

ST CLEMENT'S SCHOOL OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2017

New School website

Over the last four months Miss Pretty has been working with Webreality to create our new school website. It is still accessed by using our old url : www.stclement.sch.je

We wanted something that was simple, easy to use and contained basic information that both new parents and existing parents would find useful. Hence our new site includes basic school information (location and contact details), current staffing details, key diary dates and parent information (including School Handbooks and key policies). Please have a look – your feedback would be more than welcome.

Our next project is to develop a school Facebook profile. We hope to have this operational after half term so watch this space. In the meantime, a big thank you to Miss Pretty for her hard work and effort to make the site look amazing!

P.T.A AGM

Our PTA AGM will take place next week on Wednesday 11th October at 2.30pm in the school hall. The AGM itself will not take long to complete – it can take as little as 7 or 8 minutes!

However, we do have one or two vacant positions this year. Mrs Dolan is happy to continue as Treasurer and Mrs Pearson is happy to remain as Secretary. If there is a parent out there who would like to be Chairperson, even if they are happy to share this role, then please do come forward. Doing/sharing this role does not mean that you have to organise and attend every event in the year!

As a way of encouraging parents to come to the AGM a number of choir members are putting on a singing and dancing show straight after the AGM. Please do come and watch as they have been practising with Mrs Dodds and are always eager to perform! Second hand uniform and 10th Anniversary Tea Towels will also be available on this date.

'Sunrise' (Morning) Club

A number of parents have already enquired about the morning club which I am renaming 'Sunrise'. In order to be fair to all parents, further information will be sent out on Monday morning when I will begin taking bookings. By Tuesday I will hopefully be able to confirm bookings. Later in the week registration forms will be sent out to gather information for Sunrise staff and invoices can be confirmed.

Bentley Photos in the School Hall

Bentley have now sent the proofs to school. These will be sent home on Monday for parents to view. If parents would like to order any of the photos, they can do through the online booking area. The school no longer deals with the ordering of photos to be purchased or the delivery of them.

Parent / Teacher Discussions

Thank you to those parents that have signed up already for their parent / teacher discussion time. These meetings are due to take place in the week beginning Monday October 16th. Can those parents that have not signed up do so as soon as possible. The timetable sheets for each class will be kept in the school entrance area.

Harvest Assembly

Reverend Shaw will be coming into school next week to take part in our Harvest Assembly. Every year Rev Shaw talks to the children about ways in which we can support our sister school (St Clement's) in Kenya. In past years we have sent out uniform and raised money for porridge which the children have when they arrive at school. This year Revd Shaw is trying to raise money for sewing machines so that the children and local families can learn new skills and become more independent at making and repairing their own clothes. Further details will follow on Monday about how we in Jersey can help Revd Shaw raise funds for this worthy cause.

Collaboration Day

Our first Collaboration day has been planned for Friday 20th October. Instead of short sessions of Golden Time on a weekly basis, we are trialling special days where the children get to work together and complete different activities.

Foundation Stage will spend time playing collaboratively using the indoor and outside space.

Key Stage 1 will 'Reach for the Stars' and combine classes to work in groups for some collaborative activities. There will be a particular focus on Art and Dance.

Key Stage 2 will split into mixed age groups across their house groups for the morning. They will all complete four different activities, to include both physical and mental collaborative challenges, as well as some cooking. In the afternoon the children will spend time back in class groups before meeting as a group to conclude the day.

If any parents are available to help with activities during the morning session, please let your child's class teacher know.

All children from Reception –Year 6 to come to school in PE kit on that day please. Any children who wish to add an accessory in their house colours are very welcome. (socks, hairbands, wristbands etc.) Please no face/ hair paint!

Eco-Poster Competition

A chance to earn house points with our latest poster competition. Our Eco-Active team have devised a slogan **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – to help our planet's survival.**

All entries to be in school by 3pm on Tuesday 31st October. Please ensure they have the slogan displayed clearly on your poster, with name, class and house group on the back.

Make it eye-catching and clear. All posters to be either A4 or A3 size and 2D so they can be reproduced easily for display if selected as a winning entry.

All children who wish to enter will receive 3 house points with fast Tracks for the winning entries. These will be picked by the Eco-Active team and announced in assembly on Thursday 2nd November.

3km Fun Run / Jersey Marathon

Well done to all of those children that completed the 3km Fun Run as part of the Jersey Marathon. Huge congratulations to Mrs Carney and Mr Wheatley who completed the whole 26 miles, 385 yards in 4 hours 37 minutes. After putting in such of lot of training work it is such a fabulous feeling to finally cross the line. What great role models for our children to show that we all have to dig deep and persevere at times.

Children in Need

A date for your diary, Friday 17th November. We will be supporting this charity as always. Back by popular demand will be the official merchandise on sale. The school council are making plans for other ways to raise money. Further details to follow after half term.

Swimming

I accompanied Year 5 to their swimming lesson last week and was amazed at the progress that they are making. By the time we get to half term the vast majority of children will have achieved the required Primary School standard. All of the children have really enjoyed their lessons and are trying so hard, demonstrating their ability to persevere when things get tough.

After half term our Year 4 class will begin swimming. They will swim on the same days at the same times until the end of the Autumn Term.

Tuesdays Leave school at 10.30am Return to school 12.10pm

Wednesdays Leave school at 10.30am Return to school 12.10pm

Thursdays Leave school at 9.30am Return to school 11.15am

INSET Day in May, 2018

During the school year teachers have three designated INSET training days. The first of these is the very first day of school in September. The second is Battle of Britain day, usually around the middle of September. The final day has historically been the day before the beginning of the Summer Term.

The Education Department has recently given permission for schools to be more flexible with the timing of this last day and so next year I have made a change.

In 2018, Monday 7th May is a Bank Holiday and Wednesday 9th May is also a holiday for Liberation Day. I have therefore arranged for our final INSET day to be on Tuesday 8th May, 2018. This will mean two things:

- The children and staff will all return to school on Monday 16th April to begin the Summer Term.
- Families will be able to have a long five day weekend from Saturday 5th May to Wednesday 9th May.

I will send out a reminder in the New Year about these arrangements, but just wanted parents to be aware of this in case they wanted to book a flight or ferry for an off island break.

Morning Drop Off Reminder

Please could parents not let their children out of their car until they have stopped in the coned drop off area being monitored by Mr Mildren and Miss Andrews. This is for the children's safety. It is tempting when others are in the coned area to let children out of the car whilst in the queue, but please be patient so that we can make drop offs as safe as possible. After half term there will be two official painted boxed areas to make the drop off zones even clearer and give parents a daily parking challenge!

Road Closure

There are some planned road works which are due to take place in the lower part of Pontorson Lane in the week before, and the week of, October Half Term. This will mean that traffic will not be able to turn left to go down Pontorson Lane towards the Coast Road. Sorry for any inconvenience, but I hope that the work won't disrupt parents too much. Any parents that are resident in the lower part of Pontorson Lane will receive a letter shortly from Jersey Electricity giving further details of how they can exit their property during the two week period.

Mr Wheatley Thanks

Mr Wheatley has asked me to thank parents for his gift vouchers for the cycle shop. He was amazed by the generosity of our parents and wanted to let you know that he has spent the money on new pedals, bottom bracket and crank! Suffice to say, he is enjoying his cycling even more now!

Dates for your Diary:

- Wednesday 11th October at 2.30pm, PTA AGM. More details about this meeting will follow shortly.
- Monday 16th October – Week of Parent / Teacher meetings
- Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October **HALF TERM** holidays
- Tuesday 31st October Closing date for Eco Poster Competition
- Friday 17th November Children In Need Day
- Friday 24th November - PTA Bingo Night
- Monday 4th December Foundation Stage Christmas Singalong 2pm
- Thursday 7th December Year 1 & 2 Nativity – Afternoon Performance @ 2pm
- Friday 8th December Year 1 & 2 Nativity – Morning Performance @ 9.15am
- Tuesday 12th December Foundation Stage / Key Stage 1 Xmas Party
- Wednesday 13th December Key Stage 2 Xmas Party
- Friday 15th December End of the Autumn Term

R Heaven

Headteacher