15th May 2018



Dear Parents,

As the summer term is well underway, I thought I would take the opportunity to update you on some of the activities at SJS coming up over the next few weeks.

Walk to School Week:

As in previous years, we will be participating in the National Walk to School Week between the 21st and 25th May. In support of our 'Walk Once a Week' initiative, we are keen to encourage as many children as possible to take part. We would ask that wherever possible, you support us in promoting this initiative. Even if only on selected days, it all helps to make a difference. Children who take part will each receive a certificate from their classteacher at the end of the week.

Fun Run 2018:

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Friday afternoon for this year's Fun Run. It was an amazing atmosphere and just fantastic to see the number of runners making their way round the SJS course. My thanks to the PFA and staff at SJS who stayed behind also to help run the event. The school's chosen charity, Chestnut Tree House, is now well publicised and I am delighted that already we have reached £3600 of the £6850 set as our target for this year; thank you so much for your generosity and amazing support for this venture! You can keep track of our total as we aim for this ambitious target at: https://www.justqiving.com/fundraising/sissummer

Residential visits:

Many congratulations to Year 5 who did us proud on their recent visit to East Dene. My thanks also to the staff who accompanied them on what was a highly successful visit.

We wish our Year 6 team all the very best for their forthcoming visits to Stone Farm in Bridestowe, Devon over the next few weeks. Group 1 leave on 21st May and Group 2 on 4th June.

Well done also to our Year 6 team who are showing a great deal of commitment and positive attitude during this week's SATs. We are always proud of the way in which our young folks in Year 6 apply themselves to this aspect of their work and once again, they are rising to the challenge in every respect. A big thank you to Mrs Farnham and the team in our school kitchen who are preparing over 90 cooked breakfasts every day – that certainly is helping spur our Year 6 team on!

School Uniform:

This is a plea again for parents to name their children's uniform. We are all frustrated by the number of sweatshirts and other items of uniform that are unnamed and therefore recycled or thrown away at the end of each fortnight at SJS. We have talked to the children about need to improve their care and responsibility with school uniform; it is an important part of our school and we are keen to work with you to improve the large amount of 'lost' property we regularly see.

Staffing update:

Parents will be aware that Mrs Adnitt has been unwell and away from Sarisbury since the middle of the autumn term. I can now confirm that Mrs Adnitt will be retiring from SJS with effect from 18th June 2018. I would like to thank Mrs Adnitt for the considerable service she has given the school over the past 30 years and we all wish her a long and happy retirement. There will be an opportunity to celebrate Mrs Adnitt's contribution to the school and I will write to parents with further details nearer the time.

In the meantime, Mrs Karen Mattin will act as interim caretaker at Sarisbury until the end of the summer term, when the post will be filled on a permanent basis.

I am sure you will also join me in offering congratulations to Miss Taylor who has been appointed to a leadership role at Netley Abbey Junior School. This is a well-deserved and exciting promotion for Miss Taylor and we all wish her every success in her new role. I would also like to thank her for the excellent contribution she has made at Sarisbury over the past four years.

I will write with further details about Miss Taylor's replacement and other staff organisation at SJS for September once these have been finalised.

Yours sincerely,

A. J. Stockton

Mr A. J. Stockton Headteacher