



Newsletter

We see Jesus in everything we do

13th September 2024

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Dear Parents

I am not sure what happened to the promised Indian Summer but there is a definite autumnal feel to the air at the moment!

The children, however, do not seem to feel the cold and we have spent this week collecting abandoned sweatshirts and coats from the playground – many of them unnamed meaning we can not return items to their owners. The lost property collection is therefore already growing, even so early in the term. Please do check that your children's belongings are all named – even their shoes as many of you make the same shoe choices and the children can not tell them apart – something many of our new Fledglings discovered after playing in the sandpit this week!

PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING

Hello & Welcome!

We have had our new Fledgling children in full time for their first week at school. They have been brilliant and Mrs Adams and Ms Addyman and the rest of the Fledgling staff are delighted with how mature and sensible they have been. Well done to all of them and long may it continue!

Open Morning

The teachers and staff were very happy to welcome you into school yesterday and the children were excited and proud to show you their new classrooms. I do hope that you all enjoyed the opportunity too

Could I please just issue a general reminder that, for very obvious reasons, hot drinks should never be brought onto site and the use of mobile phones on the premises is not permitted unless specific permission has been given to do so.

Parking

The office received several phone calls yesterday morning from very angry residents who reported that parents had been very rude – or even abusive – to them regarding the parking of cars on the surrounding streets. One lady was unable to leave for work because she could not get her car out of her driveway.

Whilst we must take some responsibility, with the middle school, for not comparing our calendars to ensure that two events were not occurring on the same day at the same time, it is never acceptable for people to be rude to our neighbours. If you must drive to school, please ensure that you always park safely and sensibly and take care to ensure that local residents' access is not affected.

We also received a complaint from the trustees of Clewer Hall as their car park was full and their hirer was unable to start their event on time.

The trial allowing some of our parents to use these spaces ended last term and we no longer have permission to use the space – especially not for the times that the cars were parked yesterday. Please do not use Clewer Hall for parking.

Mass & Miss Albrighton

It was lovely to see Canon David in school this morning and we are grateful to him for coming to celebrate such a lovely mass at the start of the school year.

It also gave us the opportunity to say farewell and good luck to Miss Albrighton who leaves us today to begin her maternity leave. We wish her the very best as she embarks on this new, exciting journey and I look forward to sharing good news with you all soon!

Virtual Tour

The children will shortly be bringing home letters explaining our plans to re-film the virtual tour that we have on our website – especially since the children featuring in our current version have just entered Y8! Please read the letter carefully and return the attached permission slip to school as soon as possible. If you do not wish your child to participate, please complete **but do not sign** the form.

Jo Boyce & CJM Music

We are very excited to be welcoming Jo and her colleagues to St Edward's First again next Thursday. Jo's inspirational input was a huge success in March 2023 and the children and staff who experienced that are very much looking forward to the return visit! The new children are in for a treat! Huge thanks to the Friends who are sponsoring this event to make it possible for the children to experience it!

The Friends AGM – 7th October @ 6pm

The Friends will be holding their AGM @ 6pm on Monday 7th October in the school hall.

Please do attend. We have been working with a very small Friends team for a number of years now which makes the workload quite large. In this instance, many hands really do make light work and the more of you there are supporting the Friends the less there is for everyone to do. Events such as Jo Boyce just would not be able to happen if we did not have the support of The Friends – the school budget just would not be able to sustain the “fun” curriculum extras that The Friends pay for. Please come and add your support – it really does enhance the school experience for all the children.

Please see the attached for more information.

Absence

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please send an e-mail to office@secfs.org.uk before 9am to let us know. The e-mail should give your child's name and class in the subject line. This helps us greatly as, if we do not hear from you, we are obliged to

contact you to find out where your child is to ensure they are safe.

Also, if you are stuck or delayed at the end of the school day, or have an issue picking up your child on time, please do let us know by phone come and talk to us if it is a persistent issue. We are finding that there are several children left sitting on the red chairs outside the office at pick up time and when we are unable to explain to them why they are then they can become upset.

Hair & Hair Accessories

A reminder that all children whose hair is long enough to be tied back should do so before coming to school. This is for health & safety reasons and also to try and help the spread and sharing /of the dreaded critters – head lice. Hair accessories should be functional – not decorative – and of a reasonable size and colour. Many thanks for your support in this regard.

I do hope that you all have a lovely weekend!

God Bless.

Sarah Matthews

Headteacher