



Striving, Supporting, Inspiring, Succeeding

St. Stephen's Infant School
Tel/Fax: 01454 866470
Email: enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk
Website: www.ststephensinf.org.uk
Twitter: @StStephensInf

Headteacher: Mr T Ruck
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J Doyle



At SSIS we never take our eye off the ball! Many thanks to Wayne Reid (Rex in Zog Class' dad) who gave up his time to come in and photograph life at SSIS. We will share the photos on Facebook/website soon.

Letter 1 Term 2 2019
8/11/19

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had a great half term. We have a very busy and exciting term ahead. Please make sure you have subscribed to receive our newsletters by email as we only send a paper copy home of the first newsletter of each term. To subscribe please click on 'News' -> 'Newsletters' and complete the form: <http://www.ststephensinf.org.uk/news/newsletters>

Staffing

We welcome Julie Tizzard to our Lunchtime Team. Julie is already employed as a cleaner at SSIS and this week has started work as one of our Lunchtime Supervisors.

We also welcome Ms Davidson back from her maternity leave. Ms Davidson is a Teaching Assistant/Cover Supervisor based in Reception.





Double Gates

For safety reasons we will be keeping the double gates near the Y1 block/car park closed at drop off/collection time. Please use the footpath to exit the school site and do not walk across the car park. Thank you.

Reading Books

Ms Bradburn (English Subject Leader) has organised an audit and refresh of our reading books. We are still in the process of updating each year group's stock and 'levelling/colour banding' the new books. Ms Bradburn will be sharing details of the updated levelling/colour banding system with you very soon. Please bear with us whilst this change happens. Thank you.



Poppies and Remembrance

Poppies will be on sale in the office during morning playtime from **Monday November 4th until Monday November 11th.**

This year the British Legion range includes zip pulls (50p), reflectors (50p), wristbands (£1) and snap bands (£1.50). The prices are suggested donations – whilst stock lasts!

For poppies please send a donation into school of at least 20p.

All the money we collect will go to support the work of the Royal British Legion.

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

In Monday's assembly I explained 'Why we wear poppies' and 'Why we remember'.

We will be holding a two minute silence on **Monday 11th November @ 11am.**

Every Lesson Counts!

We have set a target of at least 96.1% attendance for each child in 2019 – 2020.

This means that no child should have more than 7.5 days (15 sessions) of non-attendance in this school year. Non-attendance includes illness, unauthorised holidays, medical appointments and being late after 9.05am. St Stephen's Infant School, in conjunction with Steve Gozra, our Education Welfare Officer, may contact or meet with parents/carers of children whose attendance falls below 96.1%.

Please make every effort to ensure children attend school each day and on time.





'Come Dine with Us!'

Parents/Carers are welcome to book a place to have school dinner with the children.

We are open for bookings for the week:

Monday 18th November to Friday 22nd November.

Reception lunchtime starts at 12pm and Y1/2 at 12.15pm

Places are limited and you need to book/pay at least a week in advance! The meal costs £2.76. You will need to leave the school once you have finished your dinner.

We will also be inviting parents/carers to 'Come dine with us' during Term 3.

A copy of the school dinner menu is on the school website and available from the school office:

<https://www.ststephensinf.org.uk/parents/carers/lunch-menu>



Aldi Tokens

We have now completed our Aldi poster and Ms Rice (PE Subject Leader) will be sending it back to Aldi.

We will await news on whether we have won a £20,000 prize!

Many thanks for your support.



On Friday 15th November 2019 we will be having a **non-uniform day** to raise money for **Children in Need**. The theme this year is Spotacular! The children can dress up with spots or just their own clothes. If it is cold please ensure your child is wearing suitable clothes underneath their costumes as they will be going out to play.

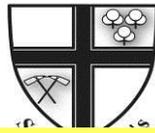
We ask for a donation of £1 or any other amount to be handed in to the class teacher on the day of the event.

Thank you for your support!

Mrs. Otter

(Charity/Community Cohesion Leader)





Friendship Anti-Bullying

FAB Week

11th -15th

November 2019

Friendship Anti-Bullying [FAB] Week' 11th- 15th November 2019

Next week is 'FAB Week' @ SSIS. The whole school will be learning about the importance of 'Friendship'. We will be discussing 'Bullying' with the children and sharing some of the strategies that can help you if someone else is making you feel unsafe or unhappy

We are planning a range of learning experiences for the children including a 'cross-phase' learning session when the children spend time learning with children from other year groups.

During this session the children will be thinking about 'What makes a good friend?' and making friendship bracelets. The children in each class will be nominating a 'Friend of the Week'. The 'Friend of the Week' will be presented with a certificate in Celebration Assembly on **Friday 15th November**.

We will take plenty of photos to share on the school website and Facebook page.

Friends of St. Stephen's Infant School AGM 2019

Thank you to those of you who came to last term's Friends' AGM.

The meeting was a great success with committee members being elected and lots of great fundraising ideas. Chris (Chair) and Ellie (Treasurer) gave reports on the 2018-19 school year.

Events such as discos, winter/summer fayres, Father's Day/Mother's Day wraps, BBQ and the Bedtime Story session all helped to make the year a great success both in terms of having fun and raising money.

Mr Ruck thanked the Friends for their continued support and explained how fundraising for the school bus/library project would be a great focus for 2019-20.

Chris and Ellie were elected to carry on as Chair and Treasurer for 2019-20 - this will be their final year as Friends!

Anne Dare and Teresa Cooper will shadow Chris and Ellie respectively for 2019-20.

Charlotte Cannon was re-elected as Vice-Chair and Jodie Hall will take over from Tina as Secretary.

Thank you to all the Friends for their commitment and hard work. We really appreciate it.

It was mentioned at the meeting that some parents/carers could be reluctant to offer help because they are worried about being asked to dedicate hours and hours of support. This is not the case, you decide how much time you would like to commit.

The more volunteers the Friends have the easier it is for everyone.

This term's events are:

Friday 6th December- 5-8pm SSIS & SSJS Winter Fayre

Friday 13th December am – Friends' Christmas Wrap.

Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Discos: Reception 5-6pm/KS1 6.15-7.15pm

If you can help at any of these events please contact the Friends' Chairperson, Chris Galley on 07769310640 or the Friends' Treasurer, Ellie Langdon on 07525758256.

You can also 'Like' St. Stephen's Infant School PTA on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ststephensinfantschoolpta/>





Reception and Y1 Christmas Performances 2019 & Y2 Christmas Service at St Stephen's Church.

2pm Monday 9th December - Reception performance of 'A King is Born'.
9.30am Tuesday 10th December - Reception performance of 'A King is Born'.
2pm Wednesday 11th December – Y1 performance of 'The Nativity'
9.30am Thursday 12th December – Y1 performance of 'The Nativity'
9.30am Tuesday 17th December – Y2 Christmas Service at St Stephen's Church.

As we have limited seating/standing capacity in the hall we are issuing 4 tickets/family for the Reception and Y1 Christmas performances. We can only issue 2 tickets/family for the Y2 Christmas Service due to lack of seating capacity at St Stephen's Church.

Your tickets will be available to collect from the office from the following days:

Reception classes from Monday 18th November 2019

Y1 and Y2 classes from Tuesday 19th November 2019

Please do not come to the office before these dates to collect your tickets. Tickets can only be collected from the office between 8.30-9am and 2.45-3.10pm each day. The tickets are for your family and are not transferable.

Please note you may need to stand to watch the play as we have limited space for seating. If you, or a member of your family, require wheelchair access please let us know in advance.

To ensure the Christmas plays are enjoyable for everyone please note the following:

- ❖ *On the day of your child's performance please queue at the main entrance. Doors will open at 8.50am for morning performances and 1.30pm for the afternoon performance. Please be patient as we check tickets off against our class lists.*
- ❖ *The morning performances start at 9.30am and the afternoon performance at 2pm. We are unable to admit parents/carers after 9.25am/1.55pm as this will disrupt the performance.*
- ❖ *As space is limited in the hall please do not bring buggies in. Buggies can be parked under the canopy in the Reception Outdoor Classroom.*
- ❖ *If you have a toddler or baby with you and they are making noise during the performance please take them out of the hall through one of the fire exits at the back.*
- ❖ *Please switch off or silence mobile phones.*
- ❖ *You are welcome to video/photograph the Christmas performances. Please note: We seek parents/carers individual consent for the use of photos of their child(ren) on the school website and in newsletters etc. It is our policy to allow parents/carers to photograph and film their children at school events. **This is on the understanding that the photos and film is for your personal use only.** Please do not post photos or films of other children on social media apps such as Facebook. We will post photos from the plays on the school Facebook page. We check the photos we share to ensure that the children's parents/carers have given consent for public use.*
- ❖ *Thank you for your cooperation.*

We are supporting the 'Crisis at Christmas' appeal and will be making collections at each of the Christmas performances. We hope you enjoy the performance!

Yours sincerely,
Tim Ruck
Headteacher





Term 2 2019-20 Dates for Parents/Carers

Week 1:	
Monday 4 November	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Tuesday 5 November	- Zumba Club
Wednesday 6 November	- Be Safe Be Seen Assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 6 November	- School photographer – am – individual/sibling/staff photos
Wednesday 6 November	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Thursday 7 November	- 9.30am Open Day – hall needed
Friday 8 November	- Flu Vaccinations – Old Staffroom (all day)
Friday 8 November	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Week 2: FRIENDSHIP ANTI-BULLYING (FAB) WEEK	
Monday 11 November	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Monday 11 November	- 2 minutes silence 11am
Tuesday 12 November	- Phonics Workshop for parents/carers (all years). Hall needed AM
Tuesday 12 November	- Zumba Club
Wednesday 13 November	- Cross-phase first session 9-10.40am –What makes a good friend?/Make Friendship bracelets.
Wednesday 13 November	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Friday 15 November	- School Council meeting 1.20pm with local councillor Sandie Davis visiting
Friday 15 November	- Children in Need – wear Spotty clothes to school.
Friday 15 November	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Week 3: Come Dine With Us Week	
Monday 18 November	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Monday 18 November	- Reception Christmas Performance Tickets available from today. Tickets can only be collected from the office between 8.30-9am and 2.45-3.10pm each day.
Monday 18 November	- Reception Parents' Evening – 3.30-6pm
Tuesday 19 November	- Y1 and Y2 Christmas Performance Tickets available from today. Tickets can only be collected from the office between 8.30-9am and 2.45-3.10pm each day.
Tuesday 19 November	- Zumba Club
Wednesday 20 November	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Wednesday 20 November	- FGB 6.45pm – 9.15pm in hall
Thursday 21 November	- Year 2 Explorer Dome – hall needed all morning
Thursday 21 November	- Reception Parents' Evening – 4.30-7pm
Friday 22 November	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Friday 22 November	- 2.45pm Friends' Meeting - Staffroom
Week 4:	
Monday 25 November	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Monday 25 November	- Open Evening and tour new intake 6.30pm – hall needed
Tuesday 26 November	- Zumba Club
Wednesday 27 November	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Thursday 28 November	- Blaise Castle Workshop trip (Elmer/Zog)
Friday 29 November	- Blaise Castle Workshop trip (Gruffalo)
Friday 29 November	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Friday 29 November	- School Council meeting 1.20pm
Week 5:	
Monday 2 December	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Tuesday 3 December	- Zumba Club
Wednesday 4 December	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Friday 6 December	- 9.30am Reception dress rehearsal to school and visiting preschools
Friday 6 December	- 5pm – 8pm SSIS & SSJS Christmas Fayre
Friday 6 December	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Week 6:	
Monday 9 December	- BRFC – Y1 Hall all morning
Monday 9 December	- 2pm - Reception Christmas Performance 1
Tuesday 10 December	- 9.30am - Reception Christmas Performance 2
Tuesday 10 December	- Y2 trip to Hippodrome Panto (11am performance)
Tuesday 10 December	- 11am Year 1 dress rehearsal to school and visiting preschools
Wednesday 11 December	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Wednesday 11 December	- 2pm – Y1 Christmas Performance 1
Thursday 12 December	- 9.30am – Y1 Christmas Performance 2
Friday 13 December	- Old Staffroom – Friends' Christmas Wrap – starts in the morning and finish approx. 2pm
Friday 13 December	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Week 7	
Monday 16 December	- 1.30pm Y2 practise at St Stephen's Church
Tuesday 17 December	- 9.30am Y2 Christmas Service at St Stephen's Church
Tuesday 17 December	- Staff Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 18 December	- 9.15am Carols Around the Tree and then Christmas Choir to visit OAP homes
Wednesday 18 December	- Children's Christmas Dinner – two sittings – details to follow
Wednesday 18 December	- 1.30pm Y1 Christmas Party in hall
Wednesday 18 December	- Gym Club 3.15 – 4pm
Wednesday 18 December	- Christmas Discos: Reception 5-6pm/KS1 6.15-7.15pm
Friday 20 December	- 9.15am FC in hall – then tour of classes
Friday 20 December	- 1.30-2.15pm Reception Christmas party in hall
Friday 20 December	- 2.15-3pm Y2 Christmas party in hall
Friday 20 December	- Forest School/Mudpie Explorers after school until 5pm
Friday 20 December	- Last day of term.

