



St. John's CE Primary School

Spring term Newsletter



Greetings from St. John's

It's been lovely having a school full of children! We have really enjoyed welcoming back our 'home school heroes'. Our next journey will be to put plans in place to support those pupils who need a boost with their learning.

PTA Easter Raffle:

It's nearly that time of year when the Easter Bunny comes to visit. Our PTA are running an Easter Raffle with the chance of winning a fabulous chocolate hamper! Any chocolate / Easter donations would be very gratefully received.

Please put any donations in the box outside of school before Wednesday 24th March so that they can be quarantined.

Tickets will go on sale from Monday 22nd March and can be sent into school in a labelled envelope.

The Raffle will be drawn and prizes handed out on Wednesday 31st March.

QEGSMAT:

We are very excited that St. John's has invested in a new curriculum resource called 'Cornerstones'. It's currently used by other schools in QEGSMAT and comes with great reviews.

"Supercharge your curriculum and reignite children's love for learning."

Cornerstones is tried and tested and used in many schools nationally and will give us access to over 100 engaging projects with stunning resources. We believe that our pupils will love this new and exciting curriculum and make great progress. We will begin to use the new resource over the summer term.

Messy Church:

To celebrate Easter your local churches have put together a Messy Church activity bag, full of crafts for you to do at home. If you would like a bag please email the school office (office@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk) by **Wednesday 17th March**. They are limited, so first come first served.

Meet the community:

Greetings, I am Rev Steve Parker the Ordained Local Minister at St John the Baptist Church, Wetley Rocks and St Philips Church, Werrington, I am also a Police Chaplain and your Chaplain.

I like to think I am a little creative, I enjoy making things and DIY. This

ranges from Lego and Airfix models to building extensions to my house (bedrooms, garage, kitchen, porch and dining room). This also extends to maintaining the garden; although if you saw it you wouldn't think so.

I love the outdoors, aren't we lucky living so close to the Peak District National Park. It's here where I often get on my pushbike, together with tent and sleeping bag and set off for a few days cycling and camping. I do go further afield, but that's with a metal tent called a caravan. Holidays in the caravan with my wife Lynn and Westie dog are magical.

A word of warning!! I do really enjoy meeting people; it's great sharing conversations and supporting each other. Watch out, when the time is right I will be out there, if you haven't got 10 minutes to talk, avoid me.

Take care, keep safe and be patient. God Bless. Steve



St. John's Church:

As we begin the countdown to Easter in our worship this half term, Reverend Steve has very kindly sent us a prayer.

Prayer as we journey through Lent

During Lent, we reflect on Jesus being in the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights. It was a time of temptation, loneliness, hunger, physical and mental anguish. Father God, help us as we journey through this pandemic, a pandemic that also brings feelings of loneliness, hunger, physical and mental anguish. Look upon us as you did your Son, bring us safely through this time.

We pray for schools, dedicated teaching staff and support staff. We pray especially for Mrs Stone and all Staff at our school. We pray for Godly wisdom, strength and peace as preparations are made for reopening to all students on 8th March. We pray that your love and joy will fill the classrooms, that there will be a real sense of community and fellowship.

We pray also for our home life, we give thanks for all who have dedicated so much time to home schooling. We pray for a time of refreshing, a time for your love to overflow into our homes, a time of healing and renewed hope.

We ask this in Jesus name.

Amen

Laptop Donation:

We were delighted when Sian Beech called the school to say that she had chosen us for a donation of computing equipment. Sian, who has recently set up her own business (Feeney's Estate Agents), was given the opportunity to make a donation through the 'Computers for Schools' charity which was initiated by Mr Stephen Brown. The staff and pupils at St. John's would like to pass on a huge thank you for such a generous and thoughtful act. The new equipment (five Amazon Fire tablets) will come in very handy for our pupils.

So, what have we been up to?

We've had an exciting first week back at school: catching up with friends; welcome back parties; Chester Zoo virtual rainforest tours; the positivity project; making fruit kebabs; team games with the staff from Stanley Head Outdoor Education Centre; Early Years are eagerly awaiting the hatching of their batch of chicks.

A huge thank you to Years 3 and 4 who have been working hard to give the grounds a good tidy up.



World Book Day / Online Book Fair:

Thursday 4th March was World Book Day. We had some fantastic WBD costumes in school and at home!

We have set up a **Scholastic Book Club!** Please click on the link below to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards. Don't forget to redeem your token to get £1 off the book you choose. Your support is much appreciated. Please place your **order online by March 31st, 2021.**

<https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-johns-ce-a/digital-book-club>



Talking of reading:

What takes 10 seconds, costs nothing and could change your child's life forever?

Stephen Fry reveals all...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-zlSnJ-oao&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=social

International Happiness Day 20th March:

We will celebrate International Happiness Day on **Friday 19th March** and look at the things that make us happy. Did you know that doing a 'daily gratitude' helps boost your wellbeing and improve your positivity? To do a 'daily gratitude', spend a few minutes each day thinking about the things you are grateful for: try and list 3 different things each day. Apparently, doing this for a month improves your positivity and wellbeing.

Gardening Volunteers:

If any of you lovely people have an off hour to spare and would like to volunteer to do a bit of gardening around front of the school here and there or have any bedding plants going spare, we'd be very grateful!



Please get in touch if you have any questions or queries and we'll be more than happy to help.
office@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk.

Very best wishes from Mrs Stone and the St. John's team

Helplines

SHOUT - text 'Shout' to 85258 for 24/7 crisis text support

childline - under 19s can call 0800 1111 for free support

**Education Support - school staff can call 08000 562 561
or text 07909 341229 for 24/7 help and advice**

**YoungMinds Parents Helpline - Call 0808 802 5544 for
free Mon-Fri from 9.30am to 4pm**