



Peace, Hope & Joy



Dear Children, families, staff, governors and friends

17th July 2017

“The end of one year and the start of the next”

As we rapidly approach the end of a very busy term and academic year and with the summer holidays rapidly approaching I would like to write to everybody to say a few words and discuss some ideas for next year.

Most importantly I want to say thank you to everyone – children, families, staff, governors and friends. This has been a very busy year, where a lot has happened. Last week a visitor from the diocese asked me to sum up how I felt as my first year as head comes to an end – after some thinking I replied “exhausted but very happy”.

I would like to wish our year six who are leaving to go to secondary school every happiness and success. I am sure they are feeling excited and nervous in equal measure. We have 30 new children joining our reception class in September and we have been visiting them at home to get to know them and their families. We are all looking forward to welcoming them to the school family along with 4 new children joining classes in key stage two in September.

Next Year

For me personally it has been busy time trying to understand how St. Peters works and it has been wonderful to be able to talk to so many parents, carers and children over the last two terms. We have all been carefully listening to what people have been saying and reading all the survey feedback from children, parents and staff.

Based on what people have told us here are some things that will be happening from September (don't worry about remembering them all – we will write again in September with all the dates):

- Friday's rewards assembly will be moved to the afternoon (starting at 1430), we will be contacting the families of those children who have won awards on Thursday afternoon to invite them to the assembly – we would love to invite everyone but the hall is not big enough, however, see below:
- Once a half term we will hold the Friday assembly in St. Peters church and we will be able to invite everybody, as we will all fit in the church.
- Each class will be holding open afternoons in the school hall where we will invite families of children in the class to come and join in a lesson on art or design technology. We will also do tea and coffee and I will be around so you can chat to me as well.
- As many of you will know we have been recruiting and training several parent volunteers – these very willing people have all now completed their police checks (called DBS) and have undergone safeguarding training. They have already been helping as readers at lunchtimes and from September they will be helping out in classes and around the school.

- We will be setting up an email system so people can email school with questions or comments (a parent who works difficult hours suggested this). We will write to you with the address in September.
- With the friends of St. Peters we will be running a variety of fun fund raising activities including discos, beetle drives, quiz nights, etc. If you have any ideas for activities please let us know. We will holding a planning meeting in September and we write to you all with the date and time – please come along, all are welcome.
- We are also planning on starting class assemblies and inviting families to come along and celebrate with the children.
- The results of all the surveys of parents and children are on the school website for all to see and in September we will be writing to all the parents to explain the actions we will be taking as a result of the surveys.

All this will not happen at once! We will roll them out over the year – taking care to write to people in advance to let them know they will be happening.

From September teachers and Mr Smedley / Mr Dolphin will be on the playgrounds from 0840. Children will be taken into class at 0845 and lessons will start immediately. Please remember that any child who arrives after 0855 will be marked late.

This term we held a coffee afternoon for parents and had several parents came to chat to me – we look forward to holding more next year.

I would be very keen to open a discussion with all families about homework and school trips next term – I realise I will not be able to please everybody, but I would like to hear peoples thoughts about these areas and any suggestions for changes.

When things don't go according to plan

We try very hard to offer the best possible service to all our children and families and we always listen carefully to what families and children are saying.

Sometimes things don't go quite right – if this happens please tell me, if I do not know I cannot do anything about it. I promise that if there is a problem – if you tell me about it I will do all I can to fix it

We do understand that for many reasons some people feel they cannot talk directly to us. If you feel you cannot speak to me or Mr Dolphin directly, please talk to a class teacher or write us a letter and from September you will also be able to email us.

Summer fair and Sports day

Thank you to everyone who helped to organise these and thank you to everybody who came to support. They were both wonderful events.

Finally I want to wish everyone a happy and safe summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in September. **School re-opens at 0840 on Tuesday 5th September.**

With all best wishes

M. J. Smedley

Magnus Smedley
Headteacher



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