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@StStephensPri



## Newsletter 32

## 21st May 2021

### Happy Friday!

We seem to be having a little extra dose of Autumn weather at the moment! We avoid keeping the children inside if at all possible at playtime and lunchtime as the fresh air and exercise are so important so please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school every day so that they can enjoy playing in the wind and showers while we wait for sunnier days to arrive.

**Yellow Lines...** Just outside of the school gate, on the opposite side of the road to school, there will soon be yellow lines to prohibit parking between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday. This is a wonderful addition to the safety measures already in place for our children, as it will mean that when crossing from the green to school there will not be parked cars to navigate between.

If you tend to park there, please begin now to plan an alternative arrangement as we are expecting the lines to be in place by the start of term 6. Thank you for your support with this.

**Covid Reminder...** It has been great to see the world opening up again this week, so I feel it is a good time to remind you that the guidance for schools has changed very little, and we still need to be vigilant when it comes to covid symptoms. Local schools have continued to be affected by cases within or nearby, and we must continue to work together to avoid having to send a year group home due to a confirmed case. So, if your child exhibits one of the following symptoms...

- Raised temperature
- A new/persistent cough
- A loss or change to taste or smell

...please do not send them in to school and instead book a PCR test. If the PCR test comes back negative and your child is well enough, they will be able to return to school immediately. Without that result, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days. Thank you for your support with this. We still have a school full of children and some staff who are yet to receive a vaccine and so your ongoing vigilance and understanding is vital.

**The End of Term 5...** is nearly upon us. The children's last day is **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May** as we have an Inset day next Friday. I hope you have managed to successfully book parent consultation slots for next week – please call or email the office if you have had any difficulties.

**Smart watches...** If your child wants to wear a watch to school, please ensure it is a 'normal' watch rather than a smart watch. Aside from the value of smart watches, some of their functions (e.g. messaging and camera) are not appropriate for children to have in school. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman

**Climate Corner...** Do your children want to do more to become Climate Heroes? Then get them working towards a **Blue Peter Green Badge**. Blue Peter have recently launched a new way to earn their Green Badge, by making three pledges for action on Power, Plastic and Plants. The pledges include things like turning off electrical devices when you've finished using them and planting pollinator friendly plants. The idea is that kids choose the pledges they want to make, and stick to them for 2 weeks, before applying for their badge online. Check out the Blue Peter website at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-green-badge> for more info. Let's see how many Green Badges we can earn as a school! Make sure you tell us about what you've been doing.

*Love*

*Courage*

*Creativity*

*Joy*



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### **Make Music Performance Days are coming to St Stephen's School!**

We are very excited to be welcoming two amazing musicians to St Stephen's in the last week of this term. All our children will have the opportunity to experience joyful, creative music making and performance. On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May, our very own flute and music specialist will be giving performances and workshops in Phase 1, themed all around Nature. Jeni has enjoyed working at St Stephen's School for over 10 years; she is also a professional flautist and runs her own music school, <http://www.makemusicuk.com> Make Music Performance Days are her latest project, launched to help children in local primary schools experience amazing live music through and after the pandemic; generously grant aided by The Paragon Music Trust and already successfully received in several Bath Schools.

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May, Phase 2 children will be treated to a very special day of performances and workshops with Justin Adams, <http://www.justinadamsmusic.com/>, one of Britain's greatest rock guitarists. Justin, lives in Bath, but is often touring the world as a rock guitarist, producer and composer. We are so lucky to have Justin coming to our school!! In recent years, he has performed on the Glastonbury pyramid stage, (which will be the theme for his workshops), as well as at performing at Womad, the Proms and Royal Albert Hall... He is not only an amazing guitarist, but also a producer and composer. Most recently he has been recording an album in Box at Real World Studios with Mauro Durante, violinist and leader of the southern Italian band, Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino, perhaps we can ask him about it when we see him....

### **Diary Dates Reminder...**

#### **May**

24<sup>th</sup> – Parents evening (year 4 only)  
26<sup>th</sup> – Parents evening  
27<sup>th</sup> – Parents evening  
27<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 5 for pupils  
28<sup>th</sup> – Inset Day

#### **June**

7<sup>th</sup> – Term 6 begins  
7<sup>th</sup> – PTFA Second Hand Uniform Sale  
14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> – Individual and sibling photos

#### **July**

21<sup>st</sup> – Last day of Term 6

#### **September**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Inset Day  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Inset Day  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – School opens to pupils

**Volunteers needed...** St Stephens's parent and child group which runs at the church hall on Monday mornings in term time is looking for some volunteers to help get it back up and running. Please contact them via Facebook to let us know if you'd like to help run this fab community parent and child group.

### **DoodleNews...**

The Doodling at St Stephen's continues to increase. Congratulations to F8 (who only just stole the top spot this week) F13 and F3 were in second and F4 and F5 joint third! The results were SO close! F12 are close on our tail - let's see if they can change the leadership board next week!

Well done to all the wonderful children this week who have been awarded the DoodleMaths trophy by their class teachers.

Rec Arthur  
F3 Ruby  
F4 Lolli  
F5 Ralph  
F6 Ursula  
F7 Gabe  
F8 Jonty  
F9 Eva  
F10 Edith  
F11 Alfie  
F12 Clare  
F13 Ava  
F14 Lily