



Dear Parents,

Headteacher's welcome

Being the start of the academic year, I'd like to welcome all our existing families back and extend a warm welcome to all the new parents and children who have joined our school this term.

I will thank you in advance for the support I know you will give all members of our school community in the year ahead. I know how vital working in partnership with parents is, in order for children to find school a positive and rewarding experience. I strongly believe that school is the opportunity for children to discover and unlock gifts and talents in a fun and nurturing environment. I look forward to watching your children grow in confidence, knowledge and spirituality during their time at St John Fisher.

It was so lovely seeing all of our wonderful children coming back to school. They were so happy to be back to see their friends, to learn, to play. We should now all be back from our newest cohort – Welcome Reception 2022-23 – to our oldest children in Year 6.

Thank you to all parents as well for your positivity and understanding.

All newsletters, school and class information can be found on our school website

www.stjohnfisher-wigston.leics.sch.uk.

Some FAQ at the start of the year

On PE days, do children come dressed in PE kit?

Yes. This was a measure that had a lot of support within in the school community. Your child should come in full PE kit. There is no need for a PE bag and it reduces the use of changing rooms and extra clothing been brought into school.

When is my child's PE day?

This term

Please find below information regarding PE days from Tuesday 30th August until Friday 14th October Advent 1.

Reception - Wednesday and Friday

Year 1 - Monday and Wednesday

Year 2 - Wednesday and Thursday

Year 3 - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 4 - Monday and Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday and Swimming (Friday)

Year 6 - Thursday and Swimming (Friday)

Swimming will commence for Years 5 and 6 Friday 9th September for the first half term. Year 3 and 4 will be swimming in the second half term. Further information will be sent out regarding swimming this week.



Where do my children line up in the morning?

Preferably we would like our oldest children (year 4,5,6) to line by the fence in the front of school where the trees are located and our youngest children to line up on the longer side of the front fence in front of the Key Stage 1 playground.

How do I collect my child in the afternoon?

Reception: Go onto the playground and line up going into the Reception outdoor area.

Year 1 & 2: Queue outside both classroom doors staying as near to the walls as possible.

Year 3,4,5 and 6: If you could stay outside the school fence, and we will usher children to you once we get the signal from child or collector. If you are on the playground already, we will direct your child over to you.

Afterschool club: Ring the office doorbell and an afterschool supervisor will bring your child to you. On sunny days, the children may be playing outside in the front playground.

When will I bring my child to school?

DROP OFF TIMES:

YEAR 1 – 6:

8.30 A.M – 8.40 A.M.

RECEPTION:

8.40 A.M. Siblings can accompany their reception siblings to class from 8.30 a.m. on. Parents can bring their children into class at 8.40 a.m.

Please do not arrive earlier or later than these time slots as it increases traffic (human and vehicle) at a busy time of the day e.g. a year 1/2 pupil should arrive outside school before 8.40 a.m., not in the queue at 8.30 a.m.

Collection Times

1st September – All Reception class 3 p.m.

Year 1 to Year 6 to finish at 3.05 p.m.

New staff at SJF

There have been some changes to the staffing team. Congratulations to Miss Baraclough who has been appointed to a new role of Assistant Headteacher.

We are delighted to welcome the following members of staff to our amazing team at St John Fisher this year:

Mrs Maksimovic- Administration assistant



Teacher: Mrs Hunt

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Pegg

Admissions applications for Autumn Term 2023

Children are admitted to the school in September of the year in which they have their fifth birthday. If there is anyone who wishes to apply for a place for September 2020 (d.o.b. 01.09.2018 – 31.08.2019) please obtain an 'Expression of Interest' form from the School Office. There is also a requirement to fill in an LA form before January 15th 2023. This form can be found at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions.

Breakfast Club & Afterschool Club

There is a Breakfast Club which starts at 7.45am. There is a booking form for this which was sent out last week and can be found on our school website.

For Afterschool club, there is a booking form that was sent out recently.

For both of these clubs, booking and payment must be made in advance otherwise your child's place cannot be guaranteed in the clubs.

Polite Reminder - Debts

A polite reminder to all parents that any outstanding debts for Breakfast Club, Afterschool club and school dinners must be paid before the end of the year. Parent accounts should be in credit before places are booked for Breakfast Club, After School Club or orders are placed for school dinners next half term.

Clubs and afterschool activities

Breakfast club, afterschool club, and football club (Yr5/6) already recommenced this term. We are looking at the previous clubs we have done in the past and will keep you updated when these will return this term.

Parents' evening – short survey

We are currently organising parents' evening for this term. We would like your input. Please fill out the short questionnaire by [clicking here](#) . The survey will close on Monday 5th September 2023.

Babies and Tots

Babies and Tots returns again on September 14th. Thank you to Mrs King for leading this important part of the school community.

Uniform

[M&S St John Fisher page.](#)

I am aware that there have been some supply issues this summer regarding uniform availability and delivery times and will be making contact with M&S uniform concerning this.

Whole class reading books

This term, KS2 will be reading the following books as part of whole class reading.

Year 3: The Fox and the Ghost King

Year 4: The Iron Man

Year 5: Holes



Year 6: Boy in the Tower

If you have any copies of these or would like to buy a copy for your child, that would be useful to have to the half-sets we have in school.

Summer reading challenge

The gadgeteer challenge runs until September 10th so there is still time for your child to loan 6 books from the library to achieve their certificate. Thank you to those who have already brought theirs in.

Children can join in the fun by reading or listening to six library books, eBooks or eAudiobooks throughout the summer to collect six special stickers - including some smelly ones - for their colourful collector's poster. Participants will also be rewarded with special incentives as they read their books including a certificate and medal when they complete the challenge.

Any child who receives a certificate should bring this in with them on their return in August and this will be counted on their merit certificate chart.

Counselling

When children are worried or unhappy they are less able to function well in all areas of their lives. This can impact on their learning, their relationships and on how they feel about themselves. Counselling offers children a safe space to express and think about things which are troubling them. The counsellor facilitates this, through a range of creative play, talking and listening; thinking with the child about how they make sense of and manage their difficulties and how they might do it differently. We provide a counselling service and emotional literacy support service based in school. It offers one to one therapeutic counselling for pupils, consultation and support to parents and support in enhancing the pastoral systems across the school. Request a telephone appointment with Mrs Johnson, by contacting the school office if you think this is something your child may require.

Operation Encompass

Please see attached letter regarding how Operation Encompass works in school.

School dinners

Please note that school dinners are priced at £2.40 per day and must be paid in advance.

Also find included the school menu till the end of the half term, it may be worth looking at this with your child in advance so they have a clear idea of what is on offer and what they can look forward to eat the next day e.g. either the meat or vegetarian option.

Children with Asthma

If your child requires an inhaler at school please ensure that it is labelled with his/her name. An asthma record will be sent out shortly. We are noticing some inhalers are out of date so it is important to make sure they are in date and working.

Water bottles and break time snacks

Water bottles, filled with **water** only, may be brought to school to use during the day. A piece of fruit is provided for every child in Reception, Year 1 and 2. Two tea biscuits or digestives can be brought for a snack at break time. (No crisps or sweets).

Parking

Please park with due care and attention for all of our children and our neighbours. The Governors are concerned about parents parking across driveways and on the corner of Winslow Drive and will be monitoring this very closely. Please do not walk through the Staff car park before or after school. Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you to the PTFA for organising our wonderful banners across the front of the school with your children's great advice and warnings.

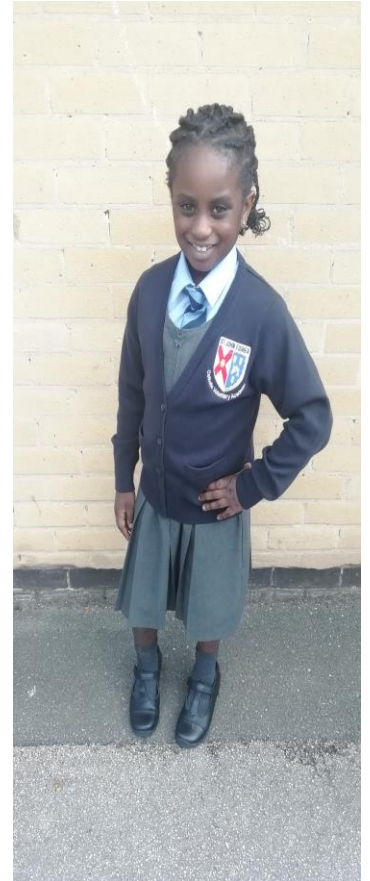
**School Uniform**

Thank you to everyone for the excellent turn out of all of our children – they all look ready to learn and enjoy the new term. The school colours are blue and grey - shirts/blouses – light blue, jumpers/cardigans – navy blue, trousers – grey, skirts/tunics – grey, school tie, shoes – black, and for PE children require a white t-shirt and black/navy shorts. Children can wear tracksuit bottoms and a navy top over their t-shirt e.g. their school jumper. Hair- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either blue or black.

School uniform (the crested cardigans and jumpers) is available from Marks and Spencer. Click here for [more details](#). Some book bags and elasticated/clip ties are available from our School Office. Children should be wearing black or dark coloured shoes (not boots or trainers).

Please ensure your child's uniform is clearly labelled with his/her name.

Check after washing too as we notice sometimes the name fades away. Many thanks.



I wish you every blessing for the new academic year.

God bless,



Mr Gallagher



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sept 9 th	School swimming resumes Year 5/6
Sept 10 th	Prestwold Cross country races
Sept 14 th	Babies and Tots resumes
Sept 15 th	9.30 a.m. Beginning of the School Year Mass