

## ST CLEMENT'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2017

### **Welcome Back Everyone !**

Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year at St Clement's School. I hope that you all had a fantastic time during the holidays, whether you enjoyed the sun here in Jersey or in far flung places around the globe. I am looking forward to hearing all about your travels and adventures whilst we have been away from school.

My family and I were lucky enough to explore the Rocky Mountains in Canada during the holidays where we learnt to ride horses (uncomfortably), mountain bike over very high 'trestle' bridges (anxiously) and hike noisily in bear and moose country (terrifyingly). It really highlighted to me how, even at my age, there are always new experiences out there with new skills to learn and knowledge to be gained. I am now an expert in how to deal with a bear!

As always, this Autumn Term promises to be an action packed one with many learning opportunities and special events for the children to enjoy. Just as I'm sure the children are excited about returning to school after the fantastic Summer holidays, the staff are also feeling refreshed and looking forward to this term. We extend a special welcome to all of our new staff, children and parents. We hope that you will all very soon feel part of our St Clement's Community. We also welcome back Mrs White after having her twins and Mr Ian Mildren, our new caretaker.

Do let the class teacher know if your child has a worry or concern. It is usually very easy to resolve these before they become bigger issues later in the term. Please remember that Mrs Hickling, our Deputy Headteacher, and myself are available at the beginning of each school day if you need to discuss any specific issues.

### **Dropping off and Collection Arrangements for Children from Reception – Year 6**

#### **Dropping Off Before School**

There is currently no supervision of children until 8.25am. All children from Reception to Year 6 who arrive before this time **should go straight to the playground with their coats and bags. No children are allowed in school before 8.40am.** Reception parents are welcome to stay with their children in the playground. At 8.40am the school bell will ring. Our younger children will enter school through their classroom doors. The older Key Stage 2 children will enter the school through the back door.

For the next few weeks Reception parents will be able to bring their children into class to assist them with their snacks, coats and bags and settle them in class. However, the expectation is that the children quickly learn to do this for themselves and will become used to the morning routine. Please could Reception parents leave through field gate once their child is settled. If the 8.50am bell has gone parents are asked to leave school through the front door as the field gate is locked at this time for safeguarding reasons.

In the event of inclement weather, the children will enter the school through the back door and go to the hall where a suitable activity will be provided. At 8.40am the children will then go to their classrooms in order to prepare for their first lesson.

As Nursery children arrive they may either enter through the Nursery door or walk through the playground and into the Foundation Stage outdoor area.

### **Collection of Children After School**

The collection of children after school is always difficult because of limited parking and the volume of traffic leaving this area at 3pm. I am planning to investigate a number of ways to alleviate these difficulties. However, in the interim period could you all please try to park considerately and pick up your children as quickly as possible. If your child walks home please stress to him or her that they must go straight home. In the interests of safety **children should not be collected from the car park** but from the front or back entrance to school. In this way we know where all the children are and can supervise them safely.

- At the end of the school day, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be collected from their classrooms at the rear of the building. Parents are asked to wait in the rear playground but not on the balcony areas. Parents are very welcome to wait in the cabin area. The rear gate by the car park will be open from 2.45.
- Key Stage 2 children should wait with the teacher on duty at the front of the school. KS2 siblings of KS1 children may wait at the back of the school with their younger brothers and sisters. If parents are going to be late collecting their child we would appreciate a phone call to notify us of this. We thank you for your co-operation in these matters.
- Children who are attending our new after school provision should go straight to the Multi-Purpose Room where staff will be ready to receive and register them.
- Any parents who are planning to allow their children to cycle to and from school are required to give consent. A parentmail message regarding this matter will be sent to relevant Year 5 and 6 parents in the next few weeks.

### **Parking**

As a result of the positive feedback in our recent parental survey we are planning to continue our morning drop off routine this year. Could we ask parents to drive right up to the two white rectangles if dropping off. Please do not allow your children to get out of the car before these marked areas as this can sometimes cause traffic blockages into Rue de la Chapelle. Parents are free to park in spaces either in front of school, in our school car park or in Le Rocquier's car park in the mornings. Please remember that if you would like to speak to me, Mrs Hickling or Mrs Dixon you can park in front of the school. Appointments to see class teachers can also be made through Mrs Dixon in the school office.

### **Priorities for this Term**

Everyone at St Clement's will be working hard to ensure that the children have a positive and happy start to the year. We will be focusing on our **Golden Rules** for behaviour and establishing expectations in classes. We hope that all the children quickly begin to earn house points and would appreciate your encouragement of your child in this area. Last term, we awarded several Platinum and Platinum Plus awards which were a huge achievement for the pupils involved.

Our Golden Rules are:

- Be gentle, kind and helpful
- Be honest and truthful
- Work hard
- Listen to people and you will have your turn
- Look after property

### Meet the Teacher Meetings

At St Clements School we believe that it is hugely beneficial for parents to meet class teachers early in the new school year. We would like to invite parents to “Meet the Teacher” sessions on the dates below. The purpose of the meeting is to outline routines, expectations and ways in which parents can support their child’s learning. This meeting will be the beginning of an important partnership with your child’s class teacher and will ensure that your child has the best possible start to their new school year. Please note that Year 5 and Year 6 children are expected to attend these meetings with their parents. **Please make every effort to attend the meetings which will be held in your child’s classroom.**

It is essential for a parent to be present at the Year 5 meeting as it will incorporate information for the French Trip later in the year. For this reason the Year 5 meeting will take slightly longer and will take place in the school hall.

Date	Year Group
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September <b>2.30 – 3pm</b>	Year 2
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September <b>7pm</b>	Year 3 and Year 4
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September <b>2.30 – 3pm</b>	Year 1
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September <b>7pm</b>	Year 5 and Year 6
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September <b>2.30 -3pm</b>	Reception

### Swimming

Swimming lessons will begin for Year 5 pupils next week. They will be swimming three times a week at Haute Vallee pool until the October half term. Further information for Year 5 pupils and parents will follow later today. The swimming programme will this year be extended to include Year 4 pupils. They will also complete lessons three times a week during November and December. Further information for Year 4 pupils and parents will be given at the ‘Meet the Teacher’ meeting.

### Acceptable Use Policies

This is an agreement that the children sign to confirm that they will follow a set of age appropriate rules when using the computers, ipads and other ICT equipment when in school. The agreement supports our Golden Rules regarding looking after property but it does also extend to children taking responsibility for using the internet responsibly when researching for

project work. This is an important skill for our children to learn as they progress through St Clement's School.

This agreement has recently been discussed and updated through our School Council. As they return to school the children will be having an assembly to ensure that they understand the updated rules set out in the agreement. They will then sign to confirm that they will follow them whilst in school. Parents will be asked to confirm via parentmail that they have discussed the rules set out in the appropriate AUP with their child and understand the consequences if these rules are not followed.

### **Thank you**

Finally, can I thank children and parents for the generous gifts that staff members at St Clement's School received at the end of the Summer Term. Thank you.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September Autumn Term begins
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Week of 'Meet the Teacher' meetings
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September - **school is closed for the Battle of Britain Air Display**  
**Staff will be in school on a Maths training day.**
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September – PTA Meeting 6.45pm at School
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Opening of the School
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Bentley Photographs starting at 8.am for families with siblings in the school followed by individual photographs.
- Wednesday 11th October at 2.30pm, PTA AGM. More details about this meeting will follow shortly.
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Week of Parent / Teacher meetings
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October **HALF TERM** holidays
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November - PTA Bingo Night
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December Foundation Stage Christmas Singalong 2pm
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December Year 1 & 2 Nativity – Afternoon Performance @ 2pm
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December Year 1 & 2 Nativity – Morning Performance @ 9.15am
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December Foundation Stage / Key Stage 1 Xmas Party
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December Key Stage 2 Xmas Party
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December End of the Autumn Term

R Heaven

Headteacher

Horse Rider

Mountain Biker

Bear-Loving Hiker