

Parent email update 3: Autumn 1 20th October 23

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are at the end of our first Half of the Autumn term and can't believe how time has flown! Our first September 'Let's Celebrate'! (sent via ParentPay) shared wonderful images of both class and sporting achievements – please also remember to send in any external achievements as we have a special section for this recognition.

We wish everyone a well-deserved Half-term break and look forward to returning on Monday 30th October.

To celebrate...

Link school visit on Tuesday 10th October

We were extremely excited to invite the Head teacher & Year 6 Class Teacher of Riverside Primary & Nursery School to our school on Tuesday. They started with a school tour and then Miss Walker joined Year 6 for a Class Comprehension session with Mrs Deem and Mrs Stell. Our Head Students then met them both in the Gallery for a 'Q & A' session. We received a beautiful email after their visit that made us all extremely proud to be part of SPJS.

Year 6 Class trip to Carrymoor Environmental Centre on Tuesday 17th October

Following our success at placing 1st at Children's Parliament in July, Year 6 enjoyed the 'prize' of a school earned trip to Carrymoor. Linking to their class 'exploration' theme, they thought about what they would need to do to survive if they were stranded – they lit fires, made shelters, toasted marshmallows (of course tasting them!) and used map reading skills for an orienteering task. It was a super day and all of Year 6 made staff extremely proud of their behaviour and good manners. What role models for the school!

Netball Tournament at Westfield on Thursday 12th October

Our Year 6 Netball team attended a tournament at Westfield Secondary school. Mrs Walker was fortunate to supervise the event and was overwhelmed with the team spirit, work ethic and skill level. The team played four matches and won each one, not even conceding a goal. All team members earned recognition but a special mention must go to the strong shooting partnership between Henry and Sophia. Well Done all!

To update...

Gallery Monitor Reading Project

Our Gallery Monitors are currently working with Mrs Hingley to 'freshen' up and inspire more children to love reading. They would like parents to check their homes over Half Term and find any old/damaged books that are no longer required – these will be reused for a creative design! **Please return to school w/b Mon 30th October (a box will be in the Gallery for drop off)**

Harvest Celebration on Wednesday 1st November 2.15pm

We would like to invite parents/carers to join us for a Harvest Celebration in the School Hall. We have chosen the time to enable our parents with younger siblings at SPIS to still attend, although we have given them a heads up!

Staffing Update

We sadly say goodbye to Mrs Turnbull who has given the school so much support as a Teaching Assistant over the years; we will miss her care and creativity, helping many staff with scenery & props for school productions. We wish her all the best as she enjoys more time with family and friends in the North East.

Parent Appointments w/b Mon 6th Nov

We are pleased to offer Parents/carers the opportunity to meet with their child's Class teacher this Autumn term. You will receive a Booking sheet when we return on Monday 30th October; this will detail availability and meeting location. Our SENDCo and Mrs Walker will also be available.

Anti-Bullying Week W/b Mon 13th November

We continue to support this annual and important National event. We launch the theme ('Make a noise about bullying') by asking that children wear odd socks on Monday 13th November.

Children in Need on Fri 17th November

We look forward to supporting this important annual charity event; children may dress up in lieu of a voluntary donation for Children in Need.

Class trips to Cineworld in Yeovil

We are delighted to share the news that we have secured free cinema tickets for all children in the school; this is part of the 'Into Film' annual festival to increase cinema participation with children. We would like to confirm that the school will also fund the coaches using previously donated money from the Brewers' Arms.

Attendance at national & local level

We have received the DfE focus for the Autumn term and this involves their resource '*Working Together to improve school attendance*'. Our attendance staff have also attended webinars from DfE and Ofsted to ensure that our policy and procedures are compliant.

Following reflection, we have redesigned our graduated response to attendance so that all parents are clear and feel supported. Please look at our attendance page within the 'Key Information' tab on the school website (accessed also via the 'Quick Links' on the Home Page)

Shoebox appeal for Christmas

We will support the Shoebox appeal again this year; parents may either complete a shoebox or drop in individual items so we can collate items for the filling of community shoeboxes.

Dates in the diary

Autumn 1

Fri 20th Oct: Break up for Half Term

Mon 23rd – Fri 27th Oct inc Half Term holiday

Autumn 2

Mon 30th Oct: School returns

Tues 31st Oct: Deadline for secondary school applications from Year 6

Parents/Carers

Wed 1st Nov: Nasal Flu Vaccination

Harvest Celebration 2.15pm

W/b Mon 6th Nov: Parent Appointments (No clubs this week – apart from YTFC)

Wed 8th Nov: Year 5 & 6 trip to Cineworld

Sat 11th November: Parish Map Stitch-a-thon (10am – 12 Noon/ David Hall)

Sun 12th November: Remembrance Service at St Peter & St Paul's.

W/b Mon 13th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week (Children may wear Odd Socks Day on Monday 13th!)

Thurs 23rd Nov: Year 3 & 4 trip to Cineworld

W/b Mon 4th Dec: Year 5 & 6 Performance (Tues 5th Matinée / Wed 6th & Thurs 7th evening)

Wed 13th Dec: Christmas Lunch (Option within ParentPay)

Fri 15th Dec: Christingle Service at St Peter & St Paul's (time tbc but afternoon)
Break up for Christmas Holidays