering in the church at 9.45 for our Harvest Service and you will be very welcome to join us. As in previous years, we will be marking the occasion with a collection of dried, tinned or packet food (ie no fresh fruit or veg please) for Bath Food Bank. If you would like to contribute, please send your donation in to school with your child and we will arrange for the food bank to collect later in the day. Thank you in advance!

**A reminder for Phase 1 parents...** At drop off and pick-up times, please do not allow your child (including younger siblings) to walk along the wall with the black railings on in the 'courtyard' playground. It is very old and there is a danger that the top will become dangerously loose if it is walked or sat on. Thank you for your support with this.

**School funding...** Whilst there is a clear message from the government that school funding is higher than ever, it is accurate to say that from my point of view in school, I have watched costs increase and income decline over the last four years. Despite making considerable savings along the way, things that were once considered essentials (new classroom equipment, a rolling programme of IT renewal, training courses for staff for example) are now considered luxuries and we are doing our very best to ensure that despite this your child continues to receive the high quality primary school experience that we all came into the profession to provide.

If you are interested in finding out more, I have attached to this newsletter a flyer for a parents' meeting to highlight the impact of funding cuts which is on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at Ralph Allen School, 7pm-9pm. This is a free event and among the speakers will be MP Wera Hobhouse.

**The Friends and PTA...** In these tricky financial times, the work of The Friends and PTA is more crucial than ever and I am extremely grateful to the volunteers in both of these groups. With your support, the PTA has raised enough money for a climbing frame which we are hoping will be installed in the coming weeks.

The Friends have been working hard to secure sponsorship from many businesses and you can see a full list of all our supporters [here](#). Their aim is to raise enough money to buy new laptops so that we can more easily use IT flexibly in the classrooms. This is the first phase of the project, the second being an exciting remodelling of the space that is currently our IT suite. This academic year, PTA and Friends will be joining fundraising forces so that we can reach our goal even sooner.

To enable potential sponsors to donate to this project, Richard Wood at *Donate My School* has kindly created a crowdfunding page for us ... <https://donatemyschool.com/project/1586>. If you know of businesses or individuals who may wish to help us, or if you would like to donate, this is a very quick and easy way to do so and I promise that every single penny will have a positive impact upon our children.

Thank you! Have a great weekend. Andy Bowman

**Clubs... Netball...** A reminder that there will be no Netball for Years 3 & 4 today. (You haven't been charged for this session).

Thank you for filling in the pink slips for club absences, it really is very helpful. Happy Weekend.  
Liz Flood

Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy



# St Stephen's Primary Church School

**School Dinners...**There will be a slight adjustment to the menu next week.

The menu on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> will be:-

**Fish fingers and chips with baked beans or garden peas.**

**OR**

**Cheese and leek pasty and chips with baked beans or garden peas.**

**OR**

**Jacket Potato and Baked Beans**

**Pudding: Arctic Roll**

Thursday's usual roast dinner will be served on Friday instead.

If your child does not usually have a school dinner, but would like to order one on Thursday, please let the office know at the beginning of the week.

## **PTA Second Hand Uniform Sale.....TODAY**

Come and grab a bargain in the hall after school.

All items £1.

**This weekend.....**The fabulous Owls of Bath [Hoot Farewell](#) weekend is Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th, when all 82 supersized owl sculptures (plus 2 new owlets) will be displayed in one giant 'parliament' on the Bath Rec for a weekend of family fun!

It will be a fantastic family event to raise funds for four local charities, with lots of free activities when you're there, including meeting real owls, owl badge making, Hobbycraft design an owl competition, owl pellet dissection (!), Bath City FC's 'Beat the G'owlie' and visits from Olympic Gold medalist Amy Williams and Horrible Histories illustrator Martin Brown.

For more information please visit the [Owls of Bath website](#).

## **Fireworks Safety Poster Competition.**

Just a reminder that if your child would like to enter the competition, their poster should be handed in by

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October.**

**Bath Half...'**Lifeskills' has places for the Bath Half Marathon 2019 if anyone would be interested in running for us.

The entry fee is £35 and the fundraising target is £300. The event takes place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Anyone who is interested can contact us on

0117 922 4511.

Lifeskills is a charity so every penny raised helps us to continue running the Year 6 programme that the pupils enjoy each year.

## **Coming up in September...**

**28<sup>th</sup> –Second Hand Uniform Sale**

## **Coming up in October....**

Black History Month

4<sup>th</sup> - EYFS Homework Meeting

5<sup>th</sup> - Harvest Festival

8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> inclusive - Abernant Residential

**16<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Pet Show 9am**

**18th October – Reception 2019 Open day visit 9.15am – 10.15**

24<sup>th</sup> - Walk to School Breakfast

25<sup>th</sup> - Children finish school

26<sup>th</sup> - INSET

29<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Holiday

## **Coming up in November....**

5<sup>th</sup> - Beginning of Term 2

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - Parent Consultations

12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> - Anti Bullying Week (16<sup>th</sup> Circle of Friendship)

12<sup>th</sup> - Flu vaccinations – Reception to Y5

22<sup>nd</sup> - Bedtime Story 6-7pm (Phase 1 children only)

**19<sup>th</sup> - Reception 2019 Open day visit**

**9.15am – 10.15am**

**\*Please note items in bold are new to the list**

*Love*

*Courage*

*Creativity*

*Joy*