



St. Sampson's

Church of England Primary School

www.st-sampsons.wilts.sch.uk

Term 1 - Number 1

Thursday, 2nd September 2021

 @StSampsonsPri

Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed some quality family time. It is lovely to welcome the children back and I have already enjoyed hearing all about their holidays. Thank you for all your help ensuring that all the children have come back looking very smart. It has been delightful to see the children so eager to work in their new classes and get on with their learning.

Congratulations to Mr Ball and Miss Hargreaves who got engaged over the summer! Also, congratulations to Mr Harris who also got engaged! We are thrilled for them all.

I will do my best to try to keep you up to date in my weekly newsletters, which I will send out every Thursday. There will also be information on our website. Key dates for events throughout the year are already on the school calendar on the website. In addition, do follow our Twitter feed to find out what we have been up to. This also appears on our website and only children who have permission from you will have their photograph on this feed.

Here's to a fantastic year! ☺

Jennifer Bayne

Meet the Teacher Sessions / Year group information

We are acutely aware that parents have not been able to come in to school over the last year and a half and that you haven't had the chance to see your child's classroom and meet their teacher.

We are inviting you to come and join your child in their class for the last part of the day over the next few weeks. Unfortunately, due to space, we need to restrict this to **one parent / guardian only** but if these sessions are successful, we will look to do them again later in the school year.

During this session, the class teachers will be able to give you an overview of the curriculum for the year, talk to you about reading and any statutory assessments your child will have this year as well as expectations around homework. We also thought that this would be beneficial for you to hear alongside your child.

With the exception of Reception, sessions will run from 2:30pm. Please come to the main school entrance at this time.

8th September - Year 1 9th September - Year 2 14th September - Year 6

15th September - Year 5 16th September - Years 3 & 4

16th September @ 1:10pm - Reception parents information session. (Children can stay)

Jeans for Genes – Friday, 17th September



On **Friday, 17th September**, children are allowed to wear denim (or their own clothes) rather than uniform in exchange for a donation for this charity.

Attendance and Punctuality

I don't need to remind you of the turbulent months we have had with attendance and remote learning. It is imperative that all children attend school this year and are on time each day. The children start personalised learning from the moment they get to their classrooms as part of their I-learn time.

Remember, that the doors open from 8:45am-8:50am off either the bottom or middle playground.

If your child is unwell, please telephone the school from 8am to inform us. If we do not hear from you, we operate a first day calling system to ensure that you are aware that they aren't in school and to find out the reason for their absence. All absences will need a written note for our records which are also scrutinised by the Education Welfare Officer.

Our value that we are exploring this term is 'Responsibility'

Covid Update

Schools are no longer responsible for track and trace. Should a child test positive in school, parents will not be routinely informed by the school.

Any child who presents symptoms of Covid – a new, continuous cough, a temperature or a loss of taste and smell should not be in school and should go for a PCR test. Children who test positive, who are not unwell, will be provided with remote learning.

There is no longer a requirement to operate a 'bubble' system or to avoid mixing or for staff to wear facemasks in communal areas. However, we will still be making sure that we have increased ventilation throughout the school and opportunities for regular handwashing. We have also made the decision, for the time being, to ask children to come in in their PE kits on PE days. (The class teachers will inform you of these days).

We have a contingency plan that might well see the reintroduction of some of the measures we have before should cases rise within the school or locally. Every day, PHE will have a snapshot of our data and they will advise us. Please be assured that any measures taken will impact the fewest number of children for the shortest amount of time, in line with DfE guidance.

Please ensure that you park safely and responsibly at school drop off and pick up times.

Please do not obstruct the fire station in any way.

Please do not park in the bus stop, on double yellow lines or obstruct neighbours access.

Eco School Bronze Award

We heard right at the end of last term that we have been awarded Eco-School Bronze Award! Well done to the Eco-team who helped us attain this. We are now aiming for Silver this year. 😊