

St Clement & St James CE Primary School



Newsletter - Friday 20 September 2019



Dear parents and carers,

We hope you have had a lovely week and your children are settling in to their new classes.

Arriving in the morning

The staff team has been observing how our lovely children are getting on at the start of each day and we have been very impressed with how well they have adjusted to our new approach. We are allowing children to arrive at 8:45 and gradually walk up to class in order avoid lining up. Research has shown that this approach has a positive impact on children's 'readiness for learning' and we have noticed that they are calm and keen to engage in morning activities. Teachers are able to welcome each child individually and always ensure that a learning activity is prepared for them before the register is taken. Children who choose a bagel in the morning are allowed to eat them in class before they start the morning task. All support staff are stationed in designated areas around the school building so that your child is both welcomed and carefully supervised. As I am sure you will understand, we have to prioritise the children's education at the start of each day so that we have a smooth transition from home to school.

If you need to speak with your child's class teacher, they will be available in the playground at the end of each day. You can also ring the school from 8:00am to 8:30am and either leave a message or speak directly to your child's teacher. In addition to this, we are on the gate every morning and are also happy to pass on any important messages and answer any queries or questions that you may have. For children in the Early Years Centre, we ask that parents stay and support their child to settle into class for the first 10 minutes of each day. Many parents have reported that they are pleased with the soft start while a small number have expressed concerns. We hope this message has reassured you but we are happy to discuss any further concerns with you.

We are very grateful for your support and hope you appreciate your child's education and well-being is our absolute priority. We are doing everything we can to create a purposeful learning environment.

With very best wishes from Ellie and Sarah

CERTIFICATES THIS WEEK

Top Table

These children have shown good manners at lunchtime and will be a guest on Top Table next week

Year 1	Lana
Year 2	Shaun T
Year 3	Niya
Year 4	Anisa
Year 5	Max
Year 6	Winston

This week's Learning Leader

These children have consistently demonstrated Learning Leader attributes this

Year 1	Jackson
Year 2	Gold
Year 3	Oliver
Year 4	Tara
Year 5	Ryan F
Year 6	Luca

MINDUP™

We are delighted to be inviting Uz Afzal, our MindUP consultant, back to school for day two of our Whole School Training Programme. During this visit, Uz will run an Information Workshop for Parents, introducing you to the MindUP Curriculum and the Neuroscience that underpins each of the 15 lessons. You will learn strategies to help your child with emotional regulation and techniques to improve their focus. MindUP can be easily integrated into home routines and can benefit the whole family.

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US, 9-10 ON MONDAY
23RD SEPTEMBER IN THE HALL**

Reading

Don't forget to make time to read with your children at home! There will be regular updates about 'reading' in the newsletter this year but please try and set up good reading habits at home now.

Attendance and Punctuality

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	95.6%	91.6%	97.3%	98.9%	95.6%	95.8%	96.9%
Punctuality	0	4	2	3	5	8	2

Year 3 had the highest attendance this week with 98.9%
Well done to Reception who were all on time this week!

Parent Governor Election to the St Thomas' Federation with St Clement and St James

We are looking for two skilled committed parent governors to join our newly federated governing body. We hope to have one parent representative on the governing body from each school. All parents at either St Thomas' or St Clement and St James are entitled to stand as a candidate and/or vote at the election. I am therefore writing to ask if you would like to nominate yourself for election/or nominate another parent for election. All nominations should be sent to the returning officer, via the school office, by **4pm on Friday 27 September**.

Parent meetings – coffee mornings

We want to make sure that you are well-informed about your child's learning therefore you will be receiving a letter from class teachers giving you information about the term's theme and activities. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet teachers in the staffroom on the following dates:

- Year 1 – Monday 30 September**
- Year 2 – Tuesday 24 September**
- Year 3 – Thursday 26 September**
- Year 4 – Wednesday 25 September**
- Year 5 – Friday 27 September**
- Year 6- Consultations will be arranged with individual parents**

9th October, 3:30 to 4:30pm: 'open afternoon'. All parents are welcome to pop into classes.

Please note, all coffee mornings will be held in the hall. We will start at **9am** and should finish at about **9.30am**. It would be great if parents could attend these where at all possible. At the meeting, we will talk about attendance, the curriculum, reading, home-learning, behaviour and anything you would like to discuss. We look forward to seeing you all.

Attendance and punctuality.

We are always committed to improving attendance levels at SCSJ so each child can reach their full educational potential. Unless there is a very good reason, e.g. a serious illness, children should be in school and on time every day. Please be aware that holiday absence cannot be authorised and that the school gate opens at 8:45. Children should be in class and ready for learning by 8:55 at the very latest!

Dates for your diary

Mon 23 Sep: 9-10am Mindup parents workshop in the hall

Fri 27 Sept: Macmillan Coffee Morning (including coffee morning for new parents, rearranged from Fri 4 Oct)

Thur 10 Oct: Harvest service 2.30, School Hall

Mon 21 to Fri 25 Oct - HALF TERM BREAK

Wed 6 Nov - 2:45 Y3 shared learning assembly

Wed 13 Nov - 2:45 Y4 shared learning assembly

Wed 20 Nov - 2:45 Y5 shared learning assembly

Wed 27 Nov - 2:45 Y6 shared learning assembly

Angel of the week: Shaun T from Year 2

Shaun T is a wonderful member of our school community who follows our Christian Values.

Shaun T has worked really well with his learning partner this week .

Well done Shaun T! We are all so proud of you.

