

Dear Parents and Carers

## Termly Update 4 - 13.02.26

### Headteacher Catch Up!

Term 3 has again been a busy, albeit wet, term. Here are the enquiries that the children have been involved in:

**Year 3:** How do we lead a healthy life and What is underneath our feet? In this enquiry, the children have focused on being engineers and scientist;

**Year 4:** How do we hear sound and What is the journey of a raindrop? In these enquiries, the children have focused on being scientists;

**Year 5:** Why are some children prevented from going to school? **Global Goals 4 and 5 - Quality Education and Gender Equality.** In this enquiry, the children have focused on being geographers;

**Year 6:** How has our understanding of the human body changed over time? **Global Goals 3 - Good health and well being.** In this enquiry, the children have focused on being historians and scientists.

Please continue to visit your child's class page to find out more about their learning.

We have started the work of transitioning my role to our new Executive Head Teacher, Kirsty Robson. On her last visit, Kirsty visited all the classrooms to say hello to the children and share how excited she is to be joining our lovely school. Hopefully, she will be in every week next term so that a thorough handover has taken place before I leave.

In addition, the school is in the process of appointing a new SENDCo so that Rosie Cook can focus on her deputy role, supporting Kirsty and further developing teaching and learning across the school. We will let you know the outcome once the appointment has been made.

We have also been busy setting up our new website. There is still bits to be done but please take the time to have a look. You can find us on <https://www.ststephensjun.org.uk/>

Have a great weekend; fingers crossed that we get some dry weather!

Kind regards

Louisa Wilson

Headteacher.

## **Easter Events**

As Term 4 is so short, we wanted to get ahead and let you know about our Easter events:

**Decorate an Egg Competition** - Our Decorate an Egg competition will be on **Tuesday 31st March**. This is an opportunity for the children to show their eggtraordinary artist talents by creating speggtacular eggs in different colours and scenes. In the past we have been egglighted with entries such as Eggvis Presley, Egg Sheeran and beautiful Easter buneggs and colourful designs. As always, there can be both individual and family entries. Entries need to be brought to the hall at the start of the day ready for judging. Please make sure that the eggs you use are boiled. So, let's get cracking!!

**Easter Services** - these will be led by 4SJ. These will take place at St Stephens Church on Thursday 26th March for Years 3 and 4 and Friday 27th March for Years 5 and 6. Everyone is welcome to join us for these special services which will start at [9.am](#).

**Chocolottery** - Easter would not be Easter without our annual chocolottery. The idea is that you donate chocolate in the form of Easter eggs, bars etc and the children buy tickets to win it back. The children love this event and get very excited when we have our Chocolottery draw. Tickets will go on sale on **Monday 16th March** and will cost £1 for 5 tickets. The money raised will be donated to one of the school's chosen charities, Children in Need and Arthur's Cat Legacy. You are welcome to start bringing in donations to the office when we return after the break.

## **Parking**

Yet again we are having to nag about unsafe parking around the school. The yellow lines and zigzags are there for a reason; to keep the children safe! Parking on the zigzags and lines is dangerous and is putting children's lives at risk as the views for crossing the roads are being blocked. Please can those selfish people doing this take responsibility and think about the impact that this careless parking could have before we have a casualty on our hands!

## **Open Classrooms**

Thank you to everyone who came to this week's open classrooms. We hope that you enjoyed looking at your children's work and talking about it with them.

We are aware that for some of you, particularly those who work, it is difficult getting to the 3:00pm session. We have reflected on this and have agreed that moving forward, those parents and carers who are unable to make the afternoon sessions can arrange with the class teacher to come in before drop off on that same day. In order to do this, you will need to contact the class teacher directly (either in person or through the email form on the class page) to let them know you are coming in. This opportunity will start at 8:10am for 15 minutes. Please be aware that we will need to be strict with timings and you will be asked to leave by 8:25am as the remaining children will be coming in. The next open classroom will be on **Tuesday 31st March**.

### **Mother's Day Lunch**

Our Mother's Day lunch will be taking place on **Wednesday 18th March**. Details of how to book and the culinary delights we will be serving will be sent out early next term

### **Goodbye Nigel**

At the end of next term, we will be saying goodbye to Nigel, our singing maestro. Nigel joined the school at the same time as Ms Wilson and has been leading our school and church singing for 13 years. The children absolutely adore him and I know that they are going to be really sad to see him go. Nigel we thank you for all the beautiful singing and love that you have brought to our school; we will miss you very much!

### **Nut Free School**

Please be reminded that SSJS is a nut-free school. We have some pupils with severe, life-threatening nut allergies. When preparing your child's packed lunch, please ensure that items do not contain nuts or that nuts are not sent in as a snack.

### **Parent/Carer Meetings**

Parent meetings will be taking place on **Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th March** from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. This is an opportunity to look at your children's work and to discuss their progress with their class teacher.

We have decided to change where the meetings take place.. When you come into school, you will be able to go to your child's classroom and have a look at their books. Then your actual meeting will take place in the hall. You will need to go to the hall at your allocated time, find your child's class teacher and discuss your child's progress there. A signal will be given when your 10 minute slot has finished.

The change is so that we can make sure that meetings run to time and do not leave class teachers isolated in their classrooms.

Appointments will go live **today at 4:00pm on Arbor**

### **Board Games**

If you have any board games and puzzles (complete with no missing pieces) that you no longer need, we would gladly rehome them in our after school club. Please send them in with your child.