



**Working and learning  
together for success**

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support in getting this term off to an excellent start and particularly those who give their time regularly to help with guided reading and our visits programme; it has been much appreciated. Now the new school year is well underway, I am writing to update you on events that are approaching this half term as well as some useful reminders about school policies. In order to keep you fully updated on activities in each year group and planned learning opportunities. You should also by now have received your child's year team newsletter.

### **Harvest Celebrations**

Our Harvest assembly will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October and we will be supporting the 'Basics Bank' appeal organised by The Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport. We would be very grateful if the children could bring in items from the following list:

<i>Sugar</i>	<i>Tinned fish</i>	<i>Tinned meat</i>	<i>Tinned spaghetti</i>	<i>Pasta</i>
<i>Sauces</i>	<i>Tinned fruit</i>	<i>Jam / Marmalade</i>	<i>Biscuits</i>	<i>Chocolate bars</i>
<i>Soap</i>	<i>Shampoo</i>	<i>Toothpaste</i>	<i>Toothbrush</i>	

This initiative is also supported by our friends at St Paul's. I am always keen for the children to have the opportunity to think about those less fortunate than themselves and this seems a particularly worthy cause. Mr Phil Rutt, a representative of the basics bank, will be joining us at the service to collect the donations for this much needed charity. Miss Chaplin will arrange for members of the School Council to organise the food parcels on the day. Please would children bring items into school in the week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October, and by Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October at the latest; once again your contribution is very much appreciated.

Alongside our Harvest Festival celebrations on the 14<sup>th</sup> October, we will be supporting 'Jeans for Genes'. Children that wish to participate can wear jeans for the day for a £1 donation towards the appeal. Further details about the charity and its work will be sent to you nearer the time.

### **Year 3 Parents' Guided Tours**

Thank you to the many parents who signed up for our recent guided tours of the classroom and learning at Sarisbury. It has been very enjoyable giving parents an opportunity to learn more about day to day learning in our classrooms and see first-hand the excellent work children are doing. I much appreciate the very positive feedback about the school and the opportunities available to our youngsters at SJS; it is good to know that these visits have been valuable and informative.

### **Parents & Friends Association – AGM**

Our Parents and Friends Association are always looking for new volunteers. If you feel you are able to help with fund raising events this year, or want to find out more about the PFA and its work, please join us at the AGM on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October** at 3:30pm in the school hall (please note a DVD will be shown to the children in 6HK).

### **Open Classrooms**

We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at our Open Classroom events on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October for Years 3 & 4, and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October for Years 5 & 6 between 3:45pm and 5:15pm. Our formal parents' evenings are held later in the term on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November and so this is an important opportunity to meet teachers, who will be available throughout the evening, view your child's work and talk to them about the progress they are making.

### **Bikes & Scooters**

May I take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers of our cyclists and scooter riders, that the playground gate is the one to access at the start and end of the school day. **The car park entrance is not a safe entry point to the school and in the interests of safeguarding, we must insist that parents and children use the playground entrance.** Children are asked to dismount their bikes / scooters and walk along the pavement to the bike and scooter racks.

### **And Finally...**

We would like to thank parents for their help in ensuring that the deficit in our school meal payments is so much improved this year. We have seen a debit balance of over £850 reduce to £32 at this point in the year. By paying in advance for school meals you have helped us to ensure that this debt is kept to a minimum and we hope that this will continue during this time of real challenge for school funding.

Yours sincerely

*A. J. Stockton*

Mr A. J. Stockton  
Headteacher