



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

@StStephensPri



## Newsletter 27

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

### Happy Easter!

We had a lovely Easter service with Reverend Philip this morning, thinking about Easter hope and the positivity that brings us. He talked about our core values and it felt really pertinent to be reflecting on these a year since the first lockdown began because the love, courage, creativity and joy that everyone in our school family has shown through the last 12 months really have been the golden threads that have guided us through. To be ending this term back together and with school feeling happy and productive is something that parents, staff and children should all take a moment to be really proud of.

To celebrate this community achievement, every child has designed their own version of one of the three little birds who have featured at various points throughout this year. The display board in the foyer is, as I write, becoming increasingly colourful as every child's bird takes its place. Keep your eye on our social media for a photo of the finished board.

**Farewell Mrs Francis...** It is 17 years since Mrs Francis joined our staff team and today we are saying goodbye to her so that she can begin a very well deserved retirement. There will be very few children who have been through our school who haven't at some point been cared for and helped by Mrs Francis – in the classroom, at lunchtime, in the medical room – she has been an incredibly caring, dedicated, skilful, positive member of the team and we will all miss her greatly. I know you will join with me in thanking Mrs Francis and wishing her lots of love and luck for her next exciting chapter.

**Welcome Baby Hill...** I am delighted to let you know that on Saturday, Mrs Hill gave birth to a beautiful baby girl called Sophie. Mum, baby (and Dad) are all very well and very happy!

**Wrap around yoga...** Children at After School Club have been enjoying yoga in the sunshine this week, under the guidance of qualified yoga teacher Mrs Goldaniga. Our vision is that children's well-being becomes an increasingly big part of our provision at both Breakfast and After School clubs. If this interests you, we currently have a vacancy for Breakfast Club Leader, the details of which can be found here: [Breakfast Club Supervisor \(10 hrs\) – St Stephen's Church](#)



Please do phone for a chat if you are interested in finding out more.

**New PHSE curriculum...** Yesterday we wrote to you to introduce our new PHSE (personal, health, social and economic) curriculum which includes changes to our RSE (relationships and sex education) curriculum. If you haven't already seen the letter, please do take a moment to read it and contact us with any questions or feedback.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. I wish you and your family a happy, healthy Easter break.

Andy Bowman



## PTA Update...

Hi All,

We just wanted to wish you all a lovely Easter break and say a huge thank you to those who took part in the reading challenge, a special thank you to Ellie Baxter F7 for raising £130 in sponsorship money and for all her fantastic reading.

After Easter, we really need to be handing over the PTFA roles. Please do email us if you're interested. Sadly, without volunteers the PTFA will not be able to continue. If you're interested in taking on the Chair role or the Secretary role, please drop us an email to

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

Wishing you a lovely Easter full of chocolate eggs and fun.

Karin and Sam

**PTA Update Part 2...** I just wanted to add a note about the hugely valuable role the PTFA plays in life at St Stephen's. Being part of the PTFA puts you in a position to directly influence the school experience of our children by providing resources, funding experiences and creating those special community events that we all love so much. It is also a sociable and enjoyable group to be a part of and so I would urge you to consider getting involved and becoming a vital part of our school family. Thank you, Andy

## Diary Dates Reminder...

### April

1<sup>st</sup> – End of Term 4

19<sup>th</sup> – Term 5 begins

### May

27<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 5 for pupils

28<sup>th</sup> – Inset Day

### June

7<sup>th</sup> – Term 6 begins

### July

21<sup>st</sup> – Last day of Term 6

## 2021-22 Inset Days...

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Climate Corner...** This year has seen a huge shift in culture in terms of how children are travelling to and from school and we are all really proud of what has been achieved so far – thank you!

**Cycling...** After Easter, we are going to have a renewed focus on alternative modes of transport to tie in with the Sustrans Big Pedal 2021. Ahead of this I wanted to remind you that we do have bike racks both at the front of the school next to the hall and also to the rear in the school carpark.

**Richmond Lane...** Some parents have begun to drive towards the bottom of Richmond Lane to meet their children and on occasions this has led to traffic jams in this stretch of road. I am really grateful for you finding an alternative route which avoids school, and for the creative thinking at play. Please can I ask you to turn your engine off while you are waiting, or arrange to meet a little further away to disperse the traffic even more? Thank you so much, Andy