

**St Stephen's CE Primary School**  
**May Newsletter – 2017**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and managed to get out in the beautiful sunshine! This week is an odd week as we were off yesterday and will be closed again on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May** for the Local Elections. The staff will be in school for a training day. Children should be back in school on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**.

**We have a busy few weeks ahead before we break for the Whitsuntide holiday.**

**The week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> May** is the KS2 SATs tests. Y6 will be taking national tests in reading, maths, spelling, punctuation, and grammar. They will all be arriving at school for Breakfast Club at 8am where they will receive a free breakfast and quick-fire tuition before the start of the tests each day until Thursday. Under no circumstances must Y6 children be absent from school during this week.

**The week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> May** sees the KS1 SATs tests. Y2 will be taking similar tests over the course of the week, though the examination regime is not as strict as the Y6 tests. We hope that the tests in Y2 will be done as quietly as possible so that the children hardly know that they are taking tests. This will reduce any worries they may have. Under no circumstances must Y2 children be absent from school during this week.

All staff and children in Y2 and Y6 have been working tirelessly this year to get the children ready for their tests and we know that the children will all do their absolute best. We wish them luck!

**ADVANCED NOTICE FOR PARENTS OF Y1 CHILDREN – Y1 Phonics Tests (Screening) – week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June.**

Over the last 2 years, your child has been learning phonics and how to use them to decode words which enable them to read. All Y1 children are tested for their Phonics knowledge in June. This year, the testing date is the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June..... the week we come back after 2 weeks holiday!! We break for the holidays on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May and return to school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June**.

After 2 weeks holiday, children can often come back to school and seem as though they have forgotten all their learning! Miss Taylor will be sending a phonics pack home for your child to practise their phonics skills ready for her/his test. Please make sure that s/he practises his/her phonics EVERY DAY for 15/20 minutes so that they do not have chance to forget their skills and have every chance of doing well in their tests when they come back to school.

Again, these tests are very low key and we don't want children to worry. However, we do want them to do well and so we ask that they continue to practise their phonics at home.

**On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**, Miss Taylor is holding a phonics workshop for Y1 Parents/Carers from 3.15 – 4pm. At this workshop, you will learn how the phonics tests are administered and how you help your child practise their phonics over the holidays.

**On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May**, Y1 will be leading their Collective Worship in the Hall. Doors open at 2.20pm and the Worship will begin at 2.30pm. Friends and family of Y1 children are very welcome.

**On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May**, our Worship Warriors will be leading us in our worship at the church. (9.30 – 10am). Please come and join us.

**Also on the 25<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm**, our new Reception parents/carers will be meeting the staff at the school for an introductory talk and chat. We look forward to meeting them and welcoming the children and parents into our school community.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May**, the School Council have arranged a **‘Victorian Day’** at school. All children and staff should dress as a Victorian person (rich or poor!) and classes will be run in a Victorian fashion all day. Sunshine Assembly should be interesting....I’ve invited a Victorian Headteacher to lead our assembly.....!

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May** is also Y1 Cake Sale – please bring 20p to buy cakes and biscuits.

**Dates, Events and Times for Summer 2 ( up until now!!)**

Date	Time	Event
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> June	All day	Super-Learning Day – China – an introduction to our whole school topic.
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> July	2.30pm	Y2 Collective Worship
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Break time	Y2 Cake Sale
w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> July	All week	Rehearsals
w/b 17 <sup>th</sup> July	All week	Rehearsals
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> July	3pm	Reports to parents
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> July	2pm	Costume Parade
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> July	9-12am	Buses to St Peter’s for dress rehearsal.
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> July	6 – 7.30pm	The Legend of the Chinese Dragon - Show
Weds 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1.20 – 2.20	Transition – children visit new teachers.
Weds 26 <sup>th</sup> July	6 – 7.30pm	The Legend of the Chinese Dragon - Show
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30am	Leavers’ service
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> July	9am	Final Sunshine Assembly of the year.
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> July	1.30 – 2.15pm 2.15 – 3.00pm	FS and KS1 Parties FS and KS1 Disco
	1.30 – 2.15pm 2.15 – 3.00pm	KS2 Leavers’ Disco KS2 Parties

As you can see – we have a really busy time ahead!

Can I thank you for your continued support with your child’s education and with the general life of the school.

Cathie Masztalerz  
Headteacher