

SIR ROBERT GEFFERY'S SCHOOL – NEWSLETTER

5 SEPTEMBER 2017 – Number 643

Welcome back - School Year 2017 -2018

A warm welcome to all new families and children who are joining us this term and we hope that all our children's learning journeys will be happy and successful this year. Remember we do have an open door policy and if you are worried or just want to find out something – come and see us.

Building

A huge thank you to Trish, ably helped by Ellen and Chris who have made sure our school is sparkling! Trish has again painted the lower walls of the hall, toilets and many of the corridors. We have had new carpets in many of the corridors and will be replacing the top corridor at half term. The classroom carpets throughout the school were professionally cleaned and look so much better. All classrooms have been thoroughly cleaned and organised for the new term, thank you to all who have been involved in these projects. Miss Appleby and Mr Hambly have swapped rooms!

Thank you

A huge thank you from all the staff for all the gifts, letters and cards that were received at the end of last term. The personal messages and letters are always greatly appreciated.

Clubs lists are will be sent home tomorrow – please return ASAP.

Clubs will start on Monday 19 September

Uganda and Hillside School

Sadly I heard from Stanley that Enid has died, and he asked us to remember him and his family in our prayers.

Healthy Snacks

Reminder only healthy snacks will be allowed. This means no crisps and biscuits at playtimes. Cereal bars, fruit etc. are all acceptable.



Roles and Responsibilities

As normal year 6 will be running the school once again!

By next Monday the Houses will have elected their captains, and prefects and monitors will have been appointed. Every child will take appropriate responsibility and badges should be issued next week.

The only decisions taken by all the staff are the selection of Head Boy and Head Girl and their deputies. Every year this sparks much discussion to get the right combinations, and this year particularly it was very difficult as so many children would have fitted the role. Next week's newsletter will contain a full list of roles and responsibilities.

Mobile Phones in School

If your child brings a phone to school because they need it for after school, please ask them to leave it in the office, as they could be damaged in the cloakrooms. Our school policy is that mobile phones are not used during school sessions except in emergencies and then only in staff areas where there are no children.

School Dinners

We have a new tender arrangement with Chartwells and as such it means that many of the incentives will continue. Pay for four dinners and receive the fifth free in the same week. There will also be a sibling discount as an additional incentive. Now any money made will be reinvested into school, as before schools with lower figures were being subsidised. We have a far better offer than before and hope that we will be able to offer additional theme meals etc.

Bath and Bristol Trips

Please send in your payment for these trips as soon as possible.

Timings reminder:

Timetable adjustments so we do not lose morning session time:

Doors open 08.35 Morning activities
Register 08.45
Maths starts 08.50

School is open from 8am but Breakfast Club will start from 7.45am.

ICT, Homework Club and Reading Club

From 8.00am the ICT suite and homework club start and from 8.15am reading club starts. All these take place on a daily basis.

Kathy can support homework activities if your child needs this.

Cat runs a Reading Club to give children the opportunity to read for enjoyment and take part in reading activities. It will also be a time to share books and for younger children to sometimes discuss texts with older ones. Cat, who runs our successful Better Reading Project, will be continuing to develop this over the year.

This will offer an alternative to ICT in the mornings but children attending this group do need to be there by 8.20am so they do not disturb reading after this.

Mathletics and Spellodrome can be undertaken in the ICT suite where Colin is available to help and support as needed

Breakfast Club 7.45am - Preschool organise this in the hall and will invoice you for attendance, but it can be attended by any child from age 2 onwards. Breakfast is served and the children are supervised until school starts.

Doors for collection

When you collect your children you need to remember:

Older children will go to meet the younger children.

Reception are dismissed from the back of their room

Year 1 from the side door

Year 2 at top of the slope

Year 3 by the welly boot area

Year 4 leave by the uniform shop entrance

Year 5 go down the stairs and leave from the side door

Year 6 use the main Qube door

Book Bags

Please make sure your child has their reading book and reading record in their book bag in school every day. Book bags will be taken into rooms to cut down on unnecessary visits to the cloakrooms. All home learning and letters will be able to be placed into them so you receive all the information that does not always get home! KS1 are brilliant at remembering, but we did have a lot of records lost. We are really promoting reading and as such we have reviewed our policies.

Eco and School Council Representatives

These will be decided when children have had time to prepare why they want to be considered for the role. It will be discussed in classrooms and then they will be elected by their peers. Hopefully all who would like to be considered will have their chance to put forward their ideas. Homework this weekend will be to prepare a manifesto.

FORMS

Please look out for the following:

Bath/Bristol consent and medical forms

Annual blanket consent and Use of Images forms

Reception Class: Please return all Confidential Admission Blanket Consent and Use of Images forms.

Please complete all forms and return as soon as possible.

School Direct and Student Teachers

We have ten students on our programme this term and we are pleased to introduce:

Tom Miller who will continue on the Troops for Teachers Programme and will be working with Mrs Hawkings this term. Jamie Clatworthy will work with Mrs Clark in Year Two. Emily Hodges will be with Mr Crudge in Year Five and Amelia Hartigan with Mrs Cunningham and myself in Year Six. These will move to a second placement next term, but will return for the summer term.

PUPIL PREMIUM –Don't let your child miss out

As all KS1 children will be eligible for free dinners, we need to make sure that if your child is eligible for pupil premium it is claimed. This year it is £1,300 for all children whose parents receive one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit

If you are eligible please pick up a form from the office to make sure the money can be claimed and registered for.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

2-4 Oct	KS2 Residential - Bath/Bristol
Thu 28 Sept	KS2 Sports Festival (9.30-11)
Thu 12-Oct	School Photographs
Fri 20-Oct	Inset Day
23-27 Oct	Half Term
Tue 7 Nov	Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)
Thu 16-Nov	Flu vaccinations (R,1,2,3,4)
Tue 5 Dec	Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)
Fri 15-Dec	Yr 1 Hearing Screening
Tue 19-Dec	KS1 Theatre trip
Wed 20-Dec	Last day of Term
21Dec-3Jan	Christmas Holidays
Thu 4 Jan	Inset Day
Tue 9-Jan	KS2 Panto trip
	Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)
Wed 17-Jan	Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)

Solar Meter Reading this week: 59,902 kWh

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth

School uniform

Thank you for helping us maintain high standards of appearance and providing the correct uniform for your child. We are going to be reminding everybody about uniform during the year to ensure there are no misunderstandings.

Until October half term, children may wear either summer or winter uniform depending on weather etc. After half term, shirts and ties will be needed for both girls and boys. Polo shirts are not worn in the winter. School sweatshirts or fleeces can be worn in the winter, but hoodies are not for classroom use. Please make sure all uniform is labelled so it can be returned to pegs if mislaid.

Girls need green pinafores or skirts not grey. Culottes are not part of our uniform in the winter or summer. Black trousers can be worn in the winter. (Asda online do sell green pinafore dresses and skirts as well as tights, Sainsbury's sell green tights.)

Following a staff discussion – please remember no extreme hair styles are allowed and hair (if longer) should be tied back at all times. Plaiting etc. does help prevent the spread of head lice that plague all primary schools. Last year large hair accessories and head scarfs were worn by some so please can we request discreet hair accessories and green ribbons if worn!!!

TERM DATES:

4 September – 19 October

Inset Day: Friday 20 October

Half Term: 23 – 27 October

30 October – 20 December

Christmas: 21 December – 3 January

Inset Day: Thursday 4 January

5 January – 9 February

Half Term: 12 – 16 February

19 February – 29 March

Easter: 30 March – 13 April

16 April – 25 May

Half Term: 28 May – 1 June

4 June – 20 July

Inset Days: Thursday 23 July

Friday 24 July