



St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

Canon Close
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EN

E-Mail: office@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk
absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk
Website: www.stwilliamofperth.org.uk

Phone: 01634 404267
Fax: 01634 404788

NEWSLETTER NO 2: Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely week and the children have enjoyed the late summer weather. The children continue to settle well and have been showing very good behaviour. Today was our first whole school praise assembly since the beginning of the pandemic. It was wonderful to come together to hear and celebrate the successes that have taken place and the learning around the school. These praise assemblies are such an important part of life at St. William of Perth and it was wonderful to be able to resume them.

PTA

My thanks to the efforts of the PTA in giving up so much of their time to help maintain the pond area. They have cleared and updated the school pond and allotment area. This will allow us to use the area to support learning. Well done to all. Donations of non-toxic pond plants, child friendly fishing nets and annual bedding plants would be gratefully received.

Our next PTA meeting will take place on Wednesday 22nd September at 9:05 am in the school hall.

Year 6 Swimming

We are delighted to be able to restart swimming lessons for our Year 6 students. These lessons will take place at the Kings pool and Year 6 will be walking with their teachers to the sessions. Please make sure children come appropriately dressed and have a coat and umbrella as we will be attending the sessions even if the weather is inclement. The sessions will begin on Tuesday 21st September. A letter has gone home to Year 6 parents with more information.

Muddy Madness

After the success of Muddy Madness two years ago we have decided to organise another event. On Friday 1st October the children will have an opportunity to take part in a "Mud Run". This event will take the form of a "muddy" obstacle course and each class will be given the chance to complete the course. Parents are invited to watch their child participate in the event. This is a fund-raising event for the school and we hope to use the money raised by the children's sponsorship to improve our school building. A letter and sponsorship form has been sent home today, more information about the organisation of the "Mud Run" will be issued during the week of the event.

Educational Visits

Now that the restrictions have been relaxed we are very keen to resume more educational visits. This week we have organised trips to Kent Life for learning themed days for Year 6 and Year 5. Year 6 will be attending a WW2 day and Year 5 will be attending an ancient Greek day. We know they will have a wonderful day and that this will really enrich their learning about these topics.

Year R Timetable

Year R continue their phased introduction to school and next week they will be staying for lunch. Their timetable is 8:40 drop off at the Year R gate and collection at 1:00 pm at the Year R gate.

School Fund

Thank you to the parents who have made their family contribution of £15.50. We ask that the contribution is made via ParentPay. These are much needed funds which help supplement resources within our school.

Earrings

We have noticed a lot of inappropriate earrings being worn in school. Please remember that the expectation is for small plain gold or silver ball (not diamanté) stud earrings.

Forest School: This week our Year 1 students began their Forest School sessions.

Medication at School: If applicable, medication i.e. asthma inhalers / epipens etc., should be returned to school immediately. Please check the expiry dates on all medication; it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that any medicines in school are within the recommended 'expiry by' date.





St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

Wednesday morning SEN appointments: Should you wish to make an appointment to discuss any SEN related issues please speak with the office and they will arrange an appointment for a Wednesday morning after 9:30. Alternatively, you may email Mrs Ward directly on sen@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk . Phone consultations are preferable.

Year 6 Medway Test

Next week is the Medway test for Year 6. Tuesday 14th September and Wednesday 15th September.

Healthy Eating: May we politely remind you that chocolate bars / sweets etc. are not to be included in home packed lunches please. **SWOP is a NUT FREE ZONE:** Some of our children have severe nut allergies so it is very important that pupils' packed lunches **should not contain any nuts or nut products** – thank you.

Contract Dining: The return of the KS2 Baguette Bar: From the 27th September, children from years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will have the opportunity of choosing a baguette lunch (£2.05 each – free to those children entitled to FSM's) in place of a hot school meal. Please see the attached flyer for full details.

Themed menu days 13th September: Roald Dahl Day, 7th October: Mad Hatters Day. Please see the attached flyers for full details.

Absence: If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office by telephone or email using absence@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk before 9:30 am on the first morning of absence. Should your child continue to be absent from school on the third day, parents must re contact the school. When your child returns to school, if you have not already emailed their reason for absence, please also send a written note to school with your child giving the reason for your child's absence so that the absence can be authorised and the reason for the absence noted on your child's school record. Please do not put this information in the contact book.

Application for Leave of Absence / Exceptional Circumstances

As parents, you have a legal responsibility to ensure your child's attendance at school. Holidays should be taken during the school holiday period. During the academic year pupils are at school for 190 days and at home for 175 days. In order for our children to fully utilise their years in education, we believe it is vital that every message they receive reinforces the importance of school. Holidays in term time interrupt continuity of teaching and learning, disrupt the educational progress of individual children and create disruption to classes.

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration) (England)(Amendment)Regulations 2013, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All requests should be made well in advance, in writing. You will then be asked to complete an Application for Leave of Absence / Exceptional Circumstances form and will be invited to discuss your request with either myself or in my absence Mrs Kinslow.

Uniform: The children all look super in their school uniforms. Please remember that children must wear 'sensible' shoes for their own health and safety, not trainers, boots or heels. No open top / toe sandals for girls as these create tripping hazards. Please make sure that your child's sandals have a strap across the foot to prevent them from falling over when running on the playground.

Children may wear their summer uniform up until the end of Term 1; all children are to wear winter uniform from the first day of Term 2, Monday 1st November. Please note that sandals may not be worn with winter uniform.

A reminder that trainers or canvas shoes are not to be worn in school except for PE unless a letter explaining medical reasons is submitted and signed by parents.

Children must not wear jewellery other than watches and plain gold or silver ball stud earrings, and long hair needs to be tied back please. School hats are available from the office. Branded sunhats or fashion items may not be worn.

Please ensure all items are named as we will be checking within class next week.

PE: All children must have a P.E. kit, named in a school plimsoll bag to be left at school until the end of term. Children cannot do P.E. if wearing earrings so please make sure they are removed for their P.E. day or are able to remove them without adult assistance. SWOP P.E. tops and plimsoll bags are available to purchase from the school office at a cost of £5.50 and £4.50 respectively.

Please ensure all PE kits are in school as PE is very important in helping us promote healthy lifestyles!!

On the whole, we have good stock of school uniform, however, we are currently awaiting stock of size 28 sweatshirts, size large cardigans and PE bags. To avoid congestion at the school office, we ask that all uniform orders are placed via email to office@stwilliamperth.medway.sch.uk We will advise by return of email, stock availability and the cost of your order.

Phoning Home for Forgotten Items: Please remind your child that usually the office will not be phoning parents if they forget to bring items such as, swimming kit, book bags, musical instruments etc., so they need to check they have everything ready for school before they leave home!





St. William of Perth Catholic Primary School

Outstanding Monies: We would be most grateful that, whenever possible, payment for school uniform is made by cheque rather than cash. Cheques are to be drawn to St. William of Perth RCP School, thank you. School Fund, School trips (on request), are to be paid via your child's ParentPay account please.

Safeguarding: Please find below useful links to help keep children safe.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<http://www.mscc.org.uk/>

To view or download a copy of a parent guide from NSPCC about 'PANTS' and how to keep your child safe from abuse click the link below: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/pants/pants-2018/pants-parents-guide-online.pdf>

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

As in the past, during the month of November, leading up to Remembrance Sunday we will be supporting the Poppy Appeal. The Royal British Legion have lost over 50% of their volunteers owing to the Coronavirus pandemic and have extend an invitation to all parents and carers who would like to volunteer to help run stalls in shopping areas or deliver merchandise within the Medway area. Please contact Elaine Cutting at elaine.cutting@btinternet.com with any offers of help.

Introductory Talks for Parents in September 2021: We have had a very enthusiastic response to these talks over the years and feel they are an important method of communication about expectations and arrangements at the start of the Year. This year due to the relaxing of restrictions we would like to reintroduce these meetings. However, we do ask that only one parent per family attends. We will also be providing hand sanitiser and also opening the windows and fire doors to provide ventilation. Please see listed below the dates and times for the meetings.

Introductory Parent Talks

Thursday 16th September

Yr 2 - 5:30 – 6:00

Yr R (Early Reading Workshop) – 6:15

Yr 6 - 5:00 – 5:30

Wednesday 22nd September

Yr 5 - 5:30 – 6:00

Yr 4 - 6:30 – 7:00

Thursday 23rd September

Yr 3 - 5:30 – 6:00

Yr 1 - 6:30 – 7:00

INSET DAY Friday 22nd October 2021 - CHILDREN NOT IN SCHOOL

Praise Assembly Celebrations!

House Points. Team house winner this week: Blue.

Walking Boot Great walking on Wednesday this week. Year 6 came first place this week. Keep walking!

Merit Award Well done to the following children who received a merit award certificate in today's Praise Assembly.

Y 1 Riley, Y 2 Connie, Y 3 Vinnie, Y 4 Ethan, Y 5 William, Y 6 Matthew.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Medway School's Extra day of Holiday

We were informed over the summer by the LA that as the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falls during the half term i.e. 3rd June 2022 when most schools would be closed anyway, we are allowed to choose another day to make up for this. We will be choosing Friday 22nd July to be our extra day of holiday. The school will therefore be closed on this day.

Enjoy your weekend

Yours sincerely,

J. Willis

Mr J. Willis
Headteacher

