



Kirkstall St Stephen's

Newsletter 28th September 2023

Diary Dates / PTA Events

Events this half term	Date
Friday 29 th September Training Day school closed	Friday 29 th September
SENCO coffee morning 9.00-9.45 school hall all welcome PTA bun and book sale in the school hall after school 3.15-4.00pm	Wednesday 4 th October
October Harvest Festival in church 2.30pm	Wednesday 11 th October
Reception 2024 open afternoon 1.30-3.20pm	Thursday 12 th October 1.30-3.20pm
Tempest individual photographs	Thursday 19 th October
Equalities & Inclusion parent group meeting	Tuesday 24 th October 3.30-4.30 Year 6 classroom
October half term holiday to return Monday 6 th November	Friday 27 th October
Parents evening 3.45-7.00 (phone conversations throughout week) PTA used uniform sale after school	Wed 15 th November 3.30pm
Break up for Christmas	Friday 22 December

SENCO Coffee Morning

Angela May is our new SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) at Kirkstall St Stephen's. She works every Monday (full day), Wednesday (full day) and Friday morning and is usually in the playground at the start and end of the days so please do say hello to her. Mrs May will be holding a Coffee Morning in the school hall on Wednesday 4th October, 9-9:45am. This is open to all parents and carers, not just those with children receiving SEND Support.

Chair of Governors

We are pleased to announce that Mr Tim Payne has agreed to become our new Kirkstall St Stephens Chair of Governors, starting immediately.

We would like to thank the Reverend Stephen Kaye for "caretaking" the role for the last academic year whilst Mr Payne trained up and the diligence and positive support he gave to all.

We will be looking at further opportunities to recruit new parent governors in the coming months, watch this space!

Autumn/Winter Outerwear

We have quite a few children coming to school with no coat for outdoor wear. The weather is now changing and we will always strive to get children out at break and lunchtimes for fresh air and exercise. It is vital that they have a suitable coat for the changeable/wet weather.

PTA Bun & Book Sale Wednesday 4th October

Our amazing PTA will be holding a bun and book sale after school in the hall from 3.15-4.00pm this coming Wednesday. Buns will be 30p each and any contributions for books will be greatly appreciated.

Please can we ask for Reception and Year 1 & 2 children to bring in the cakes and buns in the morning to be sold after school.

PE Kits

Can I please remind parents that these are our expectations for children's uniform on PE days and can be found on our school website.

PE clothing consists of:

Red t-shirt, navy shorts and black pumps.

The children may wear trousers or a long sleeved top like a plain navy jumper or school jumper if they are doing PE outside in cold weather. The class teacher will have more information on this.

We have noticed a few children coming in a variety of t-shirts and football kits and really this is not fair on the children who dress correctly.

This kit can be easily and cheaply bought from supermarkets or clothes shops.

However, please can any families who are unable to find or afford PE kits come and speak to us, as we can source plenty of lost property PE kits for children to wear.

Black History Month

Black History month begins next week and there will be a structure in place for all children to learn about important figures, such as Rosa Parks and Jessica Ennis. We will also examine themes such as fairness, success and achievement and the positive impact of immigration during the period.

Equalities and Inclusion Parent Meeting

Earlier this year, we launched a new parents' group focused on equality and inclusion at Kirkstall St Stephen's. This group is open to any parents with an interest in challenging discrimination and promoting equality through their parenting and at school. It also focuses on neurodiversity, awareness of disability, racism, sexual bullying and gender equality.

We will be holding our termly parent meeting to discuss equality and inclusion in school on Tuesday 24th October 3.30-4.30pm in the Yr6 classroom. There will be childcare in another classroom if you need this and refreshments are available.

This group is open to all parents and during last academic year did a fabulous job supporting Refugee Week during the summer and ensuring our choices of house names ensured equality for all.

Spread the word!

We will be holding open afternoons and evenings on the following dates for parents of potential 2024-25 reception children. Our brilliant Yr6 tour guides will take groups around school and there might be a tasty treat from the kitchen!

Please spread the word throughout the community and there will be banners advertising these soon!

Thursday 12 th October 1.30-3.20pm	Open afternoon for 2024 Reception children
Thursday 16 th November 1.30-3.20pm 3.40-5.00pm	Open afternoon and evening Reception 2024
Thursday 7 th December 1.30-3.20pm 3.40pm-5.00pm	Open afternoon and evening for Reception 2024
Thursday 11 th January 1.30-3.20pm	Open afternoon September 2024

PTA events in the Autumn Term 2023

Thank you to our amazing PTA and the amazing activities and funds that they provide!

Wednesday 4th October	PTA bun sale Reception and KS1 to bring buns
WC 16th October	PTA Christmas card designs
Friday 20th October	PTA Bingo and Quiz night in the Church Hall
Wednesday 15th November	PTA used uniform sale
Friday 1st December	Non-uniform day for Xmas Fayre – children to bring in good quality unused or unwanted gifts for tombola
Friday 8th December	Non- uniform day for Xmas Fayre -children to bring in sweets and chocolate
Wednesday 13th December	Xmas Fayre

The PTA would love to hear from you if you would like to join them and support the school. Please feel free to contact them on the following email address: - ststephenspta@outlook.com

Mr P Sheppard Headteacher