



St John's CE Primary School

Brook Lane, Walsall Wood, Walsall, WS9 9NA

Head Teacher: Mr A C Mills

Tel: 01543 452197 Fax: 01543 452956

e-mail: office@st-johns.walsall.sch.uk

Website: www.stjohnscewalsallwood.co.uk



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we begin the final few weeks of this most unpredictable school year I would like to outline a few of the events that will take place and, unfortunately, how they will differ to most other years.

It now seems that despite all restrictions being lifted on the 19th July the recommendation to schools from Public Health Walsall is to keep the current safety precautions in place until September at the earliest. Their concern is based around the new variant spreading more rapidly amongst school age children. This doesn't mean, however that we won't be having end of year events, they will just be tweaked from normal years. Our annual sports day will be held over the last three days of term (19-21st July) unfortunately to comply with Public Health this will be without parents spectating and the children will be competing within their bubbles. There will also be other Sports and activities lined up for those three days too.

The Leavers' service for the Year 6 children will be filmed and made available to parents to watch and there will be a service in school (or possibly Church) on the last day when the children will be presented with their bibles. Look out for more details on Class dojo closer to the time.

Unfortunately, it seems that all Secondary schools have cancelled their transition days which means that we will no longer have the day most Year 6 children go to Shire Oak as our own internal transition day. The new classes for September are currently being finalised and we will notify you in due course. The children will have the opportunity to meet their new class teacher before the end of term with a Transition picnic, so do not worry! Additional times will be sorted for any children that show they need more transition. Their mental health is important to us!

You will receive your child's report on Friday 16th July, this year we will revert back to a paper copy rather than emailing it out to you.

For the first time in many years there will be quite a few changes to staffing in preparation for September. After many, many years' service Mrs Denning, Mrs Pickering (although she will return for a couple of days per week from the Autumn term) and Mrs Pam Mills will be retiring, and Mrs Chapman will also be leaving us. Between the four of them they have clocked up a fantastic 117 years! Suffice to say that all of them will be sorely missed by everyone here at St John's and they will leave behind a remarkable, enduring legacy. We wish them all every future happiness as they all begin a new chapter in their life and thank them for such a wonderful contribution over several generations to the children and families of St John's. I, for one, will miss them all but suffice to say that the door will always be open to them. School will certainly feel different without them.





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Miss Fergusson has already commenced her maternity leave, and, from the end of this term, Miss Bird will also start hers. Of course, we will keep you informed about the impending arrivals!

We have appointed three new teachers from September, two of them, Miss Westbury and Miss Williams will already be familiar to some of you and the children and the third, Miss Painter, will be making initial visits in the next few weeks to get to know her new colleagues and children. I am sure you will join me in welcoming all of them to St John's.

During the Summer break Miss Hughes will be getting married and will return in September as Mrs Kellie. We wish Miss Hughes and her fiancé, Sam, every happiness as they embark upon married life.

Hopefully in September we will be back to something resembling normality however, without wishing to tempt fate, I will write to you again closer to the end of term outlining the arrangements for September. At the moment schools have not received any updates from the DFE highlighting any restrictions that may need to remain in place

Once more thank you for your incredible patience and support over the last 18 months when the only certainty has remained the complete lack of uncertainty!

With fondest regards,

Mr Mills

STOP PRESS!

Congratulations to Miss Fergusson who has given birth to a son - Ellis James Fergus. We wish them all well.

