

# ALL SAINTS' CE(A) FIRST SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018

### Welcome Back

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of another school year. We hope that your child, whether returning to a new class or joining us for the first time, will have a successful year. I hope that you will join us in working together to achieve the best outcomes for your child. Therefore, I would like to remind you that we always have an open door policy.

If you need to talk to your child's class teacher, or other members of staff, including myself, please do so. Class teachers are nearly always available at the end of the day. If I am available you are always welcome to come and talk. If not, the office staff are happy to make an appointment.

Please take some time to read through this Newsletter, as we are making some changes to school events and routines. In addition, the newsletter contains general information reminders, which you may find useful.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Allbutt  
Headteacher



### AT THE END OF THE DAY



Please can we remind you to stand **well back** from the area in which you children are dismissed. It is hard for class teachers to see parents if you are crowding around the entrances. In addition, we must make sure that your children are dismissed safely.

If you are picking up from St George or St Christopher, when you see your child waiting to be dismissed, ***please can you go to the gate to collect your child.*** We will not send them to you, as we need to know they have reached you safely.

If you are picking up a child in an older class, please can you stand where we can see you clearly and are able to watch them reach you easily. If you stand at the top of the driveway or further away, we will not dismiss your child until the driveway is clearer and we can watch them get to you.

Please understand that it will take longer to dismiss the children in the first few weeks, whilst class teachers are getting to know everybody.

Please can we also remind parents that ***we cannot let children go with people who are not on our emergency contact list, unless we have had a phone call or letter informing us.*** If you have someone who you may collect your child on a regular basis, please inform the office.

### PARKING

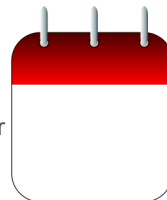
Please park considerately when picking up your children from school. We are grateful that most parents already do this, but would like to remind everyone that parking on yellow lines, zigzags and in front of driveways and the main school entrance causes problems for our neighbours, is hazardous for our children, and is not legal.

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON SCHOOL PREMISES, EVEN WHEN PICKING UP FROM AFTER SCHOOL CLUB.**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note that these dates are provisional, and are to be confirmed. We will let you know of any changes on our school calendar, which is always available on our website. You can also click on the link from the website to link our calendar to your mobile phone or tablet.



8/10/19	Harvest in church for Y1 children (including St Christopher Y1 children) to Y4 time to be confirmed
9/10/19	Parents' Evening
10/10/19	Parents' Evening
24/10/19	School Photographs
25/10/19	School Closes for half term
4/11/19	Children return to school
8/11/19	All Saints OPEN Morning
8/12/19	Christingle Service in Church – 4pm
9/12/19	Reception/KS1 Play 6pm
10/12/19	Reception/KS1 Play 6pm
11/12/19	Reception/KS1 Play 2pm
12/12/19	Nursery Nativity
19/12/19	Whole School Carol Concert 2pm

Please be aware that dates and times may change. We will keep you informed either by letter or text.

## COMMUNICATION

Find out what is happening within school:

- Look at our facebook page—we will post regular information, photos, and other items of interest to parents. Search for 'All Saints' First School Facebook'. You DO NOT have to be a facebook user—just go to [www.facebook.com/allsaintsleek](http://www.facebook.com/allsaintsleek).
- Use our Parent Text service. You will receive texts to keep you up to date. Keep us up to date with your mobile number. If you are not getting regular texts, we do not have your correct number. Please call into the school office to update your mobile phone details.
- Use the online Parents Calendar—go to our website ([www.asf.ttl.org.uk](http://www.asf.ttl.org.uk)) - it is on there. It will keep you up to date on events that may be of interest to you.
- Add our school website to your favourites. It has lots of information on the curriculum, school policies, general information, and lots, lots more. It also has forms you might need, like holiday request forms and jewellery forms.
- Letters home—We still send letters home in your child's school bag. Please check your child's bag daily.

## SCHOOL MEALS

School meals remain free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. If your child is in Nursery, Year 3 or Year 4, the cost of a school meal is now £2.30. You may be eligible for a Free School Meal in Nursery, Year 3 or 4 if you are in receipt of some benefits. Please call into the school office for more information. If you are eligible, you will also receive a £50 school uniform voucher.



## FRUIT AND MILK



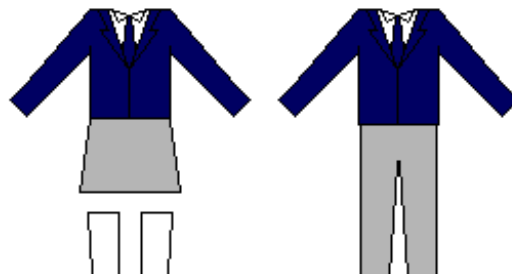
Fruit and milk will still be offered to children this year. However, we will only offer fruit and milk on an annual basis, as a result of ordering restrictions and payment issues. If your child would like fruit and milk, please fill in the separate letter, which will be sent home, then pay for the year using PARENTPAY. The annual cost for fruit and milk remains at £36 for years 3 and 4 and £18 for years 1 and 2. This is the equivalent of 19p per day.

## UNIFORM

It is All Saints' C.E. (A) First School's policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school. It is also something that all parents agreed to as part of signing the home-school agreement on entry to school. School uniform options are designed to be flexible, and can be bought from many retailers, including Supersports and Kidwise (online only) in Leek, as well as supermarkets and other shops.

Children may wear:

- burgundy school jumper, cardigan or fleece,
- white or burgundy polo shirt (with or without logos),
- grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore,
- a burgundy school dress/shorts as an option in warmer weather.



We would like to remind parents that children need to:

- Wear sensible black school shoes and **not trainers** (other than for PE).
- Have a named school PE Kit for use in school with trainers/pumps that fit. *Please note that PE kits should be a T-shirt and shorts (no football kits).—either the burgundy school PE kit (preferably) or a white T-shirt and black shorts. If you are buying a new PE Kit, we ask that you buy the burgundy PE kit. If children already have the black/white kit, this is perfectly fine. Children should bring tracksuit tops and bottoms during cold weather as we will be outside whenever possible.*
- Have their name on all items of uniform, coats, PE kit, shoes, etc.
- Remove jewellery before they come to school. *If your child needs to wear items of jewellery for cultural or other reasons, please call into the office for a permission form if you have not already done so.*

**Please note that we will be reminding your children about wearing appropriate uniform, and letters will be sent home with your child if needed. However, please do come and talk to us if you have any questions or difficulties about school uniform, as we may be able to help.**

## Attendance Guidelines Letter issued by Staffordshire County Council

*Staffordshire Attendance guidelines, which our school must follow, is now in force, and is detailed below.*

### Penalty Notice for leave of absence (holiday) in term time

**Any period of unauthorised leave** may result in a parent receiving a penalty notice fine. The head teacher is the only person able to authorise leave in term time, but can do so **only in exceptional circumstances**. Any unauthorised absence must be referred by your head teacher to the local authority.

### Penalty Notice for persistent lateness

Previously a pupil had to achieve 20 unauthorised late marks before a penalty notice warning could be issued. This has now changed to **10 marks**, and late marks do not have to be one after the other in order for the penalty notice to be issued. You are therefore encouraged where possible to ensure your child attends school on time. However, if your child is late you must inform the school of the reason(s) why, as they may be able to offer you some form of advice or support.

Please remember that children who enter through the main entrance, when the children's entrances are closed, are given a late mark. If your child regularly does this, please be aware that they may receive penalty notices for persistent lateness under the new guidelines.

### Period of time used to measure persistent absence and lateness

If your child has had 10 days unauthorised absence or is late 10 times over a twelve week period, you may receive a penalty warning notice and also potentially a fine. Further details and a copy of the revised Code of Conduct for issuing Penalty Notices can be obtained from the council's website :

[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education).

Remember that a holiday request form can be downloaded from the Useful Information/Useful documents section of our school website. This must be completed prior to any period of leave as we cannot authorise absences retrospectively.

## READING

One of the key messages for parents and carers is that *all* primary school age children should read to (and with) their parents or carers for at least 10 minutes every day. If children are fluent readers, parents could also support and encourage them to read on their own at times. We would also appreciate it if parents would complete reading diaries. Reading books will be sent home on Friday. We will be changing reading books 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). Unfortunately, our annual costs to simply replace lost books is now well over £1000. We can no longer sustain this cost within our school budget each year. Please can we ask parents to ensure that books come back to school. Lost books will now incur a charge of £5. A separate letter will be sent home with further information about reading shortly.

## HOMEWORK

Homework will be sent home on a Friday (starting on 20th September) and will be expected to be completed and returned by the following Wednesday. Please can we ask all parents to sign homework each week, and ensure that it is returned to school. Teachers will review homework, and sign it to show parents that this has been done. Children are expected to do their homework each week.

## QUICK NOTES

- If your child has asthma, please can you ensure that you have provided us with an up to date inhaler and filled in an Asthma Form from the office.
- Children in Year 1 to Year 4 will be doing PE outside during this term. In addition to the normal PE kit, please could you include warmer clothes, such as jogging bottoms and a jumper. Children are welcome to have trainers instead of pumps in their PE bag.
- If your child has a medical condition that you have not informed the school of, or a medication condition that has changed since informing the school, please can you contact the school office as soon as possible to make sure our information is up to date.
- Don't forget that parents will be invited to Achievement Assembly at the end of each half term if their child has been awarded a Vision and Values certificate. However, the date and time of all the assemblies will be on the Parent Calendar (on the website) should other parents wish to come along.
- We encourage children to walk or come to school on their scooters/bikes. If your children would like to come to school on their scooter or bike, we have a bicycle rack outside the office where scooters/bikes can be left (at owner's own risk). We would like to ask you to ensure your child walks their bike/scooter down the drive, for safety reasons. Please can scooters/bikes be taken home at the end of each day.
- If your child is interested in starting guitar lessons, please call in at the school office for more information.
- If you have any time during the school week, and would like to volunteer in school, for example to hear readers, please contact the school office.
- We can now administer paracetamol based suspension (e.g. Calpol) in school. If your child needs this, you will need to complete a medicine administration form as normal. We are still unable to administer Ibuprofen based medicines unless these have been prescribed.

