

Weekly Note – Monday 23rd November 2020



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Date	Event	Year Group	Time (if relevant)
Monday 23 rd November			
Tuesday 24 th November	Woodwind Music Tuition FLU VACCINATIONS		Bring instruments please ALL CLASSES
Wednesday 25 th November	Spanish Lessons Junior Harp Lessons		Yr 4-7 £2 to cover the month of November please Harpers 2-2.30pm
Thursday 26 th November			
Friday 27 th November	PE DAY Strings Music Tuition Senior Harp Lessons SMARTIE CHALLENGE DEADLINE		ALL CHILDREN Bring instruments please 2-2.30pm ALL CLASSES

PTA Fundraiser

Your children will have received their smarties packets with their name labelled on the side. It is fantastic to see so many children already bringing theirs filled with 20p pieces in to Rachel already. This is a really simple and fun fundraiser which your child can take part in. Remember ALL smarties packets are to be left in by **FRIDAY 27th November**. We will draw out 5 lucky winners that day!



Split the Pot

Next draw takes place tomorrow, Friday 20th November.

If you're not in you can't win! Half to the winner, half to school funds for vital school resources which will aid YOUR child's learning!!

Make sure your envelopes get to Rachel first thing tomorrow morning!



St. John's SVP

In these current circumstances due to COVID-19, St. John's SVP can be contacted on our confidential helpline number: 07752017340. If you or someone you know in our area is struggling, please contact us. All our help is given on a strictly confidential basis.

Online/Remote Learning in St. John's

There are great opportunities for parents to help their children with online learning.

In St. John's every child has a Seesaw account. This should be accessed regularly, especially on a Thursday evening for their Seesaw homework. The more confident children are using Seesaw now, the easier it will be if we have to close the school or children have to self-isolate.

Mathletics: All children have a Mathletics account and teachers are constantly assigning work for children to complete which corresponds with the work they are doing in school. Keep asking your child to log on and show you their page. If you take an interest, they will be more keen to complete the tasks.

Accelerated Reader: All Year 5-7 children have an accelerated reader page with targets to reach. It is vitally important that your child is reading every night to help grow a love for reading, first and foremost. The AR targets are a quick means of checking their understanding. Ask your child how they are progressing towards their target on a regular basis. Our school AR page can be found at: <https://ukhosted53.renlearn.co.uk/2235496>.

Spanish Lessons Y4 – Y7

Our Spanish lessons with Christina on Wednesdays are up and running. It was lovely to hear the children's voices calling out in Spanish throughout the 4 classrooms. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child/ren to gain confidence in a new language. 50p a lesson is a snip! It is really important that every child in Yr4-7 pays for this experience. It would be a real shame if we could no longer continue with this due to lack of funds.



November's £2 NOW DUE please.

PLEASE BRING A COAT TO SCHOOL

The past couple of weeks there has been a distinct chill in the air...and we love using our outdoor classroom, so.... please ensure your child brings a coat with them to school during the winter months. It is most helpful if parents label all items of clothing – this helps us return lost items.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Many thanks to those of you who paid their voluntary contribution to school last year. These are indeed challenging financial times for all schools and the contribution you make means we can buy additional resources for our children to use. Please send your contribution in a marked envelope with your child next week.

We ask for a donation of £5.00 per pupil.

Thank you!

FLU VACCINATIONS Tuesday 24th November

You should have received a consent form for the administration of the Flu Vaccination and it is great to see so many have been returned. The Chief Medical Officer has asked all schools to encourage all pupils and adults in school to get the flu vaccination this year. The vaccination will not give immunity from Coronavirus but will help to protect vulnerable members of our community.

If your child misses the vaccination or is unwell on the day, you as parent/legal guardian, will be sent a letter from the Community Nurse explaining that you should now contact your GP.

Healthy Eating & Nut-free zone

Please help us to promote our healthy eating school and nut-free zone.

Any items containing nuts will be sent home unopened.

Breakfast Club

8-8.50am is available from Tuesday 1st September

£1.05 in a labelled envelope to be paid to Ray daily

No booking required

St. John's Open Afternoon

Due to the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in we are unable to run our usual fantastic Open Night, which traditionally showcased our wonderful school and talented children. Instead we are offering a bespoke tour of our Foundation Stage area on the afternoon of Wednesday 2nd December between 1.45-4.45pm. If you know of any parents who have a child ready to start Yr 1 in September, please tell them about this opportunity. To book a slot, please ring Rachel on 02870344437.

Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, older pupils have to move primary schools. If you know of any parents who may be thinking of transferring their child to St. John's, please ask them to ring me and I will be only too delighted to safely show them our wonderful school.

After Schools Club

2pm-5pm daily

Please book and pre-pay for this service on a weekly basis. Paying in arrears is not an option.

£2 per hour in a clearly labelled envelope

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY REMINDERS

If your child is absent for any reason please email the school on info@stjohnspscoleraine.ni.sch.uk or ring Rachel on 02870344437 giving a reason for non-attendance on the first day of absence. This is for the Education Welfare Service. Thank you to those who already do so. We understand this year is particularly challenging for our families in maintaining excellent attendance, however we use a particular code on the register for children absent because of COVID meaning we can take this into consideration when monitoring attendance. The Minister of Education has made clear, that children absent due to COVID will not be flagged up as non-attenders.

Lateness is also monitored by the Education Welfare Officer so please endeavour to get your child in to school by their allocated staggered time as this helps them settle into the classrooms before starting their work.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL SAFE

Thank you all for supporting the safety measures we have in place at this continued difficult time. In particular, **I would like to thank you for keeping children at home when a member of your household has COVID-19 symptoms.**

It is still PHA advice to get a test if you have symptoms. ***Therefore, children must not come to school if a member of your household is awaiting the outcome of a COVID test.*** By working together, we can help to keep everyone in our community safe.

As time moves on and with the virus becoming more prevalent in our locality, I would ask parents to wear a face mask or covering while in the school grounds, especially if you need to speak with Rachel in the morning time.

It is important that we do not become complacent in remembering our 3 rules:

- **Wash our hands thoroughly**
- **Keep our social distance—this includes parents waiting for their children at the school gate**
- **Catch it...Bin it...Kill it**

Thank you all for your support and consideration and remember we are all part of the solution.

Have a lovely weekend and as always thanks for your continued support towards our school.

