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Dear Parents,

8th September 2014

A warm welcome back to all our children and an extra warm welcome to Year 3 and children joining us in other year groups. I know you will settle in quickly and enjoy life at SJA. We also welcome Mr. Dudeney (Y5 teacher), Miss Evans (Y3 teacher) and Mrs Watts (Y3 LSA).

We have many wonderful events planned for the coming term and year. We have two very well known authors visiting; Jeremy Strong for Y3 and Tom Palmer for Y6,



trips are booked to the Tower of London, Newhaven Fort, Croydon and Southwater Country Park. Children across the school will have the opportunity to sing at the O2 in London,

The Hawth in Crawley, the Carfax in Horsham and Chichester Cathedral. After our most successful sporting season ever, we have meticulously planned 2014/2015 with tournaments for football, netball, basketball, rugby and hockey to

name but a few and our fantastic range of clubs are set up and ready to start. We've even got a date for the always popular Christmas Sparkle Disco!

Unlike last summer when we had the new windows put in, things have been a little quieter this holiday. The Y3 corridor and classrooms have been painted, fences mended, shrubbery cut back, the boards on the Y6 huts repainted and we have had our summer holiday deep clean.

As I am sure you are aware an updated curriculum has been introduced by the Government for September 2014. We introduced the new maths curriculum last year, taking into account the higher expectations. To supplement our fantastic maths achievement last year, we are introducing a weekly maths problem solving lesson, where we aim to teach the children a variety of methods that they can use to solve maths problems and investigations. When you come along to the parent meetings in a couple of weeks you can find out more. We are leading the way with our updated computing curriculum which the children have taken to like a mini-Bill Gates and it will be extended even further this year. Our Science curriculum has had a make over and we re-organised when we teach some of the topics. Other subjects have been updated and adapted where necessary.

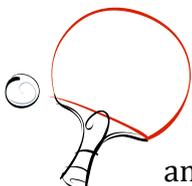
Parent meetings for Y4, Y6 and Y5 are booked in, see date sheet below. Please come along to the 'Welcome to Year 4/5/6' meeting where you will have the opportunity to find out about the curriculum, expectations and events in your child's year and ask any questions you may have.

If you have any questions about the forthcoming year please email me, see me in the playground or speak to the class teacher. We are looking forward to another great year! Alexis Conway



Club Letters

We are fortunate to run a wide range of clubs at SJA. Letters are going out this week; please return by Monday 15th September. There are a number of new clubs this year, including debating club, an extra ICT club and table tennis club is now open to Y3. After winning the A, B and Girls table tennis league last year we are continuing with our 'girls only' table tennis club (although girls are welcome to go to the mixed club). It continues to amaze me the number of children who come to running club, in all weather at 8am on a Thursday morning. It was such a success last year and certainly helped us to victory in the cross country and district athletics.



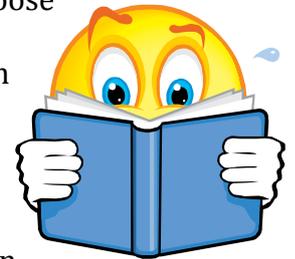
Please note karate will start on the 10th September

Y3/Y4 Reading Scheme

We are introducing a more formalised reading scheme into Year 3 and Year 4. We felt that for many children a more structured scheme was still needed to aid their progress in reading and to help them choose a book of a suitable standard, carrying on from SIA. We have spent £15,000 buying a fantastic range of books which we know will interest, engage and excite the children.

All children in Y3 and the majority in Y4 will be given a reading scheme book and the option of a free reader. Children will progress through the book bands until they are ready to choose freely from the class library/school library/home.

As the children progress through the scheme, the texts become longer with trickier words and more complicated storylines. In each book band, we have ensured that there is a variety of different types of books. This ensures that the children experience a variety of books and characters, including fiction and non-fiction as they develop their reading preferences. We will continually add to the scheme as the terms progress. The teacher will make the decision as to when children are ready to move to the next book band level. We envisage that children will read 10 -15 books per level. When the teacher thinks the children are ready to move up a level they will have a word test and a comprehension assessment. Please remember it is not a race up the levels! Free choice books are also sent home with children to accompany children's current reading scheme book. Each class has a selection of fiction and non-fiction reading books for children to choose from, which are age and level appropriate, plus books are available in the libraries. Each classteacher will inform children and parents of book changing days.



Classroom Visit

During the weeks of the 29th September and 6th October you will have the opportunity to spend a lesson in class with your child. Please see below for exact dates (please note some have been changed since the July newsletter). Please come to the hall once you have dropped your child off, for a 9.10am start in class. You don't need to sign up, just come to the hall on the correct morning. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to see your child in the classroom and spend some time learning with them.

Charity Donations

As I'm sure you are aware we have a charity committee made up of a group of children from across the school. The children discuss which charities they would like to support over the coming year - local, national and international and what events they would like to hold e.g. cake sale, dressing up days etc. Over the course of last year the children raised over £2,000. Charities and donations included Shelter, Diabetes UK, Children in Need, Make A Wish, Holy Innocents Church, Sports Relief, WWF, Clic Sargent and Stretchild. The charity committee will be meeting over the next few weeks to look at which charities to support this year.

Library

The library will be opening at lunchtimes and on Monday after school from Monday 15th September. Parents and children are encouraged to visit the library on a Monday, from 3.20pm to 4pm.

School Shop

The school shop will re-open the week of 22nd September; it will be open every Tuesday and Thursday. The shop is run by the school council; items on sale include pencils, pens, rubbers, rulers, revision guides and table tennis bats.

Uniform

Last year children wore their school sweater when it was cold outside for PE. A number of children have asked if we could have a red hoodie as part of the PE kit (similar to the ones the staff wear). Hoodies are now in stock, after the first delivery sold out very quickly. Children are still welcome to wear their school sweater for PE or the new red hoodie. They can also wear the hoodie at school clubs, lunchtimes, out of school etc but hoodies are not to be worn as part of classroom school uniform. They are priced at £11.00 (3 sizes 7-8, 9-11 and 12-13).

We have been able to reduce the price of some of our uniform items that we sell from school to:

Polo Shirts £3.75; Sweatshirts £6.00; Fleece £8.00.

These three items, together with other uniform basics, such as skirts, trousers, shorts and dresses are also available to order online from <http://UniformEasy.com>. Payment for online orders is made directly to UniformEasy.

We will continue to stock all of our regular uniform items in school and there is now the additional option of paying for these via ParentPay (Parentmail2). Items can be paid for and collected the following day from the school office (please allow 24hrs between payment and collection). We will continue to offer payment by cash or cheque for our usual items at the school office if preferred.

Do you have any other comments about any information in the newsletter? Would you like to help listen to readers?

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Parent:

Name of child:

Class:



Autumn Term 2014

Thursday 4 th September	INSET – Coaching to develop teaching and learning
Friday 5 th September	INSET – Teaching of Reading (Comprehension) / Problem Solving in Maths
Tuesday 9 th September	9am Reading volunteers meeting
Thursday 11 th September	Y5 flight to Ghana 2.30pm/6pm Y3 Parent meeting
Friday 12 th September	2.30pm Reading volunteers meeting
Monday 15 th September	2.30pm / 6pm Y4 Parent meeting 6pm FGB
Tuesday 16 th September	2.30pm / 6pm Y6 Parent meeting
Wednesday 17 th September	2.30pm / 6pm Y5 Parent meeting
Friday 19 th September	Y6 to Newhaven Fort
Monday 22 nd September	Y3 to Southwater Country Park
Friday 26 th September	Y4 to The Tower of London
Wednesday 1 st October	SIA/SJA Open morning for children starting SIA/SJA in September 2015 10.30am
Thursday 2 nd October	9am Parent Forum
Friday 3 rd October	9.10-10am Y6/Y5/Y3 Parent class visits
Monday 6 th October	9.10-10am Y5/Y3 Parent class visits Bikeability – all week 6CJ/CD
Tuesday 7 th October	9.10-10am Y4 Parent class visits
Wednesday 8 th October	9.10-10am Y4 Parent class visits
Friday 10 th October	Y3 to Croydon
Monday 13 th October	Parents Evening 3.30pm-7pm Bikeability – all week 6AER/DM
Tuesday 14 th October	6.15pm Teaching and Learning Committee
Wednesday 15 th October	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 7pm
Thursday 23 rd October	9.30am Y3/Y4 Harvest Assembly (TBC) 2pm/6pm Y3 Parent meeting
Friday 24 th October	Y6 Evacuation Day
	Half term
Tuesday 4 th November	Jeremy Strong (author) visiting Y3
Wednesday 5 th November	Tom Palmer (author) visiting Y6
Thursday 6 th November	Individual/sibling photos
Friday 7 th November	Y4 Stuart Day
Saturday 8 th November	Southwater Firework night
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
Thursday 27 th November	SIA/SJA Open morning for children starting SIA/SJA in September 2015 10.30am 6pm Full Governing Body meeting
Saturday 6 th December	Christmas Fair