



# St John's Mead School

Valuing Effort, Valuing Others, Valuing Self

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Newsletter 4 2017-18

<http://www.stjohnsmead.co.uk> (new one!)

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We hope you all had a positive half term break. As ever, huge thanks go to Donna, our school cook, for providing a wonderful Walk to School Breakfast and to everyone who was able to join us that morning. Autumn is definitely here and whilst the caretaker may feel he is fighting a losing battle sweeping up leaves, the children are greatly enjoying playing, swishing and rustling through them. Today there was also the first sound that Christmas is on its way with songs from the new Nativity plays resonating from the hall and echoing down corridors.

Meanwhile classes are busy immersed in their topics. We were delighted that Mrs Cherry Hubbard from Yate Heritage Centre was able to come into school this week to enthuse Lower Key Stage 2 children with information about aspects of Victorian life at the local Spike workhouse. Meanwhile in Nursery the children were delighted to find a huge indoor sand play structure had been built for their return after half term. Reception children have also been having a fun time with marshmallows and the fire pit whilst also learning about keeping safe.

We are very proud of the children of SJM and it is wonderful to hear positive feedback about how our children behave whilst out in the local community. This week we had an email from Brimsham Green praising a pupil of SJM following this weekend's girls' football match. Apparently the player had stayed to help pick up litter after the match. Eco and helpful – well done to them and their family!

Reception class have a new wooden play shed/chalet that needs assembling (and the old one dismantling). If you are able to help with this please let us know. The sooner it is up, the sooner our children will be able to use it. Thank you!

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November the PTA have organised a **textile recycling collection**. Please bring in your unwanted clean clothing, paired shoes, handbags and belts all bagged up for either tomorrow or Monday morning. Drop your bags off outside the main hall door or in the school's entrance. Then, on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, it is a MUFTI (non-uniform) day for donations for the PTA Christmas Fair adult tombola. All your efforts will raise valuable funds for the Infant trim trail and the wonderful extra experiences and resources the PTA (and your support) provide for all our children. Please help if you can.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November marks the start of our **SJM Book Week**. The Book Fair will be available Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> from 3.20pm. On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm it is our Pyjama Party. Children will come back to school in their pyjamas and with their teddy to hear a bedtime story and have cookies and hot chocolate (kindly provided by donations and the PTA). Whilst the children enjoy this, parents and guardians stay and attend a reading workshop with mince pies and wine as refreshments. We are always delighted with how many children and families attend this fun event and parents report back how useful the reading information is to help their child's learning; we hope you find it helpful this year too. Finally the week concludes with the 'Out of this World' book character costume MUFTI. Costumes are celebrated in the morning in school and then there is a parade at 3pm across the junior playground so parents and carers can see the wonderful characters too.

Diary Dates	
<b>November</b>	
6 Mon	Textile Recycling Collection
10 Fri	MUFTI (non-uniform day) for tombola Christmas Fair donations
14 Tue	Pyjama Party 6:30pm
17 Fri	Book Week Mufti 'Fantasy World' & 3pm parade
24 Fri	PTA Christmas Fair
<b>December</b>	
4 Mon	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Christmas Performance 9:30am & 2pm (Reception only) <b>Pm Nursery Santa Steam Train Trip</b>
5 Tue	Grandparents Day
6 Wed	KS1 (Y1 and 2) Christmas Performance 9:30am & 2pm
7 Thu	KS2 (Y3-6) Christmas Performance 9:30am and 2pm
8 Fri	Christmas Service at Church 9:30am
12 Tue	Children's Christmas Dinner
13 Wed	PTA Children's Disco
14 Thu	<b>PTA sale of Parents Gifts</b>
15 Fri	Last day of term 2
<b>January</b>	
2 Tue	INSET (Day off for children)
3 Wed	First day of term 3 for children
<b>Feb</b>	
9 Fri	Last day of term 3
19 Mon	First day of term 4
Mar 23 Fri	Last day of term 4
Apr 9 Mon	First day of term 5
<b>May</b>	
25 Fri	Last day of term 5
<b>June</b>	
4 Mon	First day of term 6 for children
12 Tue	KS1 Sports Day (reserve Tue 19 <sup>th</sup> )
13 Wed	KS2 Sports Day (reserve Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> )
15 Fri	Nursery Sports & Fathers' Celebration
TBC	Kilve
30 Sat	PTA Summer Fair
July 20	Last day of term 6

### Key to Diary Dates

**INSET:** In Service Training Day, children's day off.  
**EYFS:** Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception) **KS1:** Key Stage 1 (Infants – years 1 & 2)  
**KS2:** Key Stage 2 (Juniors - years 3 - 6)  
**MUFTI:** non-uniform day

*Our value this term is **COMPASSION**.*

### Flu Vaccinations (Rec – Y4)

Flu vaccinations for pupils in this age group will take place tomorrow.

**Reading Awards.** Congratulations to all our children who are showing great effort and perseverance with their reading. We already have some children who have achieved their 33 Reads Bronze Award. Well done: Charlie K, William P, Noah C, Maddison D, Haroon T, Ralphie C, Harry K, Elliott B, Adele G, Gabriel G, Maisie S-J, Steven E, Lily H, Ethan D, Poppy H, Mia W, James A, Daisy J, Zoe P, Finley S, Callum W, Charlotte D, Isaac S, Jamie M, George B, Imogen A, Esmee C-W, Finley W, Harry B, Chloe P, Conor Y, Clarice McD, Meg P, Bethany R, Matthew H, Amelie M, Dylan L, Katelyn B, Emily B, Holly P, Ted G, Lillianna H, Florence D and Ethan S.



A huge **WELL DONE** to all our Maths Super Stars who have obviously been putting in a lot of effort to learn their maths facts.

**Poppy Appeal.** The school, as always, will have poppies available for children from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. There is a recommended donation of 50p per poppy.

### Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

A reminder that our school council have chosen to support this appeal again, through the 'Samaritan's Purse' charity. Leaflets were distributed before half term, additional ones are available in the office if needed. Further information is available on the Samaritan's Purse website if wanted, visit: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> to find out more. Please aim to have your shoebox gifts in school by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November ready for collection early the following week.

### Parking

We are blessed with friendly, understanding neighbours and we need to show care and consideration towards them. Outside the school gates parents often pull up in their cars to quickly drop their children off. Sometimes this blocks our neighbours in so please be mindful of this. Most parents are polite and quickly move if residents need to leave, it only (rightly) upsets them if we are rude and appear uncaring.

**Congratulations** to Esmee and family on the birth of her baby sister Orla. A huge well done to Eloise B and Greg B on their recent achievements during their Tang So Do world competition and to Ellie Mae S with her participation in the European Championships as part of the England Majorettes Team, both events held in Netherlands. Very impressive – all that hard work has definitely paid off.