

Friday 8th September 2017

Dear parents and carers

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week and I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new EYFS children who had a super first day at school yesterday. As you can see, some of the children in Lilac 3 had a wonderful time this week creating their own playground crazes!



I would like to apologise for the email glitches this week. Ms May and the office team have been working very hard over the past few days to try to resolve these issues. I fully understand your frustration and I would appreciate your patience as we try to resolve these technical issues.

Thank you for helping us with the morning routine. I am pleased to say the school is secure and the children have settled into their day by 9.00am.

Wednesday 13th September the children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) will be visited by Stephen Alvarez, an award winning National Geographic photographer, filmmaker and explorer who produces global stories about exploration, adventure, culture and archeology. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to hear about a few of his explorations around the globe. Stephen is in Oxford to talk at the Saïd Business School so I would like to thank Ms Tay for thinking of us and arranging this visit.

School Council

This week the children have been busy voting in school council representatives and I am pleased to announce the following children will form our school council for this year.

Luke (Lilac 1), Paolo (Lilac 2), Yifeng (Lilac 3), Elliana (Lilac 4) Laszlo (Blue 1), Edward (Blue 2), Oscar (Blue 3), Lev (Blue 4), Nea (Pink1), Zoe (Pink 2), Henry (Pink 3), Bika (Pink 4), Harry (Green 1) and Helena (Green 2).

Lunchtimes

Lunchtime for the whole school is between 12.00 noon-1.00pm. While the children in EYFS adjust to school life, they are starting their lunch slightly earlier at 11.45am. Key Stage 1 children will go in the hall to eat their lunch first at 12.00 noon and then Key Sage 2 children will start to go into the hall to eat as soon as Key Stage 1 have finished. We have made these adjustments to lunch sittings so that all of the children have the time and space to enjoy eating their lunch and playtime. <http://www.ss-philip-and-james.oxon.sch.uk/at-the-school/the-school-day/routines.php>



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Shoes

The children in Year 1-Year 6 no longer need to have a separate pair of indoor and outdoor shoes. We ask that your child wears a sensible pair of shoes (no flip flops or crocs please), that can be worn all day both inside and outside.

We will always send the children out to play unless there is torrential rain so we ask, as the weather gets worse, that your child has a pair of wellies or shoes that are suitable for wet weather, which can either be kept in school or brought back and forth each day.

Holiday Play scheme

We have arranged for Ignite Sports to provide a holiday play scheme in school. The first one will take place on **Friday 29th September** (our school Inset day) for children aged 4-12 years. The costs are as follows: 8.30am-1.00pm £15; 8.30am-3.00pm £20; 8.30am-4.00pm £22; 8.30am-5.00pm £24.

If you haven't booked with Ignite before, please visit www.ignitesportuk.com and select *My Ignite* in the top left hand corner. Once logged into the parent area, please select *Add Child* from the red band of options.

You can book the play scheme (named Phil & Jim's September Multisport) through the booking page. Alternatively you can access through the link below. <http://ignitesportuk.com/booking-system/courses-by-activity.php?activity-id=99>

Ignite will also be running a play scheme over **October half term- 23rd-27th October**. The costs are as follows: 8.30am-1.00pm £15; 8.30am-3.00pm £20; 8.30am-4.00pm £22; 8.30am-5.00pm £24. If you would like to book for the October play scheme, this will go live on their website next week, however you can book sooner by ringing Pippa at Ignite 01869 220894.

Curriculum Evenings

We will be holding curriculum evenings in school on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th September. This will give you an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and find out what your child will be learning this year.

		Time	Location
Monday 18 th September	Early Years	7.30pm	Green 1
	Year 2	6.30pm	Pink 2
	Year 4	7.00pm	Blue 3
Tuesday 19 th September	Year 1	6.30pm	Pink 1
	Year 3	7.00pm	Blue 4
	Year 5	7.30pm	Lilac 4
	Year 6	7.30pm	Lilac 2

Assessment

As you may be aware, when the government introduced a revised National Curriculum in 2014, assessment was developed to reflect the higher expectations of the curriculum. From September 2015 National Curriculum levels were also removed for the purposes of statutory assessment. At this time schools were asked to develop their own systems of in school assessment. We would like



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to invite you to a meeting Thursday 5th October at 6.30pm to share why and how we assess your child and what that means for him or her.

PTA NEWS

We hope you had a good first week back to school and a solid start to what is already promising to be a great year at Phil & Jim!

Thank you to all the new families who came to the coffee morning on Thursday. It was wonderful to meet you and we hope your little ones had fabulous first days.

Communications

We will always strive to keep you well informed about all things PTA related in the school. There are several ways you can ensure this happens:

- Register to receive PTA emails (often weekly, on Thursdays) by following this [link](#).
- Create your account on [School Classlist](#) to make sure you don't miss any important notices and updates from your child's Class Representative. Our school is listed as "SS Philip & James' Primary"
- "Like" us on [Facebook](#).

How you can help!

Each classroom needs a PTA Class Representative (or two) to step forward to keep the class informed. While we have had several volunteers come forward, most classes still need a parent or carer to take on this role. It's fun to do with a friend! If you would like to step forward, please do email us to let us know by emailing us at: contact@philandjimspta.org

We are excited about the year to come and all that this amazing group of parents can do together to support this school we love!

Autumn Term 2017 & INSET	
INSET (school closed)	Monday 4 th September
INSET (school closed)	Friday 29 th September
Half Term	Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October
INSET (school closed)	Monday 30 th October
End of Autumn Term	Wednesday 19 th December <u>1.30pm</u>
<u>Start of Spring Term</u>	Thursday 4 th January 2018

Dates for your diary	
Meet the head	Monday 11 th September 6.30pm in the school hall



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EYFS, Year 2 & Year 4 Curriculum Evening	Monday 18 th September
PTA AGM	Monday 18 th September 8.00pm in the school hall
Year 1, Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 Curriculum Evening	Tuesday 19 th September
Book Fair in school	Tuesday 19 th – 22 nd September
Year 1 & 2 Family Assembly	Friday 22 nd September 9.00am in the school hall
Early Years vision screening	Wednesday 27 th September
Year 5 Residential – Youlbury	Wednesday 27 th – Thursday 28 th September
Year 2 trip-Woburn (details to follow)	Monday 2 nd October
Assessment information evening for Year 1- Year 6 parents	Thursday 5 th October 6.30pm in the school hall
Year 4 Family Assembly	Friday 13 th October 9.00am
Open Morning	Tuesday 17 th October
Parents Evening	Tuesday 31 st October 5.00pm-7.30pm in school hall
Parents Evening	Wednesday 1 st November 3.30pm-5.30pm in school hall
Individual pupils photographs	Thursday 2 nd November
Vaccinations – EYFS, Year 1,2,3,4 (details to follow)	Wednesday 8 th November
Anti-Bullying Week	Monday 13 th November – Friday 17 th November
Year 5 & 6 Anti Bullying Week Assembly for Parents	Friday 17 th November 9.00am in school hall
South Africa Day (details to follow)	Friday 1 st December from 2pm
Whole School visit to Oxford Playhouse -Panto (details to follow)	Monday 4 th December
Christingle service in church for children	Tuesday 5 th December
KS2 carol service in church (details to follow)	Thursday 14 th December St Margaret's Church 6.30pm

Yours sincerely

Sarah Awuye
Headteacher



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Community news

Please find information that might be of interest to members of the school community.

NEW NETBALL PLAYERS NEEDED FOR LOCAL WOMEN'S CLUB

A local friendly Netball Club, Summertown Netball Club, is looking for new players this Autumn. We are creating a new team for 'return to netball' women that will play matches on Thursday nights in the Oxfordshire Netball League from mid-September. Maybe you haven't played for years and would like another go, or you do other sports and are keen to try out netball? We will train you up in the rules of the game so don't worry if you haven't played for years. You just need to be reasonably fit! We train every other Tuesday night in Oxford and you can come for a no-commitment try out. If you are interested contact Jessica Evans (mum of Natalya in Year 6) on Jessica12uk@yahoo.co.uk.