



ST PIRAN'S

Inspiring Confidence

8th September 2017

Dear Parents

Start of term for Year 1

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed the summer break and have returned with lots of energy ready for a fun packed term of events. May we also welcome Anya Kemp and her family into Year 1. Below we have identified some of the things that relate to Year 1. (Most of these you should find in your Christmas Term 2017 calendar.)

Due to restructuring the management team, Mrs Lauren Stevens is starting her new role on the Pre-Prep staff as Lower School Coordinator from this term. May I congratulate her on her promotion. Her role will support me in the daily running of the Lower School and she will oversee the pastoral side of the Lower School children, after the class teacher.

Lower School Information Evening (Thursday 14th September 7pm)

This evening is for all parents, whether you have had children through the school previously or are new to St Piran's. We will start in the Tippet Hall with refreshments then continue in the Year 1 classrooms with just the Year 1 teachers. The evening will cover the specific items that relate to the everyday timetable in the classes and give you the opportunity to ask questions.

Winter Uniform

All children should be wearing winter uniform from Monday 2nd October.

Harvest Festival Assembly (Friday 6th October 9:20am)

All parents from Lower School (Years 1 and 2) are invited to our Lower School Harvest Festival Assembly which will be held in the Tippet Hall starting at 9:20am. There will be coffee and tea served in Big School between drop off and the assembly. Please note Middle School and Upper School parents will be watching their assembly from 8:35am so do not attend the wrong one!

Pre-Prep Photographs (Monday 9th October)

Individual photographs and family photos of children in the school will take place on Monday 9th October

Year 1 Visit to Oxford University Museum of Natural History (Tuesday 17th October)

Year 1 are visiting the Oxford University Museum linking to their topic for the term. Further details will come out from the Year 1 class teachers, nearer the time. Parents will be needed for the trip, but please note if you volunteer this does not guarantee you a place. If there are more volunteers than needed, names will be pulled out of a hat. On subsequent trips those parents who have not had the opportunity of supporting us, will have priority.

Reception to Year 2 Parents' Evening and Afternoon (Tuesday 31st October 6-8pm and Thursday 2nd November 4:30-6:30pm)

Information about how to reserve a specific time with your child's class teacher will come out nearer the time.

Non Uniform Day (Thursday 16th November)

The children in Years 3 to 6 will be deciding on a charity to support. As a school, we encourage parents to send in a £1 donation on non-uniform days to support the chosen charity.

Father Christmas Assembly (Thursday 30th November)

Each child is encouraged to bring in one toy, unwrapped, suitable for a boy or a girl. Further details will appear on the Newsletter nearer the time.

Lower School Christmas Concert (Tuesday 5th December 1pm *anyone* and Thursday 7th December 1pm *adults only*)

Further details will come out nearer the time; however please make a note that the concerts are in the afternoon this year and not the morning as last year. Also please make a note in your diary that the *Thursday performance is for adults only*. Both the Early Years production and this production will be professionally recorded.

Year 1 and 2 Outing to South Hill Park (Wednesday 13th December am)

For this outing we tend not to need parent volunteers. Further details will come out nearer the time.

End of Term

Year 1 and 2 finish school on Friday 15th December at 12:15pm. If you have an older child in Middle or Upper School there will be Holding for Year 1 siblings in the Year 1 classrooms. If you would like to use this facility please sign up on the Parent's Notice Board on that day and collect your child by 12:40pm at the latest from their classroom. Please note Extended Day will only be operating until 5:30pm on this day. Please book in the normal way through matron or directly with Extended Day.

Letters and Information

The school newsletter will continue to be sent out electronically to all parents on a Friday. This is also displayed on the School Website; this provides up to date information and reminders. Teachers will send out letters intermittently providing further information; these generally go out on a Friday, electronically as well. If you are not receiving the newsletter, which is sent out every week, please would you speak to someone in the main office to ensure your current email address is being used. You will also be able to access this information on the Parent Portal.

To support independence

If you are bringing your child into the classroom, please would you continue to encourage and allow them to sort out their own belongings when they arrive at school: coat, P.E. kit and book bag, as this will support them finding it again later in the day! If you would like to use the Kiss and Drop system, adults will be available to assist your child from 8am to 8:25am.

Coats, hats, gloves etc

May we remind you that your child should be wearing the school navy coat, listed on the uniform list, when the weather starts to get cold. At that time, your child does not need to bring in their blazer as well, unless it is required for a school trip or otherwise requested by the school. Once the weather is then warmer again they will be asked to wear this to and from school and it is suggested they leave their navy coat in school to wear at break times. If your child would like to wear a hat this can be obtained from the school shop. Gloves and scarf may be own choice. Please ensure all items are clearly named and that coats are labelled with the child's name label on the inside collar.

Trainers

Each child requires a pair of indoor and outdoor trainers in school at all times. The indoor trainers will be used for PE lessons, but also when the children go onto the All Weather Pitch every day for break time. These will be kept in the classroom separate from the PE bag so will not come home each week.

Hair

Please may I remind you that girls' hair should be tied back if it is shoulder length and that any hair accessories should only be school colours or black and white.

Communication

Please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher if you have any concerns or are not sure about something. No question is too small. There will be a member of staff in the classroom from 8am each day, but we do request that you do not come into the classroom or school before this time, even if your child is being dropped off at Breakfast Club. Their belongings at this time should be taken with them to Breakfast Club. Many parents used the Kiss and Drop system last year, which worked really well for the Year 1 pupils and gave them the opportunity of gaining confidence making their way to the classroom, with an adult keeping an eye on route! If you are using this method, we check reading record books daily so please use this to ask a question or provide us with information. Meetings can also be arranged for the end of the day.

Timetable

Please look at the Parent Notice Board in your child's class to see which days swimming, library, PE and games are taking place. Further information will be provided at the Information Evening as well as a full timetable being available for you to see on the Parent Portal by the end of next week. Please note this is not set in stone and may change as events take place during the week.

Reading

Each class teacher will be working with your child over the first week to see where they are up to with their individual reading. Once this is established, appropriate homework will begin to come home. From experience and to ensure progress for your child, try to set up a routine for both your child and an adult at home in order to hear them read for a short time each day in a calm, relaxed environment. Your child will have a 'yellow reading record book' explaining what has taken place in school or what we would like you to continue at home. Please would you sign when you have completed the activity or finished a book. We endeavour to change books regularly, but without the signature it takes longer to establish whether the work set has been completed.

Children will also have weekly spellings and a piece of maths homework to complete each week related to their class work. This will be sent home on a Friday to be returned the following Monday.

Library books will come home weekly. This will be changed when the previous one has been returned. Please note these are the child's choice of book.

Finally, please would you ensure every item of clothing is named, including socks. Every classroom quickly gathers a pile of socks looking for owners!

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Rothwell
Head of Pre-Prep
l.rothwell@stpirans.co.uk

Lauren Stevens
Lower School Coordinator
l.stevens@stpirans.co.uk