



15th May 2017

Dear Parents,

As the summer term is well underway, I thought I would take the opportunity to update you on some of the activities at SJS coming up over the next few weeks.

Walk to School Week:

As in previous years, we will be participating in the National Walk to School Week between the 15th and 19th May. In support of our 'Walk Once a Week' initiative, we are keen to encourage as many children as possible to take part and would ask that wherever possible, you support us in promoting this initiative. Even if only on selected days, it all helps to make a difference. Children who take part will each receive a certificate from their classteacher at the end of the week.

Fun Run:

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Friday afternoon for this year's Fun Run. It was fantastic to see over 140 keen runners making their way round the new SJS course – the part through the woodland proved very popular! My thanks to the PFA and staff at SJS who stayed behind also to help run the event. We are raising money to buy and install several new recycled plastic picnic benches on the school field. These will replace the old wooden ones and we are hoping, once installed, to enable some of our children who have packed meals to use them instead of eating in the school hall. Please do your very best to support this venture and if you need a new sponsor form, or didn't collect one, they are in the school office. Thank you to those parents who have already returned sponsor money.

Stone Farm Residential:

We wish our Year 6 team all the very best for their forthcoming visits to Stone Farm in Bridestowe, Devon. Group 1 leave on 15th May and Group 2 on 22nd May. Mr Richards will join the Year 6 staff team in week 2 and Miss Christy and Miss Harrington will provide the cover for Class 3DR whilst he is away.

Well done also to our Year 6 team who showed fantastic commitment and attitude during last week's SATs. We are always proud of the way in which our young folks in Year 6 rise to the challenge of this aspect of their work and once again, they were excellent in every respect. A big thank you to Mrs Farnham and the team in our school kitchen who prepared over 90 cooked breakfasts every day – that certainly helped spur our Year 6 team on!

School Uniform:

This is a plea again for parents to name their children's uniform. We are frustrated by the number of sweatshirts and other items of uniform that are unnamed and therefore recycled or thrown away at the end of each fortnight at SJS. We have talked to the children about need to improve their care and responsibility with school uniform; it is an important part of our school and we are keen to work with you to improve the large amount of 'lost' property we see.

Workshop on promoting sleep with children

A reminder that we have arranged for Helen Whyley from the school nursing team to lead a workshop with parents on promoting sleep and bedtime routines with children. This will be on Wednesday 7th June at 2:15pm and promises to be a very useful session; please add the date to your diary if you would like to come along.

Book Fair:

We are holding our Summer Term Book Fair between Tuesday 13th and Monday 19th June. All books on sale will be half price and so a great opportunity to pick up a summer holiday bargain to read on those long, hot sunny days!

Will parents also note that the school is closed on Monday 5th June for staff training. The children will return after half term on Tuesday 6th June.

Yours sincerely,

A. J. Stockton

Mr A. J. Stockton
Headteacher