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Autumn No. 1
7th September 2017

Welcome Back

We would like to begin by welcoming back all of those children returning for the new school year and also to welcome, for the first time, those who are just beginning their life as a St Winefride's pupil. This is a much longer newsletter than usual as there are many important items of information to give you, some of which will require a reply from yourselves at the very earliest opportunity.

This Week's Gospel (Matthew 16:21-27)

For those new to the school and as a reminder to our returning pupils, we start most newsletters with a summary of the previous Sunday's Gospel and try to link it to how it may affect us in school. This year we will include the Bible reference so that you may read the whole Gospel reading for yourself, in your own time.

This week's Gospel relates how Jesus berated Peter for only thinking of things in human terms rather than seeing what concerned God and how He wanted the future to evolve. At St Winefride's we always try to behave in a way that would make God proud and try to look at a broader picture than just what is of immediate benefit to ourselves. To make this relevant to the children we have decided that from now on the award of a Gold Letter to an individual child will not simply reward and benefit that particular child but also benefit their classmates too. Every time a class receives a total of 50, 100 150 etc Gold Letters the whole class will receive extra play or another treat.



Free School Meals

It has now been confirmed that until the end of March 2018 Meals for Primary School children will be provided at no cost to the parents/carers. There is no guarantee from the London Borough of Newham that this will still be the case after March next year. Therefore it is still **Absolutely Vital** that you take the time to go to the following link: <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> to see if you do qualify for Free School Meals (FSM). You only have to register once and it will cover your child for their entire time at St Winefride's it is well worth doing. We also receive extra funding called Pupil Premium, which may only be spent on those children who qualify for it, so the more applicants the better for both you financially and the children.



Admin Alert

Attached to the back of this newsletter are the following documents that MUST be read, signed and returned, where applicable, as soon as possible. They are the Generic Permission Slip, Online Safety Forms and the Medical Information Slip. Please take the time to do so as quickly as possible.

Contact Details



All parents should have completed an 'Information about the Child' form which asks for, among other things, your mobile phone number and your email address, along with emergency contact details etc. It is very important that the number we have on record for the main contact is up to date as these are the details used to set up your 'Cashless Payment' account. If your number has changed since you filled in the form when your child joined the school, please contact the School Office and give them the relevant details.



Cashless Payment System

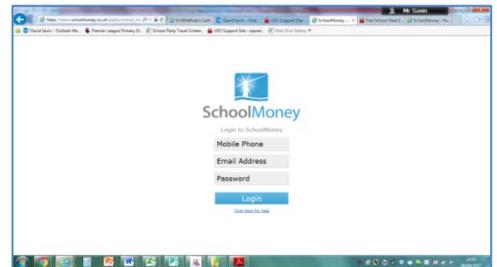
We have now introduced a cashless payment system for ALL payments (except charity donations) to the school. It will only be possible to make new payments to the school by using this system from September 2017. You should have received a message to the mobile number you have supplied to the school (see above) asking you to log in to your page on the website. To create an account carry out the following steps:

1. Go to <https://schoolmoney.co.uk> and you will see this screen:

Then click the blue box marked 'Parents - Click here to log in'



2. This will bring you to this page: You now have to enter your mobile phone number, your email address and the password sent to you by the school.



Full instructions are available at the following address: https://www.schoolmoney.co.uk/public/school_money/mobile_parent/user_guides/Parent_guide_summer2015.pdf (Please note the guide explains how to use all of the functions of the system, including those which we do not currently use.) A shorter brief guide is attached to this newsletter.

Coffee Morning



Miss Khanom's Coffee Morning is up and running tomorrow, Friday 8th September. Preparations are already underway for the Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' so pop along and see how you can join in the fun!

Asthma Inhalers

If your child requires an asthma inhaler please check that it has not expired. Your doctor will provide you with an inhaler for use at school.





Year 6 Trip to Osmington Bay

The annual Residential Trip is almost upon us, the children leave on Monday 18th September, and they are really looking forward to it, not least to see how scared the teachers will be up on the trapeze! If you still have some payments to make please call in at the School Office, before the trip begins, and they will run through how to complete the payments with you.

School Uniform

The School Uniform list has been updated and attached to the back of this newsletter. There are only very minor changes and should not affect any children, especially as we are in the Autumn Term and full uniform should be worn. Please remember that **ONLY** black trainers should be worn to school. We introduced this measure to help out parents as **BLACK** trainers may be worn in place of black shoes. Please do not send your children to school in brightly coloured trainers as they will be asked to remove them and if they do not have suitable footwear to put on you may be called to bring in a suitable pair of shoes.

New Class Names

You may have noticed that your child's class name seems a bit odd or different to last year. This is because we are gradually changing over to a two form entry school rather than a 1.5 form entry (we now take 60 children in Reception rather than 45). This means that the number of classrooms has gone up by one to 12 and will happen again twice more until the classes settle down. We are, for the moment, naming the classes after the Year Group and the First Initial of the teacher's surname. Therefore the Reception Class taught by Mrs **Whitehorn** becomes **RW** and the Year **3** Class taught by Miss **Grima** is **3G** and so on. A Full list is attached to this newsletter.

Breakfast Club

If your child attends the Breakfast Club you should use the cashless payment system (see above) to make your payment. If you are unable to log in please contact the School Office who will be able to advise you on how to do so, or go to the link in the above section. We are only able to allow for arrears of **TWO WEEKS**, if we have not received payment after this time your child will lose their place in the Breakfast Club until **FULL** payment is made. Please remember that the door to the school is only open between 7:50am and 8:10am for the Breakfast Club. If you arrive any later you will not be able to get in as the staff need to be in other areas of the school and will not be able to open the door. Furthermore if the children arrive after 8:10 am there is insufficient time for the children to eat and for the hall to be tidied ready for the school gates opening at 8:45am.

Marathon Kids



We are delighted to announce that we have joined the 'Marathon Kids' scheme, backed by Nike and Sir Mo Farah. Don't worry the children will not be running a full marathon in one go but can run a little bit a day until they have completed the marathon distance. To record the details of their running we need to ask you to complete a Data Protection Form which is attached to this newsletter. Please sign and return as soon as possible.

Before School Clubs

The Before School Clubs will commence week beginning 18th September. Details to follow.



After School Clubs

The following After School Clubs will begin next week: Monday – Dance Club, Tuesday – Cheerleading Club, Wednesday - Football Club. Letters have been given out today and should be returned as quickly as possible. Please remember that only exemplary behaviour is expected in our extracurricular clubs, your child will not be allowed to continue in a club if the coach or teacher has cause to complain about poor behaviour.



Absence From School



If your child is unable to attend school for any reason please call the school number and leave a message on the answerphone. Please leave your child's name, their class and the reason for the absence. There is no need to call later to check if the message was received. If for any reason it was missed we will call you once the register has been completed if your child has not been registered.

Collecting Children After School

Please remember to wait for your child's teacher to dismiss them. We would ask you to remain at the side of the playground and wait for your child to walk to you rather than going into the line to take them. Thank you.

Swimming Lessons



This year's intensive swimming course will take part from 13th November for TWO weeks. In a change to how the places are allocated we will be sending the Year 3 children as usual but will open up the remaining places to children in Year 4 or above who are not yet able to swim. A form is attached to this newsletter for the relevant Year Groups.

Year 1 Parents Meeting

There will be a short meeting for the parents of our Year 1 children next Friday 15th September, from 9:00am to give you an insight into what and how your children will be learning this year, please come along if you are able. Feel free to join in the Coffee Morning after the session.

RE Newsletter, Assemblies and Important Dates

The RE Newsletter and a list of your children's Assemblies and other important dates are attached to the back of this newsletter.

This Week's Prayer

Please join with your children in saying this prayer;

Jesus,

We want to be all that you want us to be. We know that we can never realise our full potential until we make a commitment to follow you.

Amen.

God Bless You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Schubert'.

