



Newsletter 6 – 23/02/18

Recent Coffee Morning

Dear Families,

Dame Sylvia Morris, Fr John and I would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to so many of you for attending the Parent's coffee morning on 8th February. It was so helpful to share our vision for the way forward at St John's and also to hear your views. We cannot stress enough the importance of partnership work between the school and our families.

Moving Forward

Our new website is close to completion and you will be notified when it is properly launched.

We are installing a new signing in system in the school entrance to support safeguarding in our school; all visitors, contractors and parent/carers will be asked to register themselves on the system when visiting the school.

Work has started on the refurbishment of the portacabins and this development will be an exciting time for all at St John's

The yellow polo shirt will no longer be a compulsory part of the school uniform. We agree with parent/carers that these are neither cost effective or of sufficient quality. Instead, pupils will be expected to wear either light blue or white shirts/polo shirts. Children will of course be allowed to wear the yellow polo until further notice.

Polling Day

In previous years, the school has been closed to children on Polling Day which this year is on 3rd May. This year it falls just before the May Bank Holiday so we have liaised with the Local Council and school will now be remaining open to children on this date. Details will be sent to you nearer the time.

REMINDERS/DATES

Punctuality

We currently have a high number of pupils that are arriving late to school on a regular basis. Whilst we appreciate there may be times where arriving late is unavoidable, we ask every effort is made to ensure that your child is in school for 8.45am prompt. Good punctuality and attendance have a positive impact on pupil's development and progress, arriving late means that often the introduction to the lesson is missed. This not only has an adverse effect on their learning, but also their confidence.

Capitation

All parent/carers agree to pay the annual capitation for each child when accepting a place at St John's. Unfortunately, some families have still not made any payment to date, this academic year. These are vital funds that are used to support the school and its' pupils. The Chair of Governors will be writing to those that do not bring payments up to date by the end of half term.

Dates for Calendar

Friday 2nd March – Celebrating World Book Day and St David's Day – pupils can come to school dressed as either their favourite book character or in red, green and white. We will be collecting voluntary donations on the school gate which will be donated to the Bishops Lent Call.

Monday 26th March – Open Evening for families, details to follow.

Tuesday 27th March - last day of term for pupils

As you know, we are implementing considerable changes across our school to improve all aspects of school life, primarily teaching and learning. It was planned to close the school in the summer term for one of our five days of teacher training but instead of just one day at the end of this term, the governors have agreed that the school will be closed on **Wednesday 28th March and Thursday 29th March** to children to enable staff to have two consecutive days of intensive training. Your support in this is greatly appreciated so please now note that the final day for children will be **Tuesday 27th March**.

Mr Richard Hunter

Headteacher.