



All Saints Church School

Ladies Walk, Montacute, Somerset, TA15 6XG

Tel: 01935 826626 Fax: 01935 825788

e-mail: office@allsaints.bwmat.org

www.allsaintsprimaryschoolmontacute.com

Head Teacher: Mrs S Bowditch- BA QTS

Tuesday 4th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Back! I hope you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. The children have certainly had lots of exciting holiday stories to share with us today. We wish all our new families a special All Saints welcome and we hope that you will enjoy your time here at All Saints Church School. We look forward to working with you. I know you will continue to work with us, so that your child can grow in confidence, with a love of learning, and a determination to be the best person they can be.

The start of the school day

Children in Years 1 – 6 will be greeted on the playground each morning from 8.40am by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The bell will ring at 8.50am for the children to go into class. The Register will then be taken. Registers close at 9.10am however we aim to start our first teaching and learning session promptly at 9.00am. Children arriving after 9.10am should come into school via the office.

Acorn Class

We are very excited about welcoming our new reception children to Acorn class this week. For a reminder about the lead up to full time hours for those parents with a child starting in Acorn class please see the time table below.

Induction dates for Acorn Class September 2018		
Date	Morning	Afternoon
Monday 3 rd September	INSET DAY (no school for children)	
Tuesday 4 th to Friday 7 th September	Group 1 9:00am – 11:30am	Group 2 12:45pm – 3:15pm
Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th September	Groups 1 and 2 8:50am – 1:00pm <i>Please send your child in with a packed lunch on these dates.</i>	
From Monday 17th September all children in full time 8:50am – 3:15pm		
It is possible to arrange individual induction periods beyond the dates outlined above to reflect your child's needs. Please speak to Miss Cameron if you feel this may be appropriate for your child.		
<p><u>When dropping your child off, please use the wooden door that enters into the cloakroom.</u> <u>When picking your child up, please wait just outside of the glass double doors.</u></p>		

School Site

On Saturday 1st September the Governors working party made significant improvements to the external areas of the school including pressure washing the front exterior and trim trail, removing many cobwebs and painting the first two runs of the Acorns fence.

The Local Governing Body and I would like to give a big thank you to parent Andy Allman who helped to paint all of the exterior dormers and clear the cobwebs from the very high aspect windows in the school hall.

Mrs Brook and Mrs Harding have also spent time painting the Key Stage 2 classrooms and corridors around the school. Class 1 now has new double doors which lead out on to the old Acorn Class play area. This is an exciting addition to Class 1 and we hope this will add to the seamless transition of provision as our Acorn children progress to Class 1. The outdoor area will now be a focus to develop with the help of Friends of All Saints.

Communication with parents

There are a number of ways parents can be kept informed about dates for events and other helpful information.

Our schoolzine app and website include newsletters, class letters and event date information. This is regularly updated by Mrs Sharp so please do watch out for new dates and times being added. Schoolzine will also notify all parents of key information and Mrs Sharp will aim to send reminders about key events a week in advance. Our School website <https://allsaintsprimary.j2bloggy.com/> also contains key information and contacts as well as Class blogs. Within each Class blog area teachers often upload photos of recent activities. Please feel free to comment as the children also look at this regularly within class.

Breakfast Club

Reminder – Breakfast club hours now start at 7.45am

Friends Of All Saints

Our enthusiastic and dedicated FOAS continues to work hard to support the school and are already planning events for the year ahead. The first FOAS meeting is on Wednesday September 5th at 6.30pm. If you would like to be involved with FOAS regularly or on a more informal basis for some events you would certainly be welcomed aboard and are asked to contact Erin Mansel. The FOAS email address can be found on our school website.

Summer Term Questionnaires

Thank you to those parents who returned their parental questionnaires. We had 111 questionnaires returned. It is important to have your views and ideas so we can improve further. There were many positive comments to support the school as well as areas for further development.

Areas for further development included:

- Homework policy
- Rewards system (Rising Stars) review
- Extra Information Sessions for parents

We will endeavour to act on these areas and keep you informed as we do so.

Revised Rising Star System

We have just undertaken a review of our Rising Star System and will launch a revised system with all pupils next week during an assembly. We have taken into account parent and child feedback on our previous system for awarding Rising Stars and hope this will address some of the concerns raised as well as keeping the parts that were working well. As with all new systems, however, we will keep this under review. Further details explaining how this will work will be sent out next week once we have spoken to all the children.

Praise and Share Assemblies

Due to the significant increase in numbers of pupils this academic year we have had to re-organise our Praise & Share assemblies to meet health and safety regulations when using the school hall.

We will still be holding **Whole School Praise and Share (children and school staff only)** on a Friday at 2.45pm, however when we invite class parents we will now be holding Key Stage 1 Class Praise and Share at 9.10am – 9.30am on a Friday morning and Key Stage 2 Class Praise and Share at 2.45pm – 3.10pm, Friday afternoon. Please ensure you check the dates below so that you can write your child/children's Praise and Share date on your calendar.

Lost property

We collect lost property during the school day and endeavour to reunite items with their owners as soon as possible. Year 6 monitors will return any named items found in lost property to the correct classes throughout the week. It is therefore essential pupils ensure that items of clothing and equipment have their names clearly written in them. If children have lost an item they should come to Mrs Sharp to check if it has been handed in as we often build up a large amount of unnamed and unclaimed items. We would appreciate your support to check your child's belongings have their names in and to remind them to look after these.

Meet the Teacher after school

On Tuesday 18th September there will be an opportunity for parents and carers to 'Meet the Teacher'. There will be two sessions, one starting at 3.30pm – 3.55pm and a second at 4.00pm to 4.30pm. During this time class teachers will explain class expectations and provide an overview of the learning for the academic year. This time will also provide an opportunity for any questions you may have about your child's new class.

Mrs O'Donnell

Mrs O'Donnell will not be teaching this half term as she is recovering from a foot operation; however Mrs Stent, our Deputy Head Teacher, will be teaching in Class 2 on a Wednesday until Mrs O'Donnell returns. We wish Mrs O'Donnell a speedy recovery.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Information about extra-curricular activities for pupils to join in at lunch times and after school during the Autumn Term will shortly be available. After school clubs will start week commencing the 17th September. There is no doubt that getting fully involved in school life outside the classroom provides some wonderful opportunities to try new activities, enhances the enjoyment of coming to school as well as developing new skills and talents.

Recruitment

We are in the process of advertising for a 'Wrap around care' Manager. If you are interested in this position, please contact Mrs Julie Adams at the school.office@allsaints.bwmat.org

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and working with you all.

Best wishes

Mrs S Bowditch
Headteacher

Governors News

On behalf of the Local Governing Body (LGB), let me welcome you to another year at All Saints. If you're not familiar with the LGB, we are charged by the Bath and Wells Multi-Academy Trust to provide strategic oversight of the day to day operations of the school. Our primary role is to provide Mrs Bowditch and her team with the support and resources they require to ensure that every pupil flourishes to his or her potential. We regularly review all aspects of the school's management through the school development plan, with a particular focus on pupil learning and achievement. If you have any questions about the LGB or our purpose, you may email me at any time on martin.rust@allsaints.bwmat.org.

The LGB is very excited about the plans and initiatives that Mrs Bowditch and Mrs Stent have proposed for this school year and will give them our full support to ensure they succeed in implementing their vision for All Saints.

However, you will be aware that public funding is very tight and the school has very limited financial resources. Joining the BWMAT has had financial benefits, but we still do not have funding available for all of the improvements we'd like to make. In particular, over the years the Governors have prioritised classroom support over buildings & grounds. Having a relatively new building allowed this focus, but after 20 years we now must complete a significant amount of deferred maintenance to prevent deterioration.

To help stretch our tight resources, this summer the Governors undertook some improvements ourselves, alongside parent volunteers. We are particularly grateful to Mr Andy Allman for donating his time and construction experience. We are also very thankful for the Friends continued efforts on reinstating the Forest Area.

The Governors will be holding another work day later this term and hope that you will join us. If just 20% of families attend, we can complete all of the external maintenance in one day! Further details will be in our next newsletter and available via SchoolZine.

Thank you and once again, welcome to another exciting year in the life of All Saints Church School.

Martin Rust

Date for diaries

05.09.18 Friends Meeting 6.30pm at All Saints (staff room)
18.09.18 Meet the Teacher 3.30pm-3.55pm & 4.00pm – 4.30pm
19.09.18 LGM
21.09.18 Swimming starts for Class 2 and 5
25.09.18 EYFS Phonics and Tapestry meeting 5.00pm - 6.00pm
26.09.18 Reception intake for September 2019 9.30am – 11.00am
28.09.18 **Class 1 Praise & Share Key Stage 1** 9.10am – 9.30am
28.09.18 **Class 6 Praise & Share Key Stage 2** 2.45pm – 3.10pm
03.10.18 Experiencing Harvest School only Yr A – 2
04.10.18 Experiencing Harvest School only Yr 3 – 6
04.10.18 Harvest Festival Service, all welcome 2.00pm in St Catherine's Church
05.10.18 **Acorn Class Praise & Share Key Stage 1** 9.10am – 9.30am followed by Acorn coffee morning
05.10.18 **Class 5 Praise & Share Key Stage 2** 2.45pm – 3.10pm
12.10.18 **Key Stage 2 Showcase afternoon** 2.45pm – 3.15pm
22.10.18 Parental Consultation meeting 1 3.30pm start
24.10.18 Parental Consultation meeting 2 3.30pm start
26.10.18 INSET
29.10.18 HALF TERM
05.10.18 INSET
07.11.18 LGB
09.11.18 **Class 3 Praise & Share Key Stage 2** 2.45pm – 3.10pm
12.11.18 Anti-bullying week
14.11.18 Oddments Theatre Company visiting school
16.11.18 **Key Stage 1 Showcase afternoon** 2.45pm – 3.15pm
19.11.18 Flu immunisations A, Yr1, Yr 2, Yr3, Yr 4, Yr5
23.11.18 **Class 4 Praise & Share Key Stage 2** 2.45pm – 3.10pm
07.12.18 **Class 2 Praise & Share Key Stage 1** 9.10am – 9.30am

Christmas performance information to follow.