



# Newsletter 1

7 September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,



## **Our new school year – welcome back!**

We have had a great first week in school. Our new starters have settle into school so well and all of the children have come back to school looking very smart and ready to learn.



## **Staffing**

I am delighted to introduce to you, new members of our senior leadership team at Royston St John Baptist CE Primary School. As you are aware, I shall be retiring at October half term. To ensure a smooth transition for the school in the run up to my retirement and to lead the school forwards thereafter, Mr Lee Spencer, is now the Executive Headteacher of our school and St Mary's Primary School. Mrs Rachel Moore has joined our school as Deputy Headteacher.

Mr Spencer is an experienced Headteacher who has been Headteacher at St Mary's CE Primary School for a number of years; his experience in Church schools is vast and he is the ideal person to maintain the Christian ethos, which is the foundation of our school. Mr Spencer is a caring, approachable gentleman and is a keen musician, whose skills will enhance the provision in our school. Mr Spencer will aim to split his time equally between his two schools.

Mrs Moore has also taught at St Mary's School for a number of years, where she led the teaching of literacy. She moved to West Meadows Primary School, within St Mary's Academy Trust, as Assistant Headteacher in 2013. Mrs Moore is also a lead moderator for literacy within Barnsley Local Authority, so has experience of working in a wide range of schools. As an outstanding teacher who is passionate about the learning, welfare and development of the children in her school, she will be a real asset.

Mr Spencer and Mrs Moore are excited and eager to work in our school and I feel really happy that I will be leaving the school in very safe hands! They have enjoyed meeting our staff and children and have been overwhelmed by the wonderful welcome from the people they have already met within our school community. You are invited to come and meet both of them in our school hall from 3pm on Friday 14 September. Please call in for a coffee and a chat with them.

## **Absences/lateness**

All children should arrive at school to be in their classes by **8:55am**. Please enter the school grounds by the gate near the bicycle shelter. Children arriving after 8:55am must be signed in at the office by an adult. Any child signed in after 8:55am will receive a late mark. It is important that children arrive at school on time to make the most of their learning time.

## **New Guidelines regarding absence**

Following recent guidelines, from September 2018, if your child has diarrhoea or sickness (vomiting), the isolation period will now be **24 hours** and not 48 hours as it has previously been.

We will also fall in line with other schools, in that, dental, doctors and opticians appointments will be recorded as **unauthorised absence**. In exceptional circumstances - in the case of an emergency - or a hospital clinic appointment, evidence will be required to support this.

**All unauthorised absences will be recorded for the Education Welfare Officer.**

## Medication

If your child needs medication from September, please bring it to the office where a new form will be required to be completed.



## Water Bottles

For a number of years school has provided all of our children with a water bottle at the start of the school year. Due to increasing costs and budget constraints, I need to ask that children bring their own water bottles from home. **Please ensure that bottles from home are named and are clear plastic, containing water NOT juice.** These should be filled at home every morning please. If your child does not bring a water bottle, there will be 2 or 3 plastic cups in each class for children to use during the school day, when they are thirsty.



## Health & Safety Important Notices

To ensure everyone's safety, **under no circumstances** should pedestrians walk through our very busy staff car park.

To ensure the safety of all of our children dogs **must not** be brought onto the school site or left tied at the school gate.



## Parking on Vicarage Lane

Can I please urge all parents/carers **not** to bring vehicles up Vicarage Lane. The safety of our children is paramount. **Please support us in keeping Vicarage Lane clear and safe for our children.**



If any parents have any worries or concerns, please see our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Goodyear.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Ryan  
Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary (please keep for your reference)

<u>Monday 10 September</u>	Y1 & Y2 Parents' information meeting at 3:00pm (Mrs Kaskiewicz & Mr Crookes).
<u>Tuesday 11 September</u>	Y3 and Y4 Parents' information meeting at 3:00pm (Mrs Pickering & Miss Pritchard).
<u>Wednesday 12 September</u>	Y5 & Y6 Parents' information meeting at 3:00pm (Mr Smith & Miss Webb).
<u>Friday 14 September</u>	Coffee and chat with Mr Spencer and Mrs Moore in the school hall at 3:00pm
<u>Monday 17 September</u>	Imagination Games afternoon in school for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y1 parents and children from 1:15 to 2:15pm.</li><li>• Y2 parents and children from 2:30 to 3:30pm.</li></ul> Imagination Games evening in school for parents and children in all year groups. There will be a sessions from 3:30 to 5:00pm. and 5:00 to 6:30pm. Further details will be sent out next week.
<u>Tuesday 2 October</u>	Harvest Festival in Church at 2:15pm. Parents/carers are welcome.
<u>Thursday 18 October</u>	All school parents meetings from 9:15 – 6:30pm. Details to follow.
<u>Tuesday 6 November</u>	Flu vaccines for children in FS2 – Y5.