



Newsletter 4

25th September, 2015

Happy Friday!.....and what a beautiful day it has been. I am writing this having just returned from our Harvest Service in church where the sun shone brightly, the children shone even brighter, and we shared a really fun, thought-provoking and joyful time together. Last year, Reverend Philip introduced us to 4 dimensional story telling which involved, among other things, 'real' rain. I didn't think he could top that, and then this morning he introduced The Great St Stephen's Bob-Off! He used the child vs adult apple bobbing contest to talk about fairness in the world, and how important it is that we listen to that desire inside of us to make things fairer and do whatever we can. He then introduced Ellie Regan, who many of you will know as one of our parents, and she spoke to the children about her charity Challenge Africa and the work she is doing to help communities develop the independence they so strongly desire. Our children were spell-bound, and listening to Ellie speak, it really struck me how she has really listened to the needs of the people she is working with, tried her very best to help them, and has shown relentless kindness and respect towards them. These are exactly the behaviours that we are promoting in school with The Golden 3, and we have already begun to feel the impact of these in school. Hearing Reverend Philip and Ellie speak this morning I know will have inspired our children to think beyond their class and their school, towards the wider world and the part that can play in making it better. And that is at the heart of what I believe Primary School is all about.

Refugee Crisis...I know that many of you have been talking with your children about the ongoing refugee crisis in Europe and discussing, to various extents, the very troubling scenes that have developed in recent weeks. I gather that charities who are taking aid directly to the refugees have been so overwhelmed by support that they are no longer accepting donated goods, but as the crisis continues, cash donations will continue to be warmly welcomed. Mindful of forthcoming charity events that we commit to annually, we won't be organising a whole-school fundraising event in this instance, however if you or your child wish to make a cash donation to the appeal there will be a collection box in the foyer from Monday. Thank you.

Have a wonderful weekend, Andy Bowman

Chair of Governors.....At the start of term we were delighted to welcome Kate Seeley as our new Chair of Governors. Please read the attached letter from her introducing herself to you.

Lunch time Supervisors needed.....We are looking for casual lunchtime supervisors who could be called upon from time to time when we are short of staff for this important time of day. The hours are 11.30 to 1.20. If you are interested in being called upon from time to time, please contact Viv Alderson in the office.

Inhalers & School Health Care Plans....Please could all parents & carers or children with inhalers or a School Health Care Plan please return the paperwork to Mrs Darch as soon as possible. Thank you.

Dinner Money....If you pay for dinners monthly, October's payment is now due.
F7 - F12 16 days = £32.00
F13 & F14 11 days = £22.00
Please make cheques payable to 'St Stephen's School' or put the correct amount of cash into a named envelope.



School security.....Please could I ask that parents and pupils do not open the school door to let others in. It is very important from a security point of view that only members of school staff open the door and that visitors are greeted by Reception staff when they come in. If people let visitors in (including other parents) it is very difficult for Reception to monitor who is on the premises. Thank you for your support with this.

Second hand uniform sale.... Thanks to everyone who supported the second hand uniform sale. We raised £157 for the PTA.
Kerensa & Nicola

PTA News.....

Second-Hand Success

Well done to Karensa, Nic, Laura and the team for another great second-hand uniform sale, which raised almost £200!

DVD Library

We are hoping to bring back the popular DVD Library, where children can rent a DVD for a week for a very reasonable price! Watch this space.

Christmas Fair Committee - volunteers required!

Would you like to be part of the dream team that ensure the school Christmas Fair is a magical experience for all our children? Please get in touch so that we can start planning our wintry wonderland!

PTA Meeting - next Tuesday 29th September 7pm staff room

Looking forward to seeing you at next week's PTA meeting which is also the AGM. We will be discussing how things went last year, fundraising plans for this school year, our finances, funding requests, the development of our outside space and anything else you would like to raise. Everyone is welcome.

Have a lovely weekend
Angela
PTA Chair

Coming up in September

29th - PTA Meeting 7pm

Coming up in October

5th EYFS start full time
5th-9th Year 6 Residential
8th EYFS homework meeting 2:30
12th Full Governing Body Meeting
16th Olympic Sprinter in school
21st and 22nd Parent Consultations
22nd Children finish school
23rd INSET
26th - 30st Holiday

