

The Two Way Street

Welcome to the first edition of our new look information booklet for parents. This will replace our previous publication called 'Working Alongside Parents' as we aim to make the relationship between the school and our parents and carers more meaningful and to promote a '**two way street**'! We all have the same aim and that is to try and develop the children in our care into responsible, articulate and educated adults and the only way we can do this is together! The aim of this publication is to: -

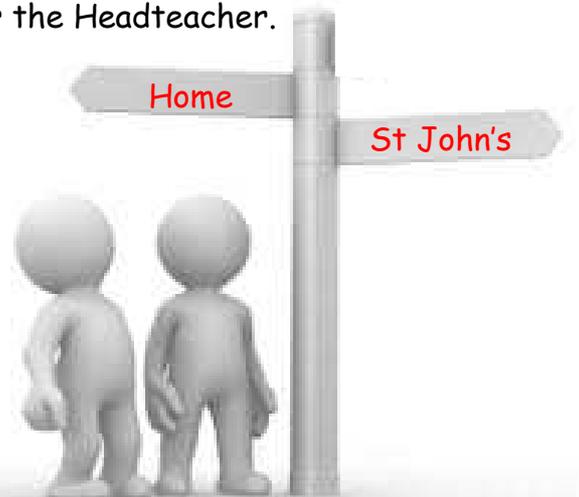
- ⚠ Inform parents and carers of new initiatives both in school and nationally
- ⚠ Raise awareness as to what goes on in school
- ⚠ Give helpful tips and advice as to how you can help your child at home in order to promote learning, healthier lifestyles and emotionally resilient children
- ⚠ Give parents and carers the opportunity to contribute appropriate materials to the publication if they wish to do so
- ⚠ Provide the opportunity for parents and carers to ask questions related to school life (that others may also find interesting) and have them answered (anonymously)
- ⚠ Encourage you to give feedback to us regarding the aspects of school that work well and those that could be improved

We do not want to keep sending questionnaires out asking for your opinions, we want your comments/questions to come into school as and when the need arises and so this publication will give you that opportunity! As parents and carers, you know that if a more personal/serious problem arises, you can make an appointment at any time to speak confidentially with a staff member, the Deputy Head or the Headteacher.

If you have any comments, concerns or questions - why don't you email us on our brand new address specifically for the
the
'Two Way Street'

Email address:

twowaystreet@st-johns.walsall.sch.uk



Hello 2011

January heralds the start of *Hello*, the national year of communication - a yearlong campaign to help all children and young people live life to the full by making communication a priority in homes and schools across the country.

Today, over 1 million children and young people in the UK have some form of long-term communication difficulty - that's on average 2-3 in every UK classroom. Some may stammer, and some may not be able to speak clearly. But for many, the communication difficulties are less obvious. This means they are too often misunderstood, misinterpreted or just missed altogether. If you struggle to communicate, you struggle in life - from learning in the



classroom to making friends and finding employment.

Hello will provide parents and professionals with a range of information and resources that will build greater awareness of children and young people's communication milestones, how to spot if they are struggling, and what to do to help.



Start your support for *Hello* by taking part in the I CAN Chatterbox Challenge - a fun activity for children aged 0-5 to develop their communication skills through singing songs and rhymes at nurseries, children's groups and child minders. February and March are the *Hello* campaign's official Chatterbox Challenge months, which will also involve a Guinness World Record™ attempt to get the largest ever number of children and adults singing Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes at one time. This will take place at 11am on Tuesday 1st March.

Please visit www.hello.org.uk for information on how you can help improve the communication skills of children and young people and to sign up for regular updates. You can also follow the campaign on [Twitter](#) (LINK: www.twitter.com/Hello_2011) and [facebook](#) [LINK: <http://on.fb.me/i2hRlf>].

