



ST IVES INFANT SCHOOL

SETTING SAIL FOR NEW HORIZONS

Newsletter 11th October 2019

Key Dates

October Half Term – Just a reminder that we break up for the October half term on the 18th and return to school on Monday 28th October.

Upcoming phonics workshops for Reception classes will be announced soon.

Christmas performance dates will be shared after the holidays!

Fancy dress is optional

Nut Awareness

We are introducing a nut awareness policy into school as we have several children in school with nut allergies. One of these children has a severe allergy and we are looking to minimise the risks. We acknowledge it is impossible to provide a guarantee that no products containing nuts will be brought onto the premises, but we will strive to minimise this as much as possible.

Twitter

Pippit class feature this week.



The policy is available on the website, or in paper form from the office. Please read and familiarise yourselves with it to help us look after all of the children here at school.

FOSIIS

Halloween Disco – Wednesday 30th October

Resident DJ – SOGGY, who is kindly donating his time to support FOSIIS.



Nursery and Reception children 5.00 – 5.45pm. All children **must** be accompanied by an adult.

Year 1 and Year 2 children 6.00pm – 7.00pm.

Admission price £2.00 – tickets available from the office, Tuesday onwards. A drink and a snack will also be available for 50p, with all profit going to the FOSIIS funds.

Parent Volunteers

We are keen to open our library on a more regular basis at lunchtimes. I know that in the past we

have had support from parents and carers, and I am hoping you will be able to continue this support as it is so valuable. Not all children want to play outside or be in a 'noisy', outdoor environment so to have the option to be in the library and access the books is a real asset.

All volunteers will need to complete a DBS check in order to safeguard our children. If you are able to help please call into the office. Your help is really appreciated, thank you.



Pupil Voice/Responsibilities

School Council – Our new school councillors attended their first meeting on Wednesday. Miss Singh is leading on school council this year and was really

impressed with how confident the children were and the ideas they already had for developing the school environment. We look forward to seeing the contributions they make in school.

Composting Cadets – Miss Leonard Williams and Mrs Champion-Merrill are our school recycling ‘dream team’. They are very passionate and enthusiastic to develop all aspects of recycling in school this year. As part of this they are recruiting ‘composting cadets’ – representatives from each class to take a lead. We look forward to updating you about this and their other ideas as the year unfolds...

Parent Power

<https://parentpower.zenergi.co.uk/compare>

The website has been brought to our attention recently. It is a home energy comparison site run by Zenergi to save money on home energy bills and support school. If families use this to switch to a more affordable provider, their new supplier will make a financial contribution to a school of their choice – hopefully us!

Uniform

Please ensure all children are sent in suitable school shoes to ensure they can fully enjoy all the activities that are part of our normal school day. If unsuitable footwear is worn it may mean their access to activities and equipment is limited, to ensure their safety is a priority.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you to please label all uniform to ensure any misplaced items can find their way back to their correct owners.

Achievers Assembly

After the holidays our Friday assembly will become our ‘Achievers Assembly’ with parents of certificate winners invited in to share the celebration. It will mean one child from each class (Year 1 – 2 initially) will be chosen by the class teacher during the week. They may choose a child for their many reasons; effort in a particular lesson, an improved attitude, displaying resilience or for kindness shown to others. For this to have an impact it means it will be down to behaviours seen during that week of the certificate presentation, otherwise children forget! However this means we will be unable to let you know who has been chosen until Thursday afternoon, ready for

your attendance on Friday afternoon. I understand for some parents this may be difficult, but it has to be the same week so children can relate to it. During this assembly it would also be lovely to celebrate achievements out of school. Again this needs to be recent and where children have received an award, medal or certificate. This extends our current assembly in which we reward children achieving a specified number of stickers in their sticker book.

Class certificate winners will join me on Monday for ‘hot chocolate’ playtime.

Achievers Assembly 2.45pm every Friday – parents will be notified if their child is an ‘achiever’ Thursday afternoon.

Summer Reading Challenge

Once again the Reading Agency are running an online family survey. Last year the survey received 1,434 responses and provided evidence about the impact of the Summer Reading Challenge, for example 79% of respondents felt that it encouraged children to read more over the summer and 75% said that it increased library usage. This year they are running the survey again and would like a higher response so that their results are even more meaningful, helping to increase their understanding of the impact of the Challenge and to collect some wonderful quotes to use for advocacy. The survey is available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpaceChase> and should be answered by families who have completed the Summer Reading Challenge.

The survey will close on 31 October 2019 and any family completing the survey will have the option to be entered into a prize draw to win a £30 shopping voucher

Parents Meetings

Thank you to everyone who attended our parents meetings over the last week. Hopefully you found it a useful, informative discussion on how your child has settled into their new class.

I also wish to thank the teachers who have offered a great deal of flexibility across the week to ensure they can meet most parents.

Have a lovely weekend. Stay dry!

Mrs Farrar