



Newsletter 1
15th September 2022
Acting Head Teacher: Mr Kurt Doyle
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"A Church School Community aspiring for all to live life to the full"

Dear Parents, Carers & Governors,

It has been wonderful, in our first full week back, to spend time with the children as I get to know the school. It is clear that this is wonderfully nurturing school with much potential. I am hopeful that last week's letter has provided some clarity on the year ahead and has hopefully reassured the school community. Should you wish to discuss anything further, then my door is always open to parents and carers.

As we work through the school term, we will be able to begin the process of 'returning to normal' and this includes regular event such as extra-curricular clubs and Meet the teacher. Please find more details below regarding this.

We are grateful for the patience, support and understanding shown by the whole school community.

School Closure, Monday 19th September: A reminder that School will be closed next **Monday, 19th September** due to Queen Elizabeth II Funeral taking place. **All children should return to school on Tuesday 20th September as normal.**

After School Clubs: We are delighted to confirm the return of some extra-curricular clubs. These clubs will return from the week beginning Monday 26th September and will run until Christmas:

- **Y4-Y5 Football Club with Mr Doyle (3.15 – 4.00pm Thursdays)**
- **Y3-Y6 Boardgames with Mrs Manners and Mrs Colson (3.15 – 4.15pm Thursdays)**
- **Y1&Y2 FUNDamental Movement with James Hemming (3.15 – 4.00pm Tuesdays)**
- **Y3&Y4 Mixed Sports with James Hemming (3.15 – 4.15pm Fridays)**
- **KS2 Tag Rugby with Oli Duffy (3.15 – 4.15 Mondays)**
- **Orchestra with Kate Skeet (3.15 – 4.00pm Thursdays) *by invitation***
- **KS2 Guitar Club with Mrs Britton (3.15 – 4.00pm Tuesdays)**

Further clubs will be added after October half term.

Please note that clubs must be booked online. There is a limited number of spaces in each club and places will be allocated on a *first come, first served* basis. **The link to book your child into a club will follow in the next few days.**

Meet The Teacher: We will be altering the format for 'Meet the teacher' this term. To increase flexibility for parents and carers, we will be offering three 'drop in' sessions throughout the week. These sessions will take place at the following time:

- **Tuesday 4th October - 9.15 – 9.45am**
- **Wednesday 5th October - 2.15 – 2.45pm**
- **Thursday 6th October - 4.30 – 5.00pm**

This is a fantastic opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher, explore their child's classroom and look through their school books. I strongly encourage all parents and carers to engage with this opportunity. If you are unable to make the following times but would still like to discuss your child, then please make an appointment directly with the class teachers who will be happy to accommodate where possible.

Break Time Snacks: Just a reminder that children should be having healthy snacks during playtimes. We are not encouraging children to eat crisps, biscuits and chocolate at this time of day. Children should not bring nuts into school for a snack. Healthy snacks include:

- **Fruit**
- **Cereal bars (without nuts)**
- **Cheese**

We would be grateful if you could ensure your children have healthy snacks to eat during break time each day.

PE Timetable: Please see the timetable below for the days that each class will have their PE lessons. Please ensure children wear the correct PE kit to school that day.

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday			PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
Tuesday	PE	PE		PE			
Wednesday					PE		PE
Thursday			PE			PE	
Friday	PE	PE					

Homework: Your child will now begin to receive homework. This will vary between year groups but we do expect all children to be engaging with this learning. Our school approach to homework is to provide additional opportunities for pupils to revisit, recall and practise already learned knowledge. The emphasis is on committing learning to long-term memory and/ or becoming fluent.

Homework will consist of the following:

- Reception homework - Reading books (including sounds list and high frequency words)
- Y1 - Reading books and spellings, plus a number bonds activity
- Y2 - Y5 - Topic packs, spellings and weekly mathematics homework
- Y6 - Topic pack, weekly literacy and maths

If you would like to discuss homework then please do so with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Times Tables Rockstars: Mrs Manners has been working hard behind the scenes to launch Times Tables Rockstars across the school. This is a really exciting learning platform for children to use to learn and practise their multiplication facts: a crucial piece of knowledge for all children. Please see letter attached from Mrs Manners in relation to this.

School Uniform: Attached is our School Uniform Policy to reiterate our expectations of the uniform children should be wearing to school. Please ensure that your child's uniform is appropriate for school and in line with the attached Policy.

School Dinners: Thursday 6th October is Census Day and it would really help support the funding for our school if as many children as possible could order a school lunch on that day, **especially children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2.** The meal choices on that day will change to:

- A: Cheeseburger in a bun with chips & sauces**
B: Vegan hotdog & chips
C: Jacket potato & toppings
Dessert: Ice Cream

Children will just need to tell their class teacher their meal choice on the day, as usual. Thank you for your support.

Reminder: if you pay for your child's school lunches please remember to top up your Parent Pay account. Unfortunately, we still have some outstanding debts from July. If your debt reaches £12.00 we will not be able to supply a school lunch for your child and we will ring you to ask you to bring in a packed lunch for your child.

Free School Meals: If you think your child may be entitled to free school meals as you are accessing Universal Credit, please complete an online form via the Free School Meal Portal on the Gloucestershire County Council website to see if your child is entitled. If you require further details or help with this, please speak to the school office who will be happy to help.

Please note that if your child is in Reception, Y1 or Y2 they will receive a Universal Free School Meal but if you are accessing Universal Credit, they could be entitled to the Pupil Premium Grant which provides additional funding for your child and the School. This funding helps us to strengthen our educational offer and better support your child in their learning.

Values Certificates

Well done to the following children who received a Christian values certificate or Jigsaw Scroll Award in our weekly Celebration Worship.

12.09.2022

Y1	Rosie and Tom
Y2	Remy and Harriet
Y3	Zac and Esperance
Y4	Bella and Ewan
Y5	Kitty and Vinnie
Y6	Richard and Aurelie

Personal Details: If you have any changes in your personal details (eg mobile telephone number, emergency contacts, medical information or address etc), please let the office know as soon as possible so records on our system as up-to-date and accurate as possible.

Secondary School Transfer September 2023: It's that time of year when parents of Y6 children need to consider applying for places at secondary schools. The deadline for secondary applications this year is **Monday 31st October 2022**. This is extremely important as any applications received by Gloucestershire County Council after this date may not be considered until after 1st March 2023. Most secondary schools are now advertising their Open days, please check secondary school's websites, for details of these. **If your child will be attending an Open day, please ensure you complete a leave of absence form for them to attend.** On Wednesday 21st and Friday 23rd September, Mr Gilpin, Headteacher at Pittville School and Mr McNiffe, Principal at All Saints Academy will be at Holy Trinity to give a talk to Y5/Y6 Parents. Please see details below.

Forthcoming Dates

• Monday 19 th September	School Closed – Bank Holiday for Queen Elizabeth's Funeral	
• Tuesday 20 th September	School Open as normal	
• Wednesday 21 st September	Y1 & Y2 Sports Day	9.30am – 11.30am
• Wednesday 21 st September	Mr Gilpin, Pittville School Talk to Y5/Y6 Parents	3.30pm – 4.15pm
• Thursday 22 nd September	Orchestra with Mrs Skeet Starts Today	3.15pm – 4.00pm
• Friday 23 rd September	Y1 & Y2 Sports Day – Reserve Date	9.30am – 11.30am
• Friday 23 rd September	Mr McNiffe, All Saints Academy Talk to Y6 Parents	3.30pm – 4.00pm
• Wednesday 28 th September	KS2 (Y3, 4, 5 & 6) Sports Day	9.30am – 11.30am
• Thursday 29 th September	Coffee with Mr Doyle Session	9.00am – 9.30am
• Friday 30 th September	Coffee with Mr Doyle Session	9.00am – 9.30am
• Friday 30 th September	KS2 (Y3, 4, 5 & 6) Sports Day – Reserve Date	9.30am – 11.30am
• Tuesday 4 th October	Meet the Teacher Drop in Session (All Classes)	9.15am – 9.45am
• Tuesday 4 th October	Joiners Service (New Reception Children)	2.00pm – 3.00pm
• Wednesday 5 th October	Meet the Teacher Drop in Session (All Classes)	2.15pm – 2.45pm
• Thursday 6 th October	Meet the Teacher Drop in Session (All Classes)	4.30pm – 5.00pm
• Thursday 6 th October	Census Day Menu	Details above
• Monday 10 th October	Whole School & Sibling Photographs	am
• Tuesday 11 th October	Y4 & Y6 Literature Festival Trip	Details to follow
• Wednesday 12 th October	Y1 Literature Festival Trip	Details to follow
• Wednesday 12 th – Friday 14 th	Y6 Residential Trip to Whitemoor Lakes	
• Thursday 13 th October	Y3 & Y5 Literature Festival Trip	Details to follow
• Friday 14 th October	Y2 Literature Festival Trip	Details to follow
• Wednesday 19 th October	Harvest Festival at Trinity Church	Details to follow

- Thursday 20th October Reception - Y6 Flu Vaccinations all day
- **Thursday 20th October** **End of Autumn Term 1**
- **Friday 21st October** **INSET Day – Teaching staff only in School**
- **Monday 24 – Friday 28th** **October Half-Term**
- **Monday 31st October** **Start of Autumn Term 2 – GATES OPEN AT 8.50AM**

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kurt Doyle
Acting Headteacher