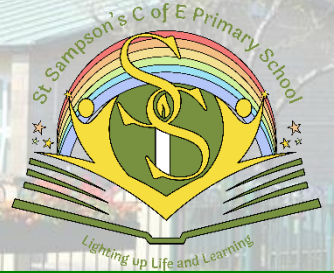




St. Sampson's Church of England Primary School



www.st-sampsons.wilts.sch.uk



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Term 6 - Number 35

Thursday, 14th July 2022

Welcome to our final newsletter of this academic year - brace yourselves - it is a long one! This time next week, the children will have started their much deserved summer break.

It has been a really busy week in school. On Monday, Year 5 went to visit Bradon Forest as they hosted a WW2 History experience for Year 5 children. We were made to feel very welcome and this was really enjoyed by our children.

Our Year 6 had their final performance of 'What a Knight' yesterday evening - and what a super production it has been. I know that everyone who has been to see it has thoroughly enjoyed it and the children sang and acted their hearts out; it was spectacular and joyous! They raised a superb **£252.80** for their nominated charity, Cancer Research, with their retiring collections.

Tomorrow, the children are visiting their new class teachers in their new classrooms and next week we have our Leavers' service and school disco.

I have attached a copy of our statutory assessments to this newsletter. At the moment, the KS2 national 'Greater Depth' figure is just reflective of a 'Higher Score', so these might change slightly, and some national comparisons are not yet published, hence watermarked as draft. Results alone do not indicate how well a school is doing. Indeed, no other newsletter this year has celebrated academic achievement in terms of attainment only. However, we are proud of these results but we are even more proud of the hard work that every child has put in to the progress they have made this year from their starting point.

There is definitely an end of year feeling and we will enter the last week of term excited about breaking up and the summer holidays, but also with mixed emotions as we say good bye to members of our school community.

Firstly, I know that you will join me in saying a heartfelt thanks to Mrs Read and Mrs Brennan as they leave St Sampson's. Both of them have worked here for a long time, with both being parents of children who attended here and Mrs Read even came to school here herself! They have worked tirelessly, and cared enormously, for the children during their time at our school and we wish them all the best as they move on. We know that they will stay in touch and be part of our community.

Then we come to our wonderful Year 6. Like everyone else, they have had two years of very interrupted schooling and social interaction. Yet, they are leaving us to go on to their next chapters as confident, generous, kind and amazing individuals. All have worked hard this year and excelled and we are so proud of all that they have achieved at St Sampson's. Their production, their trip to the Isle of Wight and their superb SATs results are just the tip of the iceberg in terms of evidence of this. We wish you all well and look forward to hearing of your future endeavours as you flourish and grow. Cont...

We are very excited to be celebrating the wedding of Mr Ball and Miss Hargreaves who are getting married this summer. It will be a Cricklade wedding and we wish them all the best for the big day as well as a lifetime of happiness and good health. It is fair to say that we are all quite excited about it!

As I reflect on this year, I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to you all - parents, governors and staff - for your continued support and kindness. We have struggled with covid yet again, with staff and pupil absence being a real challenge. We had a visit from OfSTED and we have worked really hard to ensure that children have caught up with any gaps in learning as well as build confidence and self-esteem. None of this has been easy but all has been met with a smile and a can-do attitude by staff and children alike. This would not have been possible or sustainable without you. I am so grateful - you don't know how much a smile and a timely kind word means sometimes. Thank you.

We finish term next Wednesday, 20th July at 1:50pm. Once you have collected your child, please either leave the site promptly, or move upwards of the middle playground up the drive. We will then form a guard of honour for our Year 6 as they leave our school for the final time at 2pm.

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer break, with time with those you love. I hope that holiday plans go to plan (!) and I look forward to hearing all about them as we welcome you back in September. School starts on **Friday, 2nd September** for children who are going in to Years 1-6 and our new Reception children start on Monday, 5th September. If your child is moving in to Year 3, then they will come in to school from the middle playground. Don't forget that the doors are open between 8:45-8:50am!

With every best wish, **Jennifer Bayne**

St Sampson's Stars!

A big well done to all our stars of the week - Lighting up Life and Learning ☺



Bees - Bella & Samuel

Butterflies - Amelia & Joe



1A - Amber & Samuel

1CS - George & Jessica

2H - Jasper & Holly

2T - Tabi & George

3/4C - Matilda & Oakley

3/4L - Finley & Elizabete

3/4R - Archie & Bailey



5O - Joey & May

5S - Thomas & Isabelle



6B - Lucy & Noah

6J - Esme & Scarlett

Reading Books and Star Badges

Please can you have a look at home for any school reading books and / or star of the week badges. We would be really grateful if these can be returned before the end of term, especially books, so we can sort out the class libraries. Thank you.



North Wiltshire Schools' Athletics

On Friday, 8th July, St Sampson's took an elite team of Athletes to compete with the North Wiltshire Schools Legacy Games. They ran, jumped and threw vortexes against 5 other schools all afternoon and I am very pleased to say that the lower school team took bronze medals and the upper school team took silver with Arya and Eleanor receiving additional awards for their "Team Spirit" and sportsmanship. The Legacy Games started on our very own school field in the build up to London 2012 and is a very important event on our calendar for this reason so a really big congratulations to all the competitors and spectators for helping make the day very special. A big thank you to Mrs Frank, Mrs Preece and Miss Chamberlain who went out of their way to look after the team during the competition. Perhaps some of our athletes might compete in the commonwealth games one day, which coincidentally, starts on 28th July in Birmingham!



The team comprised of the following athletes from across all year groups:

Reception:	Rafferty & Ellie	Year 1:	Tallulah & Archie		
Year 2:	Brooke & Toby	Year 3:	Jack & Viola	Year 4:	Lacey-Mae & Sid
Year 5:	Joseph & Mabel	Year 6:	Arya & Eleanor		

Mr Smith

Uniform and Equipment List / Lost Property



Thank you for all your support in ensuring that your children have looked so smart all year.

I appreciate that the summer holidays are the usual time for buying any new uniform and so I have attached the uniform and equipment list that is on our website. Please can I remind you that children should wear their school jumper / cardigan or sweatshirt with their school PE kit on PE days. Also, a reminder that hair accessories should be school colours only please.

We do have a very large amount of jumpers / cardigans and sweatshirts that are not named. We will not be holding on to any lost property over the summer, so if you can make use of these, please feel free to come in, have a look and take anything suitable.

Polite Reminder

Please do not park or turn on our neighbours' drives when dropping off or collecting from school. Thank you.

