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### **Term 5 Newsletter- Summer is just around the corner!**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and managed to spend lots of lovely time with your family. We all had a fabulous two weeks but are very excited to enter term 5 with renewed enthusiasm and joy. It promises to be a brilliant term and I'm sure the children will enjoy every minute of it!

#### **Staff News**

I am proud to announce Mr Knight and his wife are now the delighted parents of a beautiful baby boy called Henry. All three are well and enjoying family life. However, this means Mr Knight will not be in school for the next two weeks as he takes his entitled paternity leave. To ensure continuity for our children, Class 11 will be taught by Mrs Lakeman and Mrs Summers for the majority of this time. There will also be a few occasions where Miss Whittock will teach all the Year 6s whilst Miss Jewell teaches the Year 5s in Class 10.

Miss Southall has now returned to teaching Class 9 full-time. Mrs Lakeman will still teach them on a Wednesday afternoon and I'm sure everyone will join me in thanking her for the unwavering support she has shown our children. Thankfully, Mrs Lakeman will still be teaching in our school as she continues to lead Class 2 on a Thursday and Friday.

#### **Open Evening This Week**

We will be holding an 'Open' evening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April after school. This is an opportunity for you to come and celebrate your child's learning as well as talk to their class teacher. Teachers will be available from 3.15-4pm and books will stay out in the classes until school closes at 6pm.

#### **'Learn With Me' Session on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Thank you to everyone who attended our 'Learn with me' session towards the end of last term. We had an excellent 'turn-out' and I know the children loved spending time with you during their literacy lesson. Due to the overwhelming feedback, we will be holding a similar session in term 6 where we will be inviting you to join us for a maths 'Learn with me' session.

#### **'Friends' Fundraising Activities in Term 5**

We were incredibly fortunate to have many fantastic fundraising events during term 4. Our 'Friends' not only held a brilliant Ladies night but also produced a magnificent 'Globe Trot' as well as a fabulous Easter Fun Day.

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Most people would be happy with this but our 'Friends' are relentless in their support for our children and they will continue to organize fundraising events during April and May. Paul Claydon will once again be our Quizmaster on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April and the pupils will be guaranteed a brilliant time at our school discos on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets for both events can be purchased from the school office (disco tickets will be available nearer the date) and we are indebted to Leanne, Claire, Tash and the rest of the 'Friends' team for their commitment to improving our children's school experience. The next 'Friends' meeting will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at the Globe (7pm) and as always all are welcomed to join us!

### **Attendance at FCCE**

I have been really pleased with how our attendance rates have continued to be some of the best in South Glos. since September. We are currently in the top 10 for schools and this is down to the hard work and dedication you all show to your children's education. For this, I cannot thank you enough. As a parent myself, I know the next few months are always the most tempting when it comes to taking a family holiday during term time. The financial savings can often be staggering which makes your decisions to go away within the May half term or the summer holidays even more impressive. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your continued commitment to your children's education and fingers crossed we'll all be rewarded with amazing weather during August if, like me, you holiday in Devon!

### **FCCE's 3 Year Strategic Plan**

Our Strategic plan continues to take shape with the help of our senior leadership team and dedicated Governors. Although we had a few offers of support during the Easter holidays to carry out maintenance and painting (and I thank you for this), I decided we might get better numbers if we opened the school up during the May half term. Therefore, we will be looking for volunteers to come in during that week to help paint many parts of the school that are now starting to show 'wear and tear'. If you think you could give a few hours, no matter what day, then I'd be really grateful if you could email the school office to let us know. Our school community is a very special one and I appreciate you all give a lot of your time and effort already. However, I'd love for our school building to truly reflect the bright and vibrant atmosphere our children and staff make it on a daily basis.

### **School Caretaker Role Available**

As I'm sure you will have noticed, Mr Barnard Snr. is still doing a great job being our interim Caretaker. Unfortunately, this is only a short-term position as there is only so long any man can take being bossed around by his son (I promise I'm a nice boss!). The closing date for the post has now passed and we haven't had any interest. If there is anyone you can think of who would like to contribute to our brilliant school, work flexibly and within their own locality then please bring this position to their attention. I'm completely biased but FCCE is a great place to work!

### **Whole-School Faith Day- Sikhism- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

As part of how we embed our Christian distinctiveness throughout our school, it is imperative we teach our children about how other religions are followed and celebrated. This provides them with a great insight into other people's culture as well as giving them the opportunity to reflect upon their own values. On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April the whole school will be learning about Sikhism. Father Malcolm will be running several workshops for our pupils but if you would like

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to contribute or have any questions about the event then please do not hesitate to contact myself or our RE leader (Miss Thomas).

## **Term 6 Events**

I will endeavour to provide a comprehensive list of our school events for term 6 by the end of April. I'm sorry I've not been able to do this before but I really want to make sure you have all the dates you need so you won't miss out such occasions as sports days, play performances, leavers services and moving-up days.

## **Dates for your diary**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April- Start of Term 5

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April- Year 1 Phonics test meeting for parents in the library (2.30pm). This meeting is also repeated for anyone who couldn't make it on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in the library.

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April- 2018 New Reception places announced

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April- Open evening after school for parents to celebrate learning with children (teachers available in class until 4pm and books available until 6pm)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April- Year 1 Phonics test meeting for parents (6pm in library)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Year 3 & 4 Wow start

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Sponsored Run at 1pm (new date)

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April- Whole-school Faith day (Sikhism)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April- Class 5 Assembly to parents at 9.10am

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April- FRIENDS Quiz Night with our resident quizmaster Paul Claydon

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April- Class photographs taken by Tulip photography

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April- FRIENDS meeting at The Globe (7pm and all welcome!)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April- Class 8 Worship to parents and school at 9.05am

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April- Full Governors Meeting (7pm)

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May- Class 2 Assembly to parents at 9.10am (note Wednesday and NOT Friday)

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May- Year 5 Manor Adventure school camp meeting for 2019 trip at 5pm in Class 11

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May- Class 7 Assembly to parents (9.10am)

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May- Bank Holiday (no school)

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May- Year 2 SATs this week

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May- Year 6 Manor Adventure School camp meeting for parents (2.45pm and repeated at 5.30pm)

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May- Year 6 SATs week (breakfast club for Year 6 run every morning this week)

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Swimming lessons this week

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May- Class 1 and 2 Parent workshop (Expressive Art and Design) 2.15pm

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May- Mufti day to support Christian Aid week (£1 suggested donation)

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May- Class 3 Assembly to parents (9.10am)

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May- School Discos

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May- Pentecost Family Fun day at school 3pm (run by St. Peter's church)

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May- Year 3 and 4 'Bikeability' training (will need to bring in bikes and helmets)

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May- Class 11 worship to parents (9.05am)

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May- Enrichment Day

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May- INSET day (no school)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June – KS1 Sports Day (am) / Reception Sports Day (pm)

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Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Upper KS2 Sports Day (am) / Lower KS2 Sports Day (pm)

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Reserve Date KS1 Sports Day (am) / Reception Sports Day (pm)

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Reserve Date Upper KS2 Sports Day (am) / Lower KS2 Sports Day (pm)

## **Congratulations**

As always, we've had loads of amazing pieces of learning to bring a big smile to our faces. Here is just a snippet:

- Wonderful writing from Ella and Jake in Class 9;
- Amazing reading by Elsie S in Class 3;
- Beautiful improved handwriting from Sean in Class 9;
- Great fractions learning from Liam in Mr Knight's maths group;
- Superb problem-solving work from Theo in Mr Ridd's maths group;
- Brilliant sentence writing by Fabian in Class 3;
- Impressive writing by Eva in Class 1;
- Gorgeous story-telling by Elsie P in Class 3;
- Creative 'gold' from the Giles children during World Book Day;
- Incredible writing by Ruby and Finley in Class 10;
- Unbelievable writing by Lucy in Class 5;
- Outrageous performances from our Rock Steady musicians;
- Awesome cursive handwriting by Chesley in Class 3;
- Stunning artwork by Finley, Jack and Jonah in Class 4 and
- Cracking story-writing by Elyse and Emma in Class 4

I can't wait to see what the summer term brings us... so many wonderful experiences to look forward to and memories to make!

Thank you for your continued support,

Pete Barnard

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