

All Saints' C of E Primary School

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Inspire Challenge Succeed

11th September 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year! I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer. As you will know, this has been a very busy summer at All Saints' with our building work and changes in staff and classrooms but I am sure you will agree that the new classrooms, the school grounds and the school look amazing. I would like to welcome our new children to All Saints' along with their parents and families as well as our new members of staff!

REMINDERS

School Uniform:

The school uniform consists of a navy jumper, cardigan or fleece, these can be plain or you can purchase sweatshirts and fleeces with the school logo from the school office. For PE we now ask children to wear a plain navy T shirt or a school PE T shirt, which can also be purchased from the school office. We also ask that children wear navy or black shorts.

Dinner Money:

School lunches cost £2.30 each. Please make all cheques payable to Suffolk County Council for school lunches, Breakfast Club and Woodpeckers Club.

School field:

Just a reminder that the school field will be in use for after school clubs from next week on Monday and Tuesday. We request that parents do not allow their children onto the field so that after school club providers can run their clubs efficiently and safely with the participating children. In addition, our new after school Woodpecker Club will be using the school field from 4pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Collection from after school clubs:

Please could you ensure that you arrive before the end of your child's after school club so that you are ready to collect them promptly. On several occasions last year our club providers waited with children whose parents were late and we have been asked to raise

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this with parents. If you struggle to collect your child then please do use our Woodpecker After School Club where you can pay a reduced fee for your child to attend straight after their club. Details and registration forms are available from the school office.

Lost property:

By the end of the summer term we had collected a large amount of unnamed items in our lost property and also had unnamed and unclaimed items in the cloakrooms. We will put all items out in the outdoor classroom on Monday afternoon for parents to look through and claim. Any remaining items will be donated to a charity clothing bank.

Parking:

I have received a letter from the residents of Hall Mead asking me to politely remind parents not to park on the grassed areas within the close. Babergh District Council have also written to the school to warn that they have the powers to charge for reinstatement works to damaged land if necessary.

During the summer break new road markings were painted by the SCC Highways department. We now have a designated bus stop zone and a white line on which no parking is permitted. I am in contact with SCC Highways to see if we can reduce the length of the white line in order to enable additional parking closer to the school.

Bikes and scooters:

It is great to see so many of you cycling or scootering to school. As part of our expansion we now have more shelters to accommodate additional bikes. Please could we ask that children and adults dismount at the start of the school path in order to avoid collisions with other children who are walking along the path.

THANK YOU!

We would like to say ‘thank you’ to everyone who participated in our summer Extreme Reading Challenge. The photographs are on display on the school website and on a display board by the school hall. It is great to see our pupils enjoying their reading in so many unusual places and in so many unusual ways!

Thank you also to the parents who kept the school garden watered throughout the holiday.

BLACKTHORPE BARN ART EXHIBITION

The annual Artworks exhibition is currently taking place at Blackthorpe Barn in Rougham. Last year Horse Chestnut class visited the gallery and then worked with an artist in residence within school to create their own collograph prints. This work has been exhibited in the gallery this year as part of the schools exhibition, which is open to the public. I am looking forward to visiting the gallery and hope you’ll be able to go along and see the children’s work.

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ATTENDANCE

As you will know from my previous letters, our school was in the lowest 20% in the country for attendance in 2013/14. I am sure you will agree that this was shocking and something which we needed to improve as a matter of urgency. We are still awaiting our final data from the Department for Education but following numerous initiatives, detailed monitoring and liaison with parents we are hopeful that we will have a more positive picture for attendance for our school.

We will continue to carry out the same level of monitoring this year in order to ensure that every child's attendance is the best it can be and that every child can then reach their full potential as a result.

In the last academic year we had a number of children who achieved 100% attendance, which I am sure you will agree is a fantastic achievement. Well done to:

Christian Gibbs
Brook Lerner
Sam Rimmer
Nathaniel Gibbs
Finnian Senior
Ella Lane
Lexi Moorcroft
Austin Seggie
Cara Goode
Isabelle Palmer
Joshua Lane
Aurelia Norris
Elizabeth Shaw

VIBRANT VOCABULARY

Our Vibrant Vocabulary words this week have been selected by our Year 5 children in Willow Class. The selected words are: MELANCHOLY and ANGUISHED. Although we will be discussing each word at school in class and in assemblies, it would be great if you would practise these words at home.

BIKELIFE PROJECT

On Tuesday 15th September the children in Year 4 will participate in the Watt Bike Challenge prize. We have been asked to remind you that it is also a Dr Bike session. It would be helpful if the children who will take part in the bikeability training could bring along their bikes as a priority so that we know that all bikes are safe before the training sessions. Dr Bike sessions are open to all children to bring along their bikes for a health check by the cycle technicians. If you would like your child's bike to be checked then please ensure it is labelled with their name and class and left in the cycle shelter.

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NEW FOR 2015/16

We will develop our termly writing challenge so that children have the opportunity to participate in a writing challenge and maths challenge on alternate half terms. More details will follow from Mrs Kemp as Literacy Coordinator and Miss Kidd as Maths Coordinator.

Silver Book assemblies will take place each week with one child from each class. We feel that with the additional class, it will allow us to spend more time talking to each child about what they are most proud of and to share their successes with the whole school.

We have reviewed our Open Books sessions, which run each half term so that parents can come into school to look at their child's work with their child. We will continue to run these in the first half of each term but we will also introduce 'share sessions' in the second half of each term. These sessions will run until 9.30am and will be a great opportunity for you to work with your child on a range of learning activities and early morning work. More information will follow after half term.

Following the outcome of the parent survey we have decided to put together a PE newsletter to let you know about the many coaching opportunities available within school, new sporting initiatives and to signpost parents to out of school clubs and activities that may be of interest.

Chelsea Football Academy will now be part of our sporting provision with a lunchtime club twice a week and following football trials this term, they will start our own football team who will participate in a school's football league. The coach will hold an assembly in the next few weeks and more information will follow.

Cambridge City Football Club run football development centres for talented male and female footballers in the local area. They now have a new development centre held at Bury Rugby Club, Bury St Edmunds. More information can be found at:
<http://www.1ststepsports.co.uk/cambridge-city-fc-football-programs/>.

MULTI SPORTS

We still have spaces at our Multi Sports Clubs on Monday mornings (starting at 8am) and Tuesday after school. If you would like to book a place for your child please contact Mrs Plummer.

PARENT GROUP

There will be a Parent Group Coffee Morning and AGM on 16th September immediately after school drop off in the school hall.

The coffee morning will start by welcoming any new parents and explaining what the Parent Group does and how it supports the school. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and to see if you would like to be involved. As many of you may know, Sharon, Nicole and Jo will then step down for a new committee. If you are interested in taking on a role within the committee then please let them know.

Everyone is welcome and there will be refreshments available.

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PHONICS SESSION

On 24th September we will hold our annual Phonics Session for Parents at 3.30pm in Acorn classroom. At this session the teachers will give demonstrations of how we teaching phonics and early reading skills so that you can support your child at home. There will be a crèche for children and younger siblings in the school hall.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

All dates are available on our school website: allsaintsprimary.org
Please check the calendar page of the website for any updates.

- 15th September – Year 4 Bike challenge/ Dr Bike session
- 22nd September – Silver Book assemblies start
- 23rd September – Yr1 visit to Hollow Trees Farm
- 24th September – Parent Forum
- 24th September – Early Years and Key Stage One phonics session for parents.
- 2nd October – Year 1 Seed to Tree Programme seed collection/ planting event
- 6th & 7th October - Bikeability Level 2 (Year5)
- 9th October – whole school Poetry Day
- 12th October – Open Books session 3pm
- 21st October – Parents Evening 3.30-5.30pm
- 22nd October – Parents Evening 4.30-6.30pm
- 23rd October – Harvest event 2.30pm All Saints' Church

WHOLE SCHOOL VISIT TO THE PANTOMIME

On 9th December we will once again take the whole school to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds. We are very fortunate to benefit from reduced price tickets of £11 per child and the Parent Group have kindly agreed to fund the transport again for this event. We will send a letter home regarding this visit next week.

We have had such a great start to the new school year and we look forward to the many events and activities that we have planned throughout the year. Your support and input as parents is very important to us and we look forward to working with you. Should you have queries or concerns please remember that my door is always open.

Kindest Regards

Clare Lamb
Headteacher

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