

Friendship

Love

Honesty

Hope

Respect

Responsibility



St Martin's C of E (Voluntary Aided) Primary School

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Monday 27th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a fantastic weekend.

I am beginning this letter with several apologies to you. The first of which is regarding the last minute cancellation of the PTA meeting, this was due to unforeseen circumstances and will be reorganised in due course. I must also apologise that changes to wrap around care were not communicated as well as they should have been. I take parent communication very seriously and want to ensure that we build a strong partnership, so am sorry we fell short on this occasion.

To ensure that our pupils are getting the best care and support available, we are now running wrap around care internally. Breakfast club now runs from 8am-8.40am, after school club is now available for a longer period – between 3.20pm – 5.30pm – we have extended this to better support our working parents. Fees have remained the same.

We have recently been reviewing our curriculum and part of this has included a review of our relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) curriculum. We are now using a scheme from Kapow primary, which ensures that we are teaching our children the key areas before they leave primary school. For your information, I have attached the parent and carer guidance to this email. As a parents, you do not have the right to withdraw your child from any of the statutory content on either relationships or health, you do however have a right to withdraw from sex education content, which sits outside of the science curriculum. The only year group which this affects is Year 6. For this reason, every year before we teach sex education to Year 6, we will invite the parents in to view the content and ensure they are happy with its delivery to their children. The information session for Year 6 parents this year will be held on Thursday, 9 March, in the Year 6 classroom - pupils will be able to join after-school club (with no charge) until the end of the session.

As you may be aware, there are scheduled strikes taking place again this week, please be reassured that we have no plans to close and the school will remain open to all pupils.

Finally, the staff team (and I) are all very excited for World Book Day and have our costumes ready! Don't forget, our pupils (and parents!) can dress up on **Thursday 2nd March**, as their favourite book character. We look forward to celebrating the day together.

Best wishes,

Mrs Becky McManus
Headteacher

PE Kit

Please ensure all children have a full (labelled) PE kit in school every week. This should come in every Monday and be taken home on Friday to wash.

Many thanks for supporting us with this.



Dates for the diary

Date	What	Where and When
Wednesday 1 st March	Year 6 parent info meeting	3.30 – In the Y6 class Pupils welcome
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day	Dress up as your favourite book character
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day – Year 3 trip to Waterstones	Year 3 trip (a letter to you will be following today)
Thursday 9 th March	Year 6 RSE Parent info session	3.30 – In the Y6 class Pupils welcome
Monday 13 th March	Parents' Eve 3.30-6.20pm	Details to book coming this week
Thursday 16 th March	Parents' Eve Times TBC	
Friday 17 th March	Skateboard and Scooter Day	In school – please ensure your child has a PE kit in school, nothing else needed
Friday 31 st March	Church Easter Service Parents Welcome, no ticket needed, please just arrive at the church in time	2pm – St Martin's Church Usual dismissal from school at 3.20pm
Friday 31 st March	Term ends	3.20pm – usual end of day
Monday 17 th April	Term begins	8.40am (usual start time)
Monday 1 st May	Bank holiday – School Closed	
Monday 8 th May	Bank holiday – School Closed	
Friday 26 th May	Term ends	3.20pm – usual end of day
Monday 5 th June	Term begins	8.40am (usual start time)
Monday 5 th June	Class photos	During the school day
Thursday 8 th and Friday 9 th June	Year 6 Bikeability	In school – morning only (More information coming at parent meeting 1 st March)
Friday 16 th June	Whole School Sports Day – All parents/family welcome	Afternoon, details to follow
Wednesday 28 th – Friday 30 th June	Year 6 Residential – Brenscombe	(More information coming at parent meeting 1 st March)
Wednesday 5 th July	"Bump-up" day	Y6 to new schools for the day EYFS – Y5 – session in their new class
Monday 24 th July	Last day of term Eco Day – Details TBC	School as usual, usual drop off/collection time
Tuesday 25 th July	INSET day – School closed to pupils	

SATS/residential meeting – Year 6 parents

You are invited to a meeting to hear more about the upcoming SATS tests and how your child will be supported. We will also share more details about the Year 6 residential and Bikeability, including how you can sign your child up to attend. Please do pop in, as this will ensure you have all of the relevant information needed to support your child through the summer term.

Attendance

We have been working incredibly hard to improve attendance for all of our pupils this year. We want to thank you for your support with this and are pleased to say that our figures are rising, with last week our best at over 94%. If your child is having any difficulty getting to school, please do get in touch, so that we can support you.

Office

The school office is open for parents between the hours of 8.45 – 3.55pm daily. The phone line will be manned between 9.30am – 4pm. If you have any concerns or queries outside of these times, please email admin@st-martins.wilts.sch.uk and this will be responded to when the office is next open.

Reporting Absences

If you wish to report your child absent, please call 01722 554 300 and choose option 1.

Online payments

After Easter we will be introducing a new payment system, called Tucasi. We will hold parent information sessions to support you with this change, however, want to give you the advance warning that we will be cashless from 17th April 2023.

Year 6 Hoodies and Leaver's Plans

We are looking into organising hoodies and a Year 6 BBQ for pupils and families, in the summer term. Details will follow in due course.

Have a fantastic rest of the week and enjoy the sunshine!

