

# The Early Bird



Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7

Issue 17: Friday 16th June 2023

## From the Headteacher.....

Dear parents/carers,

Thank you all for a great sports day. Sadly I had to be out of school for most of the day, but I heard it was a great atmosphere. I am proud of the staff and children who set up the day and ensured it ran smoothly. Joining at the end of the day it was wonderful to see the amount of stickers the children received ... and their smiles.

To continue this enrichment we are looking for some great people to expand the St. John's staff team. We have some Lunchtime Supervisor positions, Teaching and Learning Assistants and Special Educational Needs Support

Workers. These will be advertised in the next few days on WM jobs but if you know of anyone who would be

interested in the positions then please direct them to school and we can provide them with the information.

We are also looking for volunteers to support our children. If you have the capacity, we welcome any time you have to offer.

Finally we will have a vacancy arising on our board of governors. We will be looking to appoint a parent governor so please look out for the information coming out soon or ask at the office. Mrs Podsiadlo and Mrs Dowley, who are our current parent governors are also willing to talk to you about the role.

Have fun in the sun this weekend.

Mrs SM Bowyer

Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

- **Class Led Worship.** Class parents/ carers invited to attend:
- Monday 19th June—10.30am Year 1 Miss Riley  
Monday 10th July-10.30am Year 1/2 Miss Stephenson.
- 19th June Nursery & reception new intake information evening
- 21st June -World Music day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June - School Games County Finals—Keele
- 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June - Bikeability Balance Bikes & Learn to Ride - All Reception Children
- 26th June - Year 1 to 2 Bliss Hill visit
- 26th June—Rounders tournament
- 29<sup>th</sup> June - Northwood Athletics (Town games)
- 10th July - School summer Fair (after school)
- 13th July - Northwood Athletics (City games)
- 13th July—Year 6 Leavers Evening

School closes to pupil 3pm Friday 21st July.

## Prayer Year 1/2

Dear God,

Thank you for giving us the joy in making us happy. Thank you for making our school and helping us to learn.

Thank you for showing us that we can pray anywhere.

Thank you for giving us courage when we find things hard.

Amen



**Dedication - Courage - Joy**



## Sports Day



Well done to all the pupils , they did a great job, also thank you to the parents & carers who came to cheer them on.



# St. John's Summer Fayre

**Monday 10th July after school**

*There will be lots of stalls and fun things to do, any donations will be great.*

Tombola

Cakes & Juice

Sweets & chocolate

Tea & coffee

Guess the name of the teddy

Teddy's and toys

Hair tinsel

Ice cream & lollies

Glitter tattoos

Soak the teacher

Cakes & sweets

And lots more



NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

# ARMED FORCES DAY

**SATURDAY 24TH JUNE**

**IRONMARKET 10:45 TO 3PM**

Honouring Britain's Armed Forces,  
Past, Present and Future

**Event starts with a Civic Procession  
from Castle House and Service at the Cenotaph**

Local Cadets | Vintage Military Vehicles and Equipment  
Scouts | Live Entertainment | Gurkhas | Face Painting  
Ice Cream Van | Food & Drink Stalls | Market



**NEWCASTLE  
UNDER LYME**



I'm supporting

**ARMED FORCES DAY**

[armedforcesday.org.uk](http://armedforcesday.org.uk)

Armed Forces Day and Celebration Committee (in association with Queen's Park Partnership)

## **Armed Forces Day ~ Parade In The Park** **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - Queen's Park, Longton**

**Compere for the event:** Tim Wedgwood of BBC Radio Stoke

- 13.00 Hrs Event Starts with music by Penkhull Brass Band
- 13.45 Hrs Parade detachments will form up at top gates of the Park
- 14.00 Hrs Parade will start, led by C Company, Corps of Drums from  
Staffordshire & West Midlands (NS) Army Cadet Force.
- 14.15 Hrs Drumhead Service, led by Revd. Chris Rushlon, featuring The Penkhull Brass Band,
- 14.45 Hrs Tribute to WW2, singalong with the Sweethearts
- 15.30 Hrs Sounds Familiar, 60's and 70's tribute group
- 16.30 Hrs Close

**Army vehicles, armed forces displays, various stalls for Armed Forces  
and Veterans Charities and childrens entertainment.**

Any member of the armed forces, veteran associations, cadets or schools  
are welcome to parade and should form up at 13.45 Hrs at the park's top gates.

**Admission Free – A day out for all the family**



**Thank you to the Ministry of Defence and  
Stoke-on-Trent City Council for their support.  
Also to organisations who have made donations.**



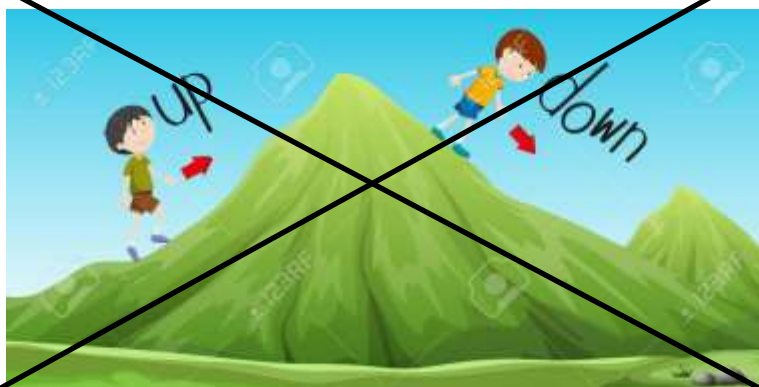
## Information



### Drop off Zone

It has been brought to my attention that the drop off zone is not being properly used. The drop off zone can be used in the morning for dropping the children off, and **not to** park there, it is inconveniencing parents/carers and causes a queue. We also ask that you do not drop your children off by the barrier. At the end of the day please park on the top yard and not use the drop off zone at all.

***Please do not allow your child to go on to the grass bank (opposite the new fencing). This is a health & safety issue.***



## Reminder

- ♦ If your child will not be attending school due to illness, please leave a message by 9am
- ♦ Phone 01782 238889 and choose option 1. This enables you to leave a message.
- ♦ Please leave a clear message giving child's name, class, the reason why they will not be attending and how long you think they will be absent for. **If we do not hear why your child is absent the safeguarding team will do a door knock before 12pm**



## Punctuality

We have a number of children that are continually late. The gates open at 8.30am and close 8.45am. Any time after this your child will need to sign in, in the reception area. This is classed as a late mark.

Being late **may disrupt lessons, affect achievement and embarrass or upset your child**. COMING TO SCHOOL ON TIME EVERY DAY helps your child to be ready for learning and not miss learning opportunities.



## Information

Can we please ask parents & carers to drive carefully, and slowly when coming into the school grounds. We have had a number of complaints about cars speeding. We would not like any accidents involving other cars or children. Thank you



Please note that the playground equipment *should not* be used by your children before the start of the school day and at the end of the school day. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



**Reminder**—The one way system around school is still in use for reception to year 6, when bringing your children in the morning and picking them up after school.



# Information

## Everyone is responsible for safeguarding children

Most children enjoy safe and happy childhood experiences within their own family, but unfortunately for some this is not the case. During difficult family times everyone has a responsibility to protect children from future harm - good child-care begins even before a child is born!

### Stoke-on-Trent Children's Advice and Duty Service (CHAD):

*If you have concerns about a child* you can phone 01782 235100 (option 2) and speak to a social worker for advice Monday - Friday 8.30am - 6pm

Out of Office Hours - 01782 234234

For more information please go on Stoke-on-Trent website where you will find plenty of advice and information.



# St. John's CE (A) Primary School

## Term Dates 2023-2024



**Inset Days x 5**

Autumn Term 2023	
School open to staff (inset day)	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
School open to pupils	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
School closes end of day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November
School open to staff (inset day)	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November
School opens to pupils	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November
School closes end of day	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December
<b>Christmas Holiday</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January

Spring Term 2024	
School open to staff (inset day)	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
School open to pupils	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January
School closes end of day	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
School opens to staff and pupils	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
School closes end of day	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
<b>Easter Holiday</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday - 31 <sup>st</sup> March)

Summer Term 2024	
School open to staff and pupils	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Possible school closure to pupils for polling station. Work to be provided remotely for pupils (TBC)	<i>Possible date Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (To be Confirmed)</i>
<b>May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May
School closes end of day	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Half term</b>	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May
School open to staff (inset day)	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
School open to staff and pupils	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
School closes end of day for pupils	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July
Staff inset (converted to twilights)	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July
<b>Summer Holiday</b>	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> August

## Social Media Apps

We have had information from another school saying there is a Facebook game that encourages self-harm. Due to the age at which a child can have a Facebook account none of our children should be on Facebook, but we do know some of them *do* go on Facebook. Please monitor what your children are doing online!

**Here are some of the main Social Media apps with their age rating and main features:**

**Facebook**    **Age rating:** 13+

**Main features:** newsfeed to share text, photos & videos, instant messaging, marketplace, friends, likes and comments.

**Instagram**    **Age rating:** 13+

**Main features:** photo & video sharing, livestreaming, stories, DMs, hashtags

**Snapchat**    **Age rating:** 13+

**Main features:** photo & video messaging, snaps, location sharing

**Tiktok**    **Age rating:** 13+

**Main features:** making & sharing short videos, lip-syncing.

**Twitter**    **Age rating:** 13+

**Main features:** tweets (text with restricted character count), photo and video sharing, hashtags.

For more information

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media>



## Letter from our Education Welfare Service



Hello,

VIP Education is an Independent Education Welfare Support Service that is now working with your school to support Attendance, Punctuality and Welfare needs.

Our Staff have a wealth of experience supporting pupils and families. Regular visits and communication will take place at your child's school to monitor every child's school attendance.

If you feel you require support, you can ask your school to contact us.

Regular absences from school can affect:

- Attainment levels - the quality of schoolwork, qualifications gained
- School routine - disrupting your child's learning and that of the other pupils
- The chances of children and young people being involved in anti-social behaviour
- A child or young person's general wellbeing and long-term life opportunities

Improving regular attendance at school is therefore a key priority, both locally and nationally.

We are aware that children can miss school due to unavoidable illness. Please ensure that you communicate the reasons for your child's absences on the first day of absence. If there are long-term attendance difficulties, then please discuss this with us so that we may support.

**Attendance is an important part of your Child's Education; they cannot learn if not in school.**

**Attendance = Attainment    Everyday Counts!**

You are legally responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day and on time.

Persistent lateness can add up to many days' absence.

Please also be aware that if your child is late to school, after the register has closed, then this will be classed as an absence and further action could be taken against you

6-8 **BEAVERS**

8 - 10½ **cubs**

10½ - 14 **SCOUTS**

14+ **Volunteer**

**Join us.**  
[stokescouts.org.uk/join](http://stokescouts.org.uk/join)

 StokeScouts  @StokeScouts

Summer Street, Stoke



6-8 **BEAVERS**

8 - 10½ **cubs**

10½ - 14 **SCOUTS**

14+ **Volunteer**

Scouts are do-ers and give-it-a-go-ers. Yes, we go camping, hiking, swimming, abseiling, cycling and canoeing. But we also get to hang out with our friends every week – having fun, playing games, working in a team and taking on new challenges.

**Join us.**  
[stokescouts.org.uk/join](http://stokescouts.org.uk/join)

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Summer Street, Stoke

