



[enquiries@ststephens.bwmat.org](mailto:enquiries@ststephens.bwmat.org)

@StStephensPri



## Newsletter 4

25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

# St Stephen's Primary Church School

### Happy Friday!

**Farewell Liz...** Today we said farewell to midday supervisor Mrs Mitchell. We are really sad to see her go but she is heading on to new adventures and we wish her lots of love and luck.

**Farewell Liz...** At October Half Term we will also be saying goodbye Mrs Thomas who has worked at the front desk of the office for 13 years. Liz has been the point of contact for hundreds of families over the years and we are so grateful to her for her knowledge, skill and commitment to the school. We are going to miss Liz greatly – she has been part of the St Stephen's fabric since 2007 and her (early!) retirement marks the end of 30 years working in education. I know you will join me in wishing Liz lots of love and luck for the next chapter when the time comes.

Liz's departure means there is a new opportunity to join our team as a Receptionist. In brief, the role is 30 hours per week, Tuesday to Friday. You can find more information, including how to apply, here: <https://www.bwmat.org/receptionist-30-hrs-ftc-until-august-2021-st-stephens-church-school-bath/>  
To chat further about this opportunity, please come and catch me at the car park entrance at the start or end of the day, or call school to speak to myself, Ms Flynn or Mr de Albuquerque.

**Travel News...** This time last year we ran a survey to see how children travelled to school, and this week we repeated the survey to see the extent to which habits have changed. In September 2019, 53% of children were walking/scooting/cycling all of the way, and 69% walked/scooted/cycled at least part of the way.

Now, 65% of children are walking/scooting/cycling all of the way and 78% are walking/scooting/cycling part, if not all of, the way.

This collective effort is a fantastic start and something that we should all feel very proud of. The streets around school have certainly felt quieter and safer and I think if we had done the survey in the first couple of weeks this data would have been even higher. This not only has clear health and environmental benefits but is also an essential part of our efforts to prevent the spread of Covid-19 as fewer cars means pedestrians can safely spread out and avoid crowding on the pavements.

To maintain and even improve this further as the weather becomes colder and the children are maybe more resistant, please consider the following:

- Routinely use one of our walking bus services (map attached)
- Use the 'walking bubble' zone to avoid bringing your car to school
- Make sure that relatives or friends who help with the school run are aware of the alternatives to driving
- Promote with your children the benefits of exercise in the morning - it increases energy and fires the brain up ready for action!
- Help your child to understand the environmental benefits to leaving the car at home

AND to help us launch the next phase, next week is **Sustrans Bike To School Week** – a chance to try swapping 4 wheels for 2 and helping further reduce the traffic around school. To make this easier, Mr Cox has ordered additional bike racks which will be at the top end of the car park, next to the pedestrian gate. They are also running a family competition, details of which can be found here: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/projects/2019/uk-wide/bike-to-school-week-family-competition/>

**PE Shoes Clarification...** As we all get used to our new routines, there have been some mixed messages about PE shoes. On the day your child has PE in class, they should bring PE shoes in to change into. This page on our website <https://www.st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk/index.php/summer-term-2020/aut-2020> is designed to clarify lots of these questions so if you are unsure, please check here.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman

*Love*

*Courage*

*Creativity*

*Joy*



# St Stephen's Primary Church School



**Visiting school...**Please can we ask that all visitors to the school wear a mask when you enter, unless of course you are exempt on medical grounds.  
Thank you for your co-operation.

**Important Note About The Green...** This week we had a message from a very concerned resident about damage that he believed some of our children had done to the smaller trees on and around the green. If your child walks home on their own, please could you remind them about their behaviour on the green, and continue to supervise your children closely if you are there with them. Ideally of course, in line with government guidance, it would be helpful for you to avoid gathering on the green at all, particularly in cross-year groups.  
Thank you for your help with this.

**Hot Meals...**A reminder that the kitchen will be trialling a hot meal on Thursday 1st October. As you will be aware the school kitchen has only been able to serve cold sandwiches so far this term.

The main menu choice for that day is fish fingers, chips and peas (this can be provided in dairy and gluten free options if required) or veggie sausages, chips and peas (this can be provided in dairy free options if required).

**Please note that any sandwich bookings for Thursday 1st October will be cancelled. You will need to log back into your child's account to make a new booking for your child.**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are all entitled to a free school meal.

Children in Years 3 - 6 will need to make sure that they have sufficient credit on their account to stop any order being cancelled due to low funds. School meals now cost £2.70.

Please log into your child's Parent Pay account to book the hot meal option by Wednesday 30th September.

Thank you.

**Secret Run – Bath...** A brand new, family friendly running experience for adventure seekers. Choose a course and unlock new locations as you go until you discover the secret finish line. Sign up for either a 5k, 10k or 21k run and create your own route as you navigate from checkpoint to checkpoint.

Keep your phone handy as we will text you your next location! Sign up today using the discount code – **STSTE10** – to start your adventure - <https://secret.attendly.net/e/11663>

[www.secretrunseries.co.uk](http://www.secretrunseries.co.uk)



Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy