

10th September 2021

## Message from the Headteacher

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back this week. The children have settled quickly and we have been particularly impressed at how independent our new reception children have been at drop off. Our Koinonia dish has been filled with new staff and children throughout the school being welcomed into the St John's family this week.

As always we have started the year reminding ourselves of our school vision '**Working together to build a firm foundation in learning and caring**' and the Bible story of the Wise Man and the Foolish Man which underpins this. In assembly this week we have explored what this looks like alongside our three golden rules **Ready, Respectful and Caring.**

As always we look forward to working closely with you all this year and sharing your child's learning journey with you.

Mrs West-Gaul



## Star of the week

Well done to all our pupils who achieved star of the week this week.

Ash class	Indigo
Birch class	Amelia S
Chestnut class	Mabel
Elm class	Lyra
Holly class	Harry D
Hazel class	Poppy T
Maple class	Isaac
Oak class	Tommy
Pine class	Sandy
Rowan class	Elijah
Sycamore class	Matthew
Willow class	Ashton

## Sustrans Bike to School week

Bike to school week is a week-long event taking place across the UK to encourage families to cycle or scoot to school. It's a great way to celebrate the huge benefits an active school run brings. This year it takes place from 27th September to 1st October.

We would love to see as many of our pupils coming to school on two wheels and making use of the scooter and bike rack facilities that we have on site. We would also love for you to share your photos with us to share with our school community.



## Term 1 information

**Drop off and pick up changes** - In line with new Government guidance we can no longer allow staggered starts. We will therefore be reverting back to our usual drop off and pick up times for all year groups - **drop off at 8:20am with doors closing at 8:30am and pick up at 3:00pm.**

**Forest School** - Lessons will begin from next week for the following classes.

<b>1A Ash - Wednesday</b>	<b>2B Elm - Monday</b>	<b>3A Holly - Tuesday</b>	<b>3B Hazel - Friday</b>
<b>4B Oak - Thursday</b>	<b>5A Pine - Tuesday</b>	<b>5B Rowan - Tuesday</b>	<b>6B Willow - Monday</b>

All other classes will have forest school in Term 2.

Pupils should come into school dressed in forest school clothes and bring with them wellies and waterproof clothes. Please ensure that pupils have long sleeved clothes and trousers and a coat as we encourage pupils to go outside whatever the weather!

**PE Kits** - please send children in Years 1-6 with these each Monday to be kept in school all week. Reception parents will be advised about PE once pupils are in school full time.

**Swimming lessons** - Year 4 pupils will have swimming lessons on Tuesday mornings. Please ensure that all pupils come to school with their swimming kit.

**After School Clubs** - These will begin on Monday 13th September. Sign up online using the form:

<https://forms.gle/FN3YZx2xwbJch3p86>

**School dinner booking** - Please book and pay for school dinners by midnight on the Thursday of the week before via ParentPay

**School photos** - Individual and sibling photos will take place on 20th and 21st September.

**INSET Day** - Friday 22nd October is an INSET day before half term (25th-29th October)

## **Wellbeing Team**

The well-being team would like to welcome all our new families to the St John's family. We hope you are setting well and have been surrounded by kindness.

This year our wellbeing team is:

**Mrs Stone - Wellbeing Lead**

**Mr Wiltshire - Wellbeing Mentor**

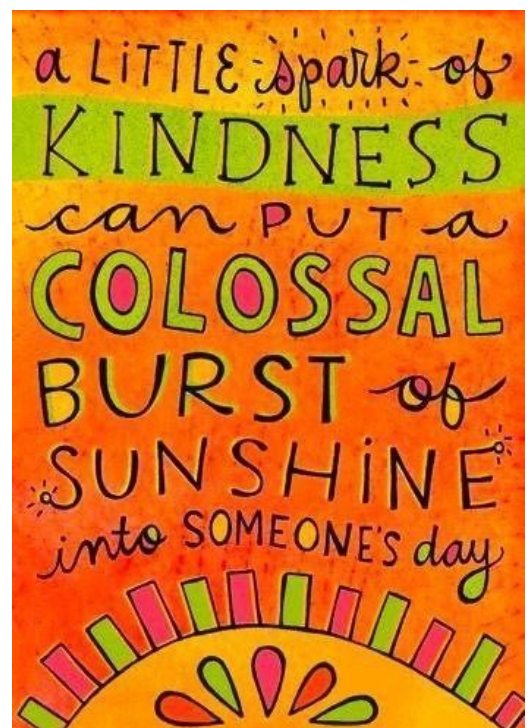
**Mrs Puge - Theraplay & ELSA**

**Miss Rosser - Nurture mentor**

**Mr Yarlett - Nurture mentor**

**Miss Jackson - Nurture mentor**

If you have any questions regarding the school routine, your child's learning or you have any concerns please don't hesitate to contact the school office via 01761 412019 or email [office@stjohnsmn.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsmn.co.uk)



## Learning in Nursery

This week in Seedlings class we have been welcoming back our children following the summer holiday and greeting our new children and families as they settle into nursery. We have been reading stories about joining a nursery, 'Goat goes to Playgroup' by Julia Donaldson and 'Freddie goes to playgroup' by Nicola Smee.

As reading is a big focus we are in the process of redeveloping our reading corner and we are excited to share some pictures of this when it is completed. This week in our book corner we have set up the story sack 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.



The children have thoroughly enjoyed listening to the story and playing with the characters to retell the story using great animation.

The children have been making links with the story by talking about their own walks with their families during the summer and remembering times at the beach and in the countryside.

Our Christian value for this term is 'Love' and we have lots of stories and activities planned to encourage children to learn about being caring towards others and recognising emotions.

## **Out of School Achievements**

Well done to three of our pupils who are all members of Midsomer Norton Under 11's Cricket team who were all presented with trophies at this year's presentation evening.

Devon B (Yr 6) was awarded 'Players Player of the season', Luke S (Yr 6) received the award for 'Coaches Player of the Season' and Sam M (Yr 5) won the award for 'Most improved player of the season'.



## Rota Kids

This term we are inviting pupils to sign up again to the Rota Kids after school club. RotaKids is a fun and exciting way for children aged 7-12 to make friends and get involved with important activities in the community, all while having a great time in the process.

RotaKids clubs are based in schools, youth groups or community centres and with the help and support from teachers, youth leaders and the local Rotary club members, children can gain a valuable experience in helping others and learning interesting, new things. It also brings an exciting and practical approach to supporting the citizenship element of the national curriculum. By doing so, children enjoy a boost to their confidence and self-esteem at a key age and develop and understanding of how their actions can impact on others.

# RotaKids

...helps kids grow  
into responsible citizens



RotaKids builds self esteem, develops leadership skills and introduces young people to community service through Rotary.



## Norton Hill School

Our Virtual Open Evening will be live on our website from **Tuesday 21st September**

This will give parents/carers the opportunity to learn more about our school, vision and ethos. After this online event, there will be an opportunity to book a school tour where we will invite small groups to come and view the school 'in action' during the day.

Tours can be booked via our website and will take place at the end of September and throughout October 2021.

For further details please visit our website:

[www.nortonhillschool.com/open-evening/school-tours.htm](http://www.nortonhillschool.com/open-evening/school-tours.htm)



## Somervale School

**Thursday 23rd September**  
6pm - 8.30pm

Please see our website for further information on how to sign up to attend our on site Open Evening.

[www.somervaleschool.com](http://www.somervaleschool.com)



## Writhlington School

Our Virtual Open Evening will showcase the excellent opportunities at Writhlington School. This which will be live on our Website from

**Wednesday 22nd September**

You can experience the school in action and meet staff and students during our school tours available everyday from **Wednesday 22nd September**

Please see the school website to book a tour.

[www.writhlington.org.uk](http://www.writhlington.org.uk)

