



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SCHOOL, TAUNTON
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23rd November 2018

NEWSLETTER 11 AUTUMN TERM 2018-2019

Dear Parents/carers and children,

FITTER FUTURE - NO SIGN UP NECESSARY

Fitter Future club is now up and running every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 8.40am & 8.45am.

We have had a fantastic turn out so far, and let's hope this continues!

The children are really enjoying our morning wake-up exercise sessions in the hall, it is a great way to warm up and exercise on these cold mornings. Parents are welcome to join in too. I would like to give a huge thank you to Mrs. Gerrard for setting up and running this excellent initiative. It would be great to see as many children and parents as possible at next week's sessions. You can access the fitter future website and continue 'working out' at home using your login details.

PETE THE POET

The children in Sheppey and Exe classes spent Wednesday doing workshops on diversity and equality with Pete the Poet. The whole school enjoyed the assembly at the end of the day when the children shared their poems and explained to the school how we can successfully get on with other people who are different to us, but still treat them with dignity and respect. Pete said that he had not been to such a welcoming and respectful school for a long time. Well done Sheppey and Exe!



SCHOOL PHOTOS

Tempest Photography visited the school last week. All children should have brought home a 'proof' with instructions on how to order.

Online orders are preferred and offer a wider range of packages/discounts. **The deadline for ordering was today.** If you opt to have your photographs delivered to school, you will benefit from free delivery, however if you wish your photographs to be delivered to your own address, there is a postage fee to pay. Please see the following website for more information. www.tempest-orders.co.uk

VISITORS/PARENTS

Please remember that when you are on the site during the school day, for any reason, you need to report to the School Office. This is a safeguarding precaution. Thank you for your help with keeping our school a safe place for all of our children.

MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL			<u>CANCELLED CLUBS (COMMENCING 26th November)</u> Years 5 & 6 Boys football club on Tuesday is cancelled due to a fixture. (Old Tag Rugby club)
Running/Fitness Club	KS2	Mrs Gerrard	
TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL			<u>HANDBALL</u> Handball club is changing to Netball club from next week (Wednesday 28 th November). All children who currently attend Handball, automatically have a place allocated at Netball (there is no need to complete a new form). However, if you do not wish to come to Netball club, please let Mrs. Gerrard know. All new members will need to complete a form to join Netball club.
Boy's Football	Years 5 & 6	Mr Green	
Study Club	Years 4,5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard	
WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL			<u>CATCHBALL</u> Year 3&4 Boys' Football has now finished. Mr. Green will be running a Year 3&4 Catchball club on Wednesdays instead. If your child wishes to attend, please complete a form, available from the letter rack outside the school office.
Netball	Years 5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard	
Catchball	Years 3 & 4	Mr Green	
THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL			<u>AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</u> If your child is unable to attend their after-school club for any reason, please ensure you inform the member of staff running the club.
DJ Club	KS1 & KS2	Mrs Exell	
Dance (around the world!)	KS2	Mrs Gerrard	
Girl's Football	KS2	Mr Green	
FRIDAY LUNCHTIME			
Singing Club	KS1	Miss Brett	
Choir	Years 4,5 & 6	Miss Sadler	
FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL			
Study Club	Years 4,5 & 6	Mrs Gerrard	
Football (Girls & Boys)	Years 1 & 2	Mr Green	

SPRING MENU (JANUARY 2019)

The new Spring lunch menu is now available to order. Please login to ParentPay to make your selections. As always the deadline for ordering lunches is the Wednesday prior to the week of meals, except when we have school holidays and then the deadline is the Wednesday prior to the holiday for the first week back following the holiday.



CHRISTMAS DINNER – order deadline December 12th

On Wednesday 19th December, we will be serving our traditional Christmas dinner at lunchtime **instead of the normal menu, WHICH IS NOW NOT AVAILABLE.** Christmas dinner is available for the whole school. If your child is entitled to free school meals or is in EYFS/Key Stage 1 the meal will be free, otherwise the cost of the meal is £2.50.

Christmas dinner will be served with a Christmas cracker and the choices are as follows:

Traditional Christmas Dinner (Roast turkey, pigs in blankets, stuffing, roast potatoes and veg)

Vegetarian Christmas Dinner (Roast Quorn, roast potatoes and veg)

To order a meal, please login to the ParentPay system. **The final deadline for ordering a Christmas dinner is Wednesday 12th December.** Please note if you have already ordered a meal for this day, **your order will be cancelled** and any monies paid will be reimbursed via a credit to your ParentPay account. **If your child wishes to have a school Christmas dinner on this day, you will need to log on and re-order via ParentPay.**

EXCITING SCIENCE PROJECT (JANUARY 2019)

We are pleased to be welcoming Miss Kathryn Bates, a PhD student from University College London (Department of Neuropsychology) to our school. She is looking at how mental imagery develops in children. This research will be published as part of National research to inform education in the future. Don't miss out on the opportunity for your child to be part of this exciting project. Children need to be 6 years and older by January 2019 (Years 1 to 6). Please see the separate email/letter sent (attached) out to all parents this week and follow the link to take part.

ATTENDANCE

We recognise the importance of regular attendance as a key factor in our pupils' achievement. It is therefore essential that parents work in partnership with the school. A child with 90% attendance at the end of the school year will have missed the equivalent of 4 weeks absence. Greater attention is now paid to overall absence by the Department for Education. Therefore we do not authorise any term time absences for holidays and will only authorise an absence in exceptional circumstances. All such unauthorised absence has to be referred to the Local Authority Education Welfare Department. When a child's absence falls below 90% this may lead to the issuing of a Fixed Penalty fine. Please be reminded that it is a parent's responsibility to notify the school in the event of a child's absence. This needs to be done each day by 9.30am at the very latest either in person, by telephone or via email. If we do not receive notification as to the reason for absence your child will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence.

NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY ADVICE - ROBLOX

Roblox is a popular multi-player online gaming platform which allows children to play and create a variety of games in a 3D world. We have been made aware of some of the dangers of this game. If you have any concerns or for advice, please see the attached link: <https://t.co/0Urf7fNw16>

PTFA

Christmas Fair Friday 14th December 5-7pm

We will be in both playgrounds, **every** Wednesday morning before school to collect your donations of teddies, chocolate, filled jars, bottles (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic). Each child bringing in a donation will receive team points and a lolly. Please give generously!

The PTFA would like to thank all of the businesses who have kindly sponsored our Christmas Fair (please see poster on left).

The list for has now gone up in the entrance foyer by the hall (up the yellow steps by Somer class). We would really appreciate your help so please sign up. If you can't help on the actual evening, we would be very grateful for any help in the lead up to the fair. For more information about this, please contact Lucy Morris by email lucyjane_19gw@hotmail.co.uk or she can be found in the playground.

Race Night Friday 30th November. £5 per ticket to include food and free raffle ticket. Bring your own drinks! Please see a member of the PTFA for your ticket!

Keep a lookout for upcoming dates :
Meet Santa Tuesday 11th December 3.15pm (We shall be selling our famous marshmallow snowmen too!)
School discos EYFS/KS1 & KS2 Thursday 20th December ~ More info to follow

Yours sincerely,

**Keith Atkins
Head Teacher**

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER	
Thursday 29th	Year 5&6 Trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum
DECEMBER	
Tuesday 4th	Year 2 Nativity Trip to Volis Farm, Cheddon Fitzpaine
Thursday 6th	Pantomime (in school time)
Wednesday 12th	Deadline for ordering Christmas Dinner on ParentPay Past Pupils' Party 2pm in the School Hall
Wednesday 19th	Nativity Service 10am Christmas Dinner
Friday 21st	Last day of Autumn term Christmas Jumper Day (Come to school in your festive jumper for a donation of £1)
Monday 24th	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS Crib Service at St. Andrew's Church
JANUARY 2019	
Monday 7th	INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 8th	Back to school



**Our next Messy Church will be Saturday 24th November, 3pm at St. Andrew's Church Hall
FUN, FOOD & SEASONAL CRAFT**