

## Year 3/4 Welcome Meeting

Welcome to Year 3/4! We are so excited to be teaching your children and working closely with them and you in their journey at St John's.

### Arrival & departure

- Arrival time is 8:45am
- Departure time is 3:15pm
- Gates open at 8.30am for children to meet with friends and you to chat to parents/carers. Please ensure you or a known adult stays with your child until they come into school building.
- All classes (apart from Carnival) will go into their classrooms via the canopy, Carnival go into their classroom via the steps by the sports pitches.
- The children will line up in the playground in their classes when the bell goes in the morning (for the first week only) and at the end of the day will be dismissed from the playground to ensure they have found you.
- After the first week, they can come straight in on the bell but will continue to be dismissed by their teacher at the end of the day.

### Transition and settling in

- This year, at St John's, we are focusing even more on building on the children's sense of belonging and identity, both in their class and in the year group.
- We will be spending the first few weeks, building on our relationships with the children.
- There will be lots of orientation with the children around the school, especially Y3.
- Building parent-teacher relationships - we know how important it is getting to know our parents/carers
- We have already talked to the children's previous teachers and spent some time with the children in July.
- We will happily discuss any concerns, once the settling in process has taken place

### Curriculum:

We try to teach as cross curricular as possible and build key skills into the children's learning and development. We will try to give work a purpose and give the children enriching opportunities. Each term, we will have a focus "topic" which could be History, Science or Geography. We try to link this area of focus into other areas of the curriculum where appropriate. Art or DT will be taught in alternative terms.

In our curriculum, there are still things we tweak and change throughout the year to ensure the curriculum is up-to-date and gives the children the best learning opportunities. It can be found on the school website and please do keep an eye so you know what's coming up and if you have any links to help us with our learning!

Mastery is a real focus of the curriculum. Children will be continually assessed in writing. We will use some more formal tests throughout the year to help with our reading and maths assessment.

Teachers will try to listen to each child read as often as possible; they will be taught whole class reading in class each week, where the required reading skills will be taught. Reading Records: these are blank exercise books which the children can personalise and include a record of what they have read and some responses to their reading. A detailed insert will be in their books when they bring them home.

The children will have a spelling session every day. For children who find spelling a challenge and who are not ready for the Y3/4 curriculum, we will teach strategies to help support spelling and consolidate Y1/2 work if necessary before we move them on. Spelling shed is a great resource too.

### Homework:

Maths homework will be given out as appropriate, we alternate between TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars) and a "Make it stick" style activity. The children can always use TTRS/Mathletics at home to support their learning. Topic homework will be set at the start of term and will include 2 tasks. They will either be a practical or written. They will have dates for completion across the term. We expect children to read every day and complete their reading journal as part of weekly homework.

We upload tasks and children can respond on Google Classroom.

In order to fit in all of the children's learning, PE will be different for each class this year, taught by our PE specialists. This will rotate every four weeks but we will make sure to communicate with you when this will change, via email.

Please see the current rotation for PE:

- All classes on a Thursday
- Harbour, Kites, Carnival and Balloons on a Tuesday currently
- Dragonboats on a Monday

The children will need to come into school in their PE kits on these days. Children can wear navy or black coloured trainers every day. If your child has a sports club on a non-PE day, they need to bring kit in to change into please.

### **Rewards**

Children can be rewarded:

- House Points
- Hero of the Week – recognition of a child's behaviour and learning, linked to school values. Child gets to bring in something they are thankful for and have special responsibilities (front of the line, helping the teacher etc.)
- Marble in a jar -is when the whole class shows the school values, shows kindness or works hard/being kind. When the children have reached 15 marbles, they have a class treat. The children vote for something they'd like to do together e.g. make dens, watch a movie, bring in games etc.
- Headteacher/Deputy Certificates

### **Behaviour**

Last year, we worked really hard as a school to ensure the behaviour of the children was consistent and following the school rules. We obviously hope your child will do so and always try their best but if they do find it tricky to follow the school rules, we follow what is known as a 'Fresh Start' cycle to try and support children to make the right choices.

### **Misc:**

- PLEASE NAME YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS
- Please check on website in the 'Office' section for a detailed uniform list and the uniform policy.
- Please be aware PE kit is a specific uniform.
- News: Bulletin/ Website /emails
- Messages to office if absent or important info via email accounts
- Timings: School Day starts at 8.45am. Home at 3.15pm.
- Children can come in on the bell and will be sent out to playground at end of day. Ensure you set a meeting place for your child. Let us know of any changes to pick up.
- Prepared fruit only to celebrate birthdays. No choc dipped fruit or winders please.
- Your child can bring in a piece of fresh fruit to eat at first break. No fruit bars, processed or canned please.
- Water bottles please provide & label.
- We would like for the children to take responsibility for their belongings so if they have misplaced something, they will need to check in the lost-property/where they last had the item which should have their name in it.
- As we have children with nut allergies in school, we would request anything nut-related doesn't come in.

### **Communication**

#### **Email addresses:**

- Balloons: [balloons@stjohnsprimary.org.uk](mailto:balloons@stjohnsprimary.org.uk) Harry Hughes
- Harbour: [harbour@stjohnsprimary.org.uk](mailto:harbour@stjohnsprimary.org.uk) Pippa Allenby & Sarah Jo Scarborough
- Kites: [kites@stjohnsprimary.org.uk](mailto:kites@stjohnsprimary.org.uk) Reg Amarshi
- Dragon Boats: [dragonboats@stjohnsprimary.org.uk](mailto:dragonboats@stjohnsprimary.org.uk) Sue Morgan
- Carnival: [carnival@stjohnsprimary.org.uk](mailto:carnival@stjohnsprimary.org.uk) Ellie Dixey, Year Group Leader
- School: [www.stjohnsprimary.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsprimary.org.uk)