

ST PHILIP'S NEWS & INFORMATION



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Life in all its fullness John 10:10



Newsletter No. 2 19th September 2018



Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Values

You may have noticed a new page in the Homework Planners this year (Page 11).

Children in school are often rewarded for demonstrating Christian values ie

service, kindness, courage, honesty etc. Our school Ethos Team thought it would be good to give parents the opportunity to let us know how your children show these values at home. I hope it will provide an opportunity for you to discuss which value you have worked on and how you've seen this evidenced at home. Please complete this at the end of each month – just a sentence would be great – hopefully doable.

Values

Character Qualities and Values We Love to Celebrate
We love to celebrate Christian values at St Philip's, there are so many different values to choose from. Please will parents/carers pick one value from the list below each month and say how your child has shown that quality.

Compassion, Creativity, Courage, Honesty, Empathy, Patience, Humility, Self-control, Gratitude, Forgiveness, Love, Peace, Hope, Empathy, Faithfulness, Hospitality, Friendship, Trust, Service, Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Caring, Firmness, Grace, Mercy, Integrity, Politeness, Respect, Generosity or Prosocialness.

Month	Value	Describe how your child has shown that quality
September		
October		
November		
December		
January		



School Funding

School budgets across the country have been under pressure for some time now. We have had increased costs such as increased National Insurance contributions and pension payments to make as well as having to fund any national pay awards ourselves. St Philip's is not alone in this situation; none of these additional costs have been funded and have to come from our own existing budget which has been reduced. We are much worse off than in previous years and, as such, are increasingly having to make difficult decisions. We have pared down our budgets in all areas and have had to reduce our teaching assistant hours. As a result we will not be able to sustain the level of additional support we have enjoyed in the past.

Although the Department for Education re-allocated £1.3 billion for schools last year, this is over two years and is not sufficient. Nationally, there is a £2bn gap in funding each year until 2022. Even the Government's own National Audit Office has calculated that schools are facing cuts of 8% in real terms by 2020. Funding for Special Educational Needs is also being cut and schools are now expected to contribute significantly more to support children with additional needs. To compound the issue, this all comes at a time of dramatically reduced support from the Local Authority. We shall be looking more to the Palladian Academy to see how we can support one another as a group of local schools and how we can work more efficiently together.

Films

Very occasionally, we may watch a film or a clip from a film in school; just so you are aware, we may use 'U' rated films without your permission. If a PG rated film or clip is used in school hours we'll request permission from you first – we'll always try to be sensitive to themes and remain mindful of our Christian ethos at St Philip's.



Flags



We have a wonderful array of flags and a world map in the Hall representing the heritage of children and staff at St Philip's. If you are of mixed heritage, you'll need to decide on one for the map & flag. If you believe your child is not represented or misrepresented, please let us know. It is wonderful to have such a diverse community here – it really brings a cultural richness to our school and is important as we learn about and celebrate similarities and differences between people. The flag stall in the Guildhall Market is pretty good – I've not managed to 'stump' them yet.

We will work hard to ensure that cuts have the least impact on teaching possible. Please be assured that we will take the utmost care with budgets, to ensure all the money we have is spent effectively on your children.

Even now, parents are largely in the dark while schools madly swim against the currents to keep everything afloat. We need to keep up the pressure and among the voices that are heard the 'loudest' are the voices of the voting parents!! ... You.

The NAHT (National Association of Headteachers) have arranged for two national speakers lined up along with Wera Hobhouse the MP for Bath to speak at a meeting for the community on Tuesday 2nd October from 7pm to 9pm at Ralph Allen School. For further information please refer to the flyer on the school website on the newsletter section.

Head Teacher Awards :

Robin	
Jay	Cody & Caetlin.
Dove	Kaizer & Jacob.
Nightingale	Judah, Tia & Finley.
Hawk	Bun & Sophie.
Eagle	Sanaa & Tehzeeb.
Osprey	Joseph & Samuel.
Kestrel	Liam & Charlotte.
Owl	Eryn.



Open Mornings and Afternoons

We have a series of open mornings and open afternoons coming up. These are specifically for prospective parents considering schools for 2019 for reception aged children. If you know of anyone looking for a school place for



September 2019, please encourage them to come along to one of the following:

Tuesday 25 Sept 9:30-11:00
 Monday 8th Oct 1:30-2:30
 Thursday 8th Nov 9:30-11:00
 Wednesday 5th Dec 1:30-2:30

We are increasingly popular and are often inundated on these days so please note: they are for prospective parents not existing parents.

New House Captains

Congratulations to the new team of House Captains:



St Andrew	Charlotte & Oscar
St David	Eryn & Nathan
St George	Harry & Emily
St Patrick	Joel & Anlyn

School Councillors

Congratulations to the following children who have been voted to represent their classes on the school council:



Dove	Zeyad & Amelia
Nightingale	Finley & Olive
Hawk	Tia & George
Eagle	Ethan & Sara
Osprey	Sam & Nancy
Owl	Charlie & Theo
Kestrel	Sam & Pip

Head Lice

This is an on-going problem in every school in the country. Please could you help us keep on top of these unwelcome passengers by checking and combing the children's hair every week with a fine tooth head lice comb. If you do find any, it's worth checking the whole family – they spread like wild fire.



Governors

A big thankyou to Mrs Kindon who is stepping down from her role as governor; she has served the school for a number of years. We greatly appreciate her commitment and time she has given to the task and the difference she made.



Gate Closure

Please can parents vacate the playgrounds by 9am so we can secure the perimeter for the day. Also a bell will sound at 3:30 to remind parents to vacate the playgrounds so after school clubs can begin. I do understand this could rather undermine a community feel – but I trust you understand pupil safety must come first. Thanks for your understanding.

New Reception Parents' Coffee Morning

We would like to welcome all parents and carers of new reception children to a coffee morning on Monday 24th from 8.55am – 10:00, in the hall. Drop in if you can

As always, if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Andy Joy
Headteacher