

St John's Newsletter, September

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Executive Headteacher's Message



We're already at the end of September. How fast the time has gone! We've had a good couple of weeks at St John's. Classes are settled into their new routines, the children are working hard and everyone is getting to know each other. I had the pleasure of working with the School Council this week to find out more about the school; they have some brilliant ideas. I'm very proud of what they have achieved to ensure our MacMillan coffee morning is a success (further details in the newsletter). A big thanks to Mr Mills for his work with the school council.

Thank you for filling in the survey earlier in the month. The responses plus the conversations we're having on the gate have been really helpful in setting the direction and priorities for the school.

As often as possible, I will be on the gate. Please do come and say hello. I'm really interested in hearing your thoughts on the school. If I'm not available, then the Head of School, Mr Carlile, will be outside to help and support.

My role is to provide the strategic direction and to support St John's and my other school, St Peter's, to become the best they can be. This includes developing the organisational culture, identifying and implementing improvement priorities, engaging in support from external partners, supporting staff in their professional development and, most importantly, making sure the children feel happy and

safe at school. Your input on all of this is really important to me. Mr Carlile, as Head of School, supports in this capacity and looks after the day-to-day operational aspects. We also have Mrs Broughton, our family support worker, who can help and always provides useful advice and support, Mrs Rudd, our SENDCo and Mrs Timmins (formerly Bright), our KS2 leader. There will always be someone available to help.

We are a family here at St John's. The family-feel of the school has been clear since my first day here. It's a special place where the children stand out. I'm happy to be here and excited about what the coming years will bring.

Mr Seex

School Council Update

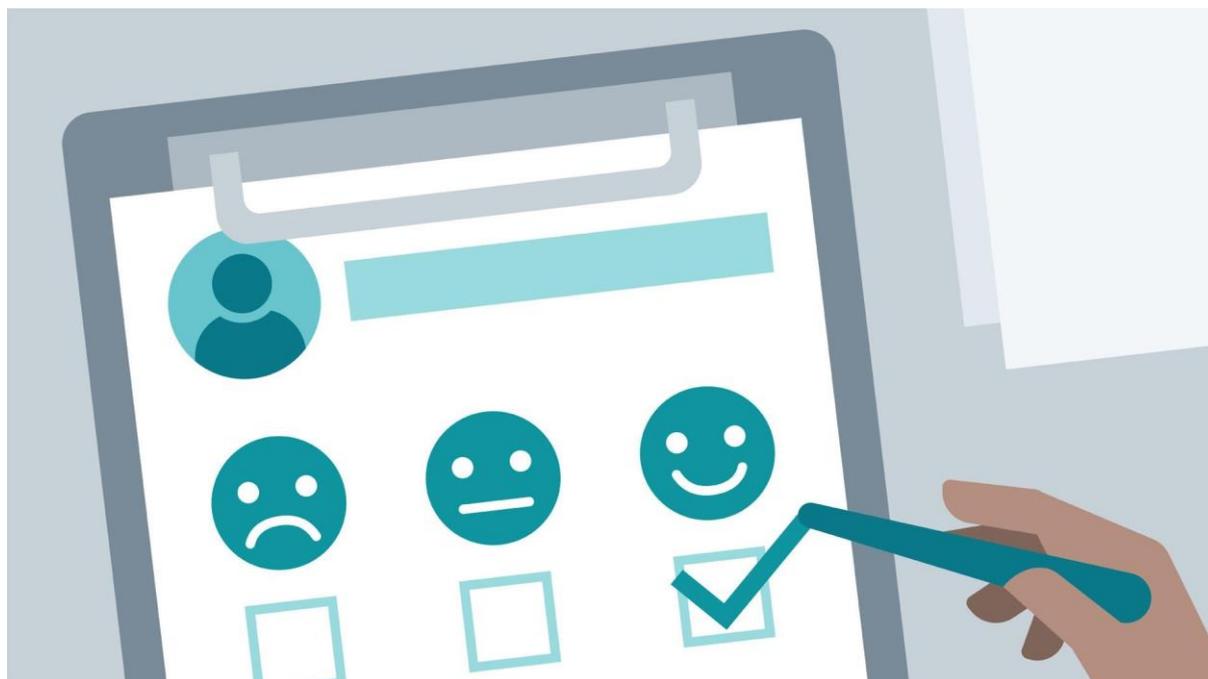


The school council has had a busy first two weeks in school! We have written letters to local businesses requesting donations for our Macmillan coffee morning. We already have several businesses that would like to work alongside us and are looking forward to helping set up and run the event! They have donated a lot of items to support us in our charity fundraising. We really appreciate it as it helps us to better support Macmillan. Supporting charities and those in need is an important part of our Christian values at St John's.

We are also planning a school clean-up event, brainstorming fundraising ideas for Children in Need and in the next few weeks we will be beginning to plan Christmas events!

Mr Mills (school council lead)

Parent Survey



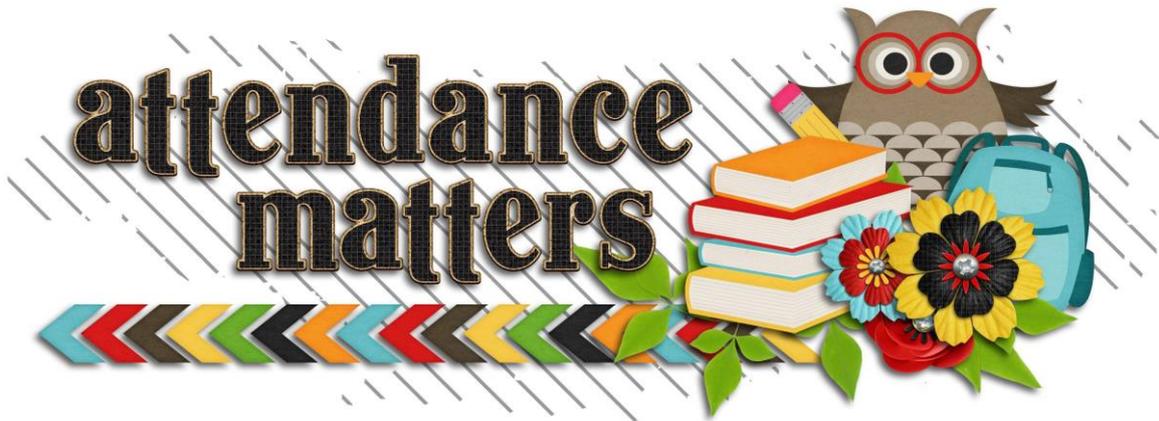
Thank you for completing the parent survey. It will help us to improve further. Some of the headlines from the outcomes:

- Positively, 94% of parents feel their child is happy here. Questions around progress and the quality of teaching were also extremely positive.
- Where you said the school could get better was around communication, responding thoroughly to your concerns and behaviour.
- The vast majority of parents said they would recommend the school.

All of your comments and responses are appreciated and we will work to continue to deliver strong teaching and ensuring your child is happy at school, but we will also work hard on improving the areas you have identified too. We will keep you updated on our actions towards these targets.

Please keep me (Mr Seex) informed about how we are doing in those areas and if you notice any improvement or issues.

Attendance



Attendance is a national priority. It really makes a difference to children's happiness, attainment and their wellbeing. Although staff will always try to support a child when they return from absence, missing sessions consistently can make it difficult for them to keep up as they miss key learning points. Although sickness can be unavoidable, it is important that children are in school when they feel well enough so that they can make the most of their school experience.

At St John's, we aim for 96% attendance.

Lateness can affect children in a similar way. Consistent lateness means they miss the important first sessions. As soon as children come into school, they will do a task to support them with their learning. Being on-time also gives children the opportunity to transition into the day with their classmates and move into the routine of school; if they arrive late, they may miss this, which will make it harder for them to 'hit the ground running' in lessons.

We thank you for your ongoing support with this.

School Dinners

As communicated in summer, school dinners will now be charged at £2.50 per meal. This should be paid through School Gateway and goes directly to our catering supplier.

All Key Stage One children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, which means they can order their meals through the Gateway without any charge.

Parking



Please park considerately and safely. As a polite reminder, cars should not park on the zig-zag yellow lines as this space should be kept clear so that children and parents/carers can walk safely to school. It is important that everyone puts the safety of the children first. We have asked for PCSOs to be present outside to support with this.

Contact Us



If we can help, please get in touch on the details below:

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