



# St John's Church of England First School

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Head of School: Katharine Anstey

Newsletter 01, 06.09.16

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new children and their families joining St John's this year. We welcome our new staff Mrs K Avery, Mrs R Glew, Miss T King and Miss S Smith.

Mrs Hancock and Miss Jessop are visiting the new Reception children in their homes and these children will start school on Thursday.

We would also like to thank you for your support, good wishes and gifts to all the staff at the end of last academic year.

## Staffing Structure

For ease of reference, please find below a reminder of the staffing structure for this academic year:-

Class	Teacher	Support Staff
Reception class [Elephants]	Mrs J Hancock/ Miss A Jessop	Miss G Bennett Mrs R Glew
Year 1 [Giraffes]	Miss S Smith	Mrs A Anderson Mrs K Avery Mrs K Saltmarsh
Year 2 [Dolphins]	Miss M Prince	Mrs C Ellis Miss K O'Brien Miss L Scott
Year 3 [Pandas]	Mrs F Weir	Miss E Holloway Miss T King Mrs A Selby Miss R Slater
Year 4 [Snow Leopards]	Miss H Foster	Miss D Elston Mrs J Turvey

**WIMBORNE**  
Academy Trust



National Teaching School  
designated by  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

Allenbourn Middle School Colehill First School Hayeswood First School Merley First School  
St John's First School St Michael's Middle School Witchampton First School



### **Staffing Structure [cont'd]**

- Mrs A Selby [Year 3.] Mrs Selby will also continue her Emotional Literacy Support role and operate Nurture Group [Penguins] each afternoon.
- Mrs T Smith - Speech & Language Teaching Assistant [Monday - Thursday]

Mrs L Swann is teaching at St John's on a part-time basis this year to provide cover for the classteachers during their PPA [Planning, Preparation, Assessment] time.

In addition, Miss D. Elston has been appointed as an HLTA within the school and will also support classes during teachers PPA time.

Miss S Lemon will continue in her role as Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator [SENCO.] She will be based at St John's [Mon/Wed/Fri] and will also be working more widely across the Wimborne Academy Trust at Witchampton and Colehill First Schools.

Miss Lemon will be holding a drop-in each Monday morning 9.00am - 9.30am.

### **End of Day Pick Up Arrangements**

If there are any changes to regular pick up arrangements, could you please complete a new form [available from the school office.]

### **Gas Maintenance Works**

During the summer holidays, there has been some major gas maintenance work on St John's Hill. Parking is still restricted and I would ask you to park with due consideration for our neighbours when dropping off and picking up your child. We have been informed that this work is due to be completed within 3 weeks.

### **Hot Meals**

A reminder that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to have a hot meal. There is no need for parents to order as the school places the order for these year groups, and for children in Years 3 & 4 who are entitled to Free School Meals. If you have any special requirements or you wish to opt out of this arrangement, please contact the school office. Parents with children in Years 3 & 4 can order meals on-line. Please visit [www.dorsetmealselector.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmealselector.co.uk) to register your child.



### **Pupil Premium : Are you Missing Out?**

Did you know that your financial circumstances may entitle your child to a number of additional support options in school? If you are in receipt of any of these benefits, your child may be one of our Pupil Premium children:-

- Income Support (IS) or
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual taxable income (as assessed by The Inland Revenue) which from 6 April 2011 does not exceed £16,190
- Income-Based Job Seekers' Allowance (IB JSA) or
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related) (ESA(IRA)) or
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

### ***Please apply even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2***

All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are now entitled to receive a free lunch. However, parents of children in receipt of any of the above benefits are still **strongly encouraged** to apply for free school meals because it enables the school to access additional funding which is used to provide additional support to improve access to learning. At St John's, your child **would** be entitled to the following:

- Subsidised school uniform worth £35 over 2 years
- Discounted rate at Breakfast Club
- Support with school trips and clubs
- Additional small group learning support in classrooms

### ***My child gets a free school meal anyway, why do I still need to apply?***

Although all children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 will receive a free lunch meal, it is still important that you apply if you might be eligible. This is because, if your child is eligible, the school will receive additional funding called Pupil Premium. The school will receive £1,300 (2014-15) per pupil which is used to support the education of all pupils from low-income families as needed, to ensure that they get the same chances as other children.

This can add up a lot of additional funding to a school and can be used to really help children to achieve well as they grow older.

You can apply on-line at [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com) or contact the school office to check eligibility.

### **Open Morning**

We will be holding an Open Morning on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 from 9.30am - 12.00 noon. This will be an opportunity for prospective parents and carers to look around the school and get a feel for how our outstanding setting looks in action. If you know anyone who may be interested, please pass on this information.



### Autumn Term Dates

Please find attached diary dates for Autumn term and beyond.

### Clubs

The following clubs are running this term. Dates of other clubs will be advised when known.

Day	Club	Time	Year Group
Monday [from 12.9.16]	Dance Club	3.15pm - 4.15pm	YR-4
Tuesday [from 06.9.16]	Football Club	3.15pm - 4.20pm	Y1-4
Wednesday [from 14.9.16]	Tennis Club	3.15pm - 4.00pm	Y1-4

### Holidays in Term Time

As you are aware, in September 2013, the government amended the regulations regarding absence in term time and removed reference to family holidays and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make it clear that Headteachers may not grant **any** leave of absence in term time unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. We would urge you to consider carefully any request for time off in term time.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs K Anstey**  
Head of School

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**Comments/ideas/suggestions? Please complete this slip, cut it off and return it to the school office for the attention of Mrs K Anstey.**

**Age of child(ren)**

