



*Striving, Supporting, Inspiring, Succeeding*

**St. Stephen's Infant School**  
Lansdown Road  
Kingswood  
Bristol  
BS15 1XD  
Tel/Fax: 01454 866470  
Email: [enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk)  
Website: [www.ststephensinf.org.uk](http://www.ststephensinf.org.uk)  
Twitter: @StStephensInf

**Headteacher: Mr T Ruck**  
**Deputy Headteacher: Mr J Doyle**



*We are celebrating Black History Month (October)*

**Letter 2. Term 1 2019**

**Tuesday October 1<sup>st</sup> 2019**

Dear Parents/Carers,

The first term is flying by and we are busy preparing for our KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Harvest Service which is @ 9.15am on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. Please send in your donations of tinned food/packets etc for the Julian Trust Homeless Night Shelter before the **18<sup>th</sup> October** –further details below.



**A message from Mrs Otter (Charities and Community Cohesion Leader)**

**'Red, White and Blue Day' Non-Uniform Day- Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2019**

We are supporting 'Red, White and Blue Day'. This is a national fundraising campaign for schools run annually by the three national Service charities. It's an opportunity for children to come to school dressed in red, white and blue clothes and to **donate at least £1** to support the work of ABF The Soldiers' Charity, the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity.

The children in Leo and Gruffalo classes have PE on Friday so they can either wear red, white or blue clothes suitable for PE or bring t-shirt/shorts in a bag to change into for their PE session.

This year Red, White and Blue day will be commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day.

As part of the event the charity are holding a national competition for children to design/make a medal and write a letter to a member of the British Armed Forces to commemorate their actions or Service during D-Day. Details and examples of the challenge are below.

First prize will receive a £30 gift voucher and the runners up for each age category will receive £10.





If your child would like to participate in the competition please send their medal designs and letters into school by **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**. We will forward them to **RWB** for judging.



### The Challenge Medal

Design and/or make your own medal that would be given to a member of the British Armed Forces to commemorate their actions or Service during D-Day.

### Letter

Write a letter of congratulations acknowledging this award.

#### You must include:

- The date D-Day took place (6 June 1945)
- The Service (British Army, Royal Navy or Royal Marines, Royal Air Force)
  - Name of the medal

#### Think about:

- What colour(s) would you use for the ribbon and why?

#### Method:

There are lots of fantastic ways to make your own medals! For ideas and templates please visit

<https://redwhiteblueday.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/RWB-Design-a-medal-competition-2019.pptx>

**If your child is taking part in 'Red, White and Blue Day' please send your donation in on the day. Thank you. For more info please visit: <http://www.redwhiteblueday.co.uk/>**



### A message from Ms Rice (PE Subject Leader) We are collecting Aldi Stickers!

Every time you spend over £30 in any Aldi store you'll receive a Team GB sticker.

If you bring your sticker(s) back to school it will help us to fill in our poster.

We need 300 altogether to receive an exclusive sports kit to use in our PE sessions at SSIS.

We will also be in with a chance to win £20,000 for the school!

Thank you.

### Black History Month

October is '**Black History Month**', a time when we celebrate the achievements of black men and women in the past and present. The children will be learning about this as part of this term's assembly themes.

If you would like to learn more about **Black History Month** please visit this website:

<http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>





### Y1 and Y2 Parents' Evenings in the school hall.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October - 3.30-6pm & Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 4.30-7pm**

Please make sure you sign up for an appointment to see your child's classteacher – the lists are in the lobby of the main entrance (next to office hatch)

**Reception Parent/Carer Curriculum Information Evening  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - 6.30-7.30pm**

The Reception Team will be sharing information to help you continue to support your child's learning. Please make sure you come along and pick up your information pack.

The meeting is just for Reception parents/carers (no children please!) The Reception Team will be holding **Parents' Evenings in Term 2 on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2019: 3.30-6pm & Thurs. 21<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2019: 4.30-7pm.**

This will be a chance for Reception parents/carers to come in and share the start of your child's 'Learning Journey'. Appointment sheets will be put up in the lobby of the main entrance (next to office hatch) week b. **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October** for you to sign up for a 10 minute slot.

### The Great SSIS Sunflower Challenge!

We launched this competition on Spring Day earlier in the year. Please send in photos/measurement of your sunflower by **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. Please email [enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk) or post on our Facebook page. We will let you know the winner by the end of this term.



### Congratulation to our 'To Do' list winners!

Thank you to all our Reception parents/carers who returned completed 'To do' lists. The parents/carers of the following children were the drawn out of the hat and won a bottle of Prosecco:

*Marnie-Mae (Red), Pola (Blue) and Jasper (Yellow).*



### Open Spots

Our 2018-21 Vision includes the following commitment:

***We strive to meet the needs of all children and to help them recognise and develop their emerging talents.***

We will be holding our annual St Stephen's Got Talent competition in Term 3 – details to follow.

In the meantime, I would like to organise some 'Open Spots' for the children.

If your child has a talent, hobby or interest they would like to share with the rest of the school, please let me know. This could be a skill of some kind, or knowledge of a subject they are interested in.

You can email the school at [enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk), or send a note in. I will talk with your child and we will begin to plan their Open Spot. Your child will need to practise their 5 minute slot at home before sharing with the whole school in the hall.





**Children starting school in September 2020. Applications now open!**

*[Children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 may start school in September 2020]*

All Parents/Carers resident in England have to apply to their 'home' local authority regardless of where the school(s) you are applying for are situated. e.g. If you live in Bristol City Council and would like to apply for a place at St. Stephen's Infant School (or any South Gloucestershire School) you will need to complete a Bristol City Council application form. If you are not sure which authority you live in it will be written on your Council Tax bill. All local authorities are encouraging parents/carers to apply online.

If you have any questions regarding applications/admissions please come and see Mrs Harris or Miss Millard in the Office. If you, or a friend or relative, have a child starting school in September 2020 and would like to visit the school please come to one of the following Open Days:

**Wednesday 2nd October 2019 @ 9.30am**

**Thursday 7th November 2019 @ 9.30am**

**Monday 25th November 2019 @ 6.30pm**

**No need to book - just come along on the day**

<b>If you live in:</b>	<b>Apply online @</b>	<b>By When?</b>
South Gloucestershire	<a href="http://www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions">www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions</a> <b>(from now)</b>	<b>All applications need to be received by 15 JANUARY 2020</b>
Bristol	<a href="https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/primary-admissions">https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/primary-admissions</a> <b>(from now)</b>	

**Offers of a school place made to parents/carers resident in South Gloucestershire will be communicated on, or around, 16 April 2020**

**Friends of St. Stephen's Infant School AGM Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 7.30-8.15pm  
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!!!**

The Friends of St. Stephen's is our 'Parent Teacher Association (PTA)'.

The Committee is made up of **volunteer** Parents/Carers and members of staff.

The Friends organise events throughout the year such as discos, Winter and Summer Fayres, Bedtime Story sessions etc to raise money for the children of St. Stephen's Infant School.

The events are great fun and really help to develop our school community.

The money raised is used to help purchase resources, reading books, prizes, leaving presents for the Y2 children etc. The Friends also subsidise school trips and pay for the Y2 Swimming lessons in Terms 5 & 6.

At the moment we do not ask parents/carers for any contribution towards the £2300 annual cost of Y2 swimming lessons as the Friends pay. Last year the Friends funded our new Jigsaw PSHE programme.

**The events can only happen if parents/carers are willing to help organise and run them.**

This year the Friends will be raising money to help convert our school bus into a library.

The Friends are holding their Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 7.30-8.15pm**

It is really important that you come along to the meeting and join the Friends of St. Stephen's.

We have vacancies on the Committee so please step forward and offer support.

The Friends will then be able to continue organising exciting events that help raise money to support your child's learning!!

**If you would like to help please come along to the AGM and/or contact the Friends' Chair – Chris Galley on 07769310640 [Lily's dad (Leo)] or Treasurer, Ellie Langdon 07525758256. [Esmie's mum (Leo)]**

Please phone Chris or Ellie if you can spare any amount of time or would just like to find out more about the committee's work. The more volunteers we have the better.

Without your support the Friends' Committee will be unable to operate and the school community will miss out on discos, Winter & Summer Fayres etc. The children will miss out on Y2 swimming, extra resources, funding for school trips etc. Even if you can only offer a small amount of help it counts!





## Friends' Events –Term 1

Halloween Discos – Tuesday 22 Oct: Reception 5-6pm/Y1 and Y2 6.15-7.15pm. Details have been sent out.



### Safe Gaming and Online Activity

Please remember to monitor your child's gaming and online activity to ensure they are not playing/accessing inappropriate material. This includes watching games whilst older siblings play.

Games such as 'Fortnite' and 'Granny' are classed as suitable for children 12 years and over.

Click on this link to view some useful 'Safer Internet' resources.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018/sid2018-education-packs/education-pack-3-7s>

### Water bottles

As a 'Healthy School' we like to ensure that **every** child can access drinking water throughout the school day. We have bought a 'hands-free' sports bottle for every child which *should* last the whole year. The bottles are very sturdy and hygienic as the children do not need to pull a nozzle up to drink the water. The bottles were more expensive than usual and as a result I am asking parents/carers for a voluntary contribution of **£1.50/child** towards the cost.

**Please send your contributions into school as soon as possible.**

We will be keeping the children's water bottles in school and will wash them regularly.

# Harvest food donations needed!



*Last year Mr Ruck delivered produce from the school allotment to the kitchen at the Wild Goose Crisis Centre in Stapleton Road.*





*The staff cooked a delicious autumn vegetable stew.  
Thank you to Allotment Club children who will be harvesting our vegetables and to Mr and Mrs Webb for their help and support.*

This term the children are learning about '**Sharing**'.

**We share** is one of our Golden Rules and the children have been thinking about the importance of sharing. We will be delivering some of our allotment produce to the **Julian Trust Night Shelter** - *the only 24hr emergency hostel for homeless people in Bristol.*

***We are now collecting donations of tinned food/packages etc for the Julian Trust.  
Please send in your non-perishable food donations to school before the 18<sup>th</sup> October  
We will present the food to John Rosewell from the Julian Trust at the  
Y1 and Y2 Harvest Service on Friday October 18<sup>th</sup>.***

The Harvest Service will be in the hall from 9.15-10am and the Y1/Y2 children will share some Harvest songs and thoughts. Parents/carers of Y1 and Y2 children are very welcome to join us for the Harvest Service. Rev. Lisa Wigmore from St. Stephen's Church will also be joining us to share a Harvest prayer.

***Thank you in advance for your Harvest food donations.***

## BUMS SEATS

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** is census day and we need to max out on the number of children having a school meal/sandwiches.

The more children who take a school meal on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October the more funding we will receive.

Tara (our Cook) has planned the following special menu for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October:

Thursday 03 [alt]
Beefburger in a Bun
Home Made Vegi Burger in a Bun
Hot Dog In A Roll
Sandwich (choice of fillings)
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Oven Baked Potato Wedges
Baked Beans
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Rock Buns
Vanilla Sponge

This replaces the planned menu for **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**.

If you have already ordered your meal please reorder online.

If your child does not normally have a school meal please give it a go!

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Tim Ruck  
Headteacher





## Term 1 Dates

<b>Week 5</b>	
Tuesday 1 October	- Zumba Club - 3/5 3.15-4.15pm in the hall
Wednesday 2 October	- 9.30am Open Day 2020 Intake - Hall needed
Wednesday 2 October	- Clubs 3.15-4pm 2/3
Thursday 3 October	- 9.30am Familiarisation Fire Drill
Friday 4 October	- Red, White and Blue Day –children and staff can wear RWB - £1 donation
Friday 4 October	- 1.20-1.50pm School Council on the bus
<b>Week 6</b>	
Tuesday 8 October	- Zumba Club 4/5 3.15-4.15pm in the hall
Wednesday 9 October	- Hall needed all morning – Drama4All workshops Y1
Wednesday 9 October	- Clubs 3.15-4pm 3/3
Wednesday 9 October	- 6.30-7.30pm Reception Information Evening – Reception parents/carers only
<b>Week 7</b>	
Monday 14 October	- 3.30-6pm KS1 Parents' Evening in the hall.
Monday 14 October	- Reception Parent Evening Appointment lists displayed outside the office.
Tuesday 15 October	- Zumba Club - 5/5 3.15-4.15pm in the hall
Wednesday 16 October	- Governor Curriculum Committee meeting 4-6pm
Wednesday 16 October	- Governor Resource Committee meeting 6-8pm
Thursday 17 October	- 1.20-1.50pm School Council on the bus
Thursday 17 October	- KS1 Parents' Evening 4.30-7pm in the hall
Thursday 17 October	- Friends of St Stephen's Infant School AGM 7.30-8.15pm
Friday 18 October	- 9.15am KS1 Harvest Service for Y1/2 parents/carers only
<b>Week 8</b>	
Monday 21 October	- Be Safe Be Seen Assembly 2.40pm
Tuesday 22 October	- Halloween Discos – Reception:5–6pm/ Y1&Y2:6.15-7.15pm (details to follow)
Thursday 24 October	- 10.15-10.40am NSPCC Assembly – whole school
Friday 25 October	- INSET day Infant School closed / Junior School open
<b>Term 2: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> <b>INSET Days 2019-20</b> Mon 2/9/19 – Infant & Junior Schools closed Tues 3/9/19 – Infant & Junior Schools closed Fri 25/10/19 – Infant School closed. Monday 6/1/20 – Infant School closed. Mon 20/7/20 – Infant & Junior Schools closed.	

## Term Dates

There are six terms in the school year. Schools must be open for pupils 190 days in each academic year. Teaching staff are required to work a further 5 INSET days each year for the purpose of professional training. **We always notify parents and carers in advance of the INSET closure dates.**

### Term 1:

2 September 2019 – 25 October 2019

### Term 2:

4 November 2019 – 20 December 2019

### Term 3:

6 January 2020 – 14 February 2020

### Term 4:

24 February 2020 – 3 April 2020

### Term 5:

20 April 2020 – 22 May 2020

### Term 6:

1 June 2020 – 20 July 2020

