

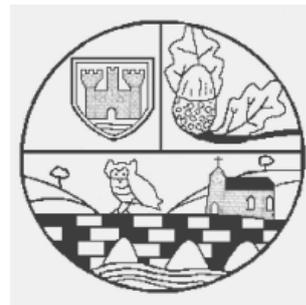
Totnes St John's C E Primary School

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24th July 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Before this academic year draws to a close, I wanted to say a very personal thank you to all the children, parents and staff who have already made me feel so welcome at Totnes St John's Church of England Primary School.

As you know, on the first day of term (Wednesday 5th September), the school will be part of the ACE family (The Academy for Character and Excellence Trust) (initially under a management partnership prior to conversion) and I will start in post as St John's Head of School. It is a real honour and privilege to have the opportunity to help lead St John's into a new and exciting chapter in its continuing story. I will be championing St John's unique qualities as a school whilst also embracing all the high quality support and vast expertise that ACE can bring from across the Trust to help make this the school we would all like it to be.

Next term we will begin our process of creating an amazing curriculum that will develop children's individual characters whilst raising standards across the school. This curriculum journey will involve some truly inspiring learning. It will help develop children's critical thinking and evaluation skills and, in a time when plastics and pollution pose a real threat to our environment, the children will be involved in a Totnes-wide initiative based on the need for respecting clean water. It will give children the opportunity to be a part of something life changing. It will be a learning experience encompassing responsibility, caring for each other and our world.

As always, you, the parents and carers, will want to play a supportive role in this and next term I look forward greatly to working closely with you in this exciting first curriculum adventure together!

As well as being an advocate of personal responsibility and care for the environment, I also believe passionately in building a real sense of community across the school. A strong community can be recognised by the way children and staff treat each other with respect and kindness. But it can also be shown in the way we look, most visibly in the uniform we proudly wear as part of St John's. One of the ways we would like to do this is by asking all our pupils to wear red polo shirts, as the St John's colour, rather than the current choice of red or white. We realise that some parents may have already purchased a white polo shirt for September, so we are having a transition period for the uniform change and asking that a red one is purchased for January.

We recognise that this is a change and we are very grateful for your support for our plans by ensuring that all children wear the correct St John's uniform:

- Red polo shirt for all pupils (by January 2019)
- A red cardigan or sweatshirt
- Grey or black trousers
- Grey dresses/skirts
- Grey or white socks
- Grey or red tights
- All children to be wearing black, sensible shoes (no boots, please)

Summer uniform (optional)

- Red and white checked dress
- Grey or black shorts

Sweatshirts and polo shirts with our school logo are available from the School Office, plain red sweatshirts and plain red polo shirts can be purchased from any local supermarket or high street store.

In addition, we expect every child to have a book bag that they bring into school every day, the school office stock red book bags with the school logo.

Finally, I wish you all a good holiday in which you can spend time together, refresh and recharge, and look forward to seeing everyone in September. The first day back at school for children will be **Wednesday 5th September**.

I thank you for your continued support and greatly look forward to becoming a full time member of your incredibly generous-hearted school family.

Yours sincerely

Mr Funnell

Head of School

Totnes St John's C of E Primary School