



'With the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.' 2 Peter 3 verse 8

Dear Parents,

Another academic year has well and truly begun. As I write, our pupils are engaged in a varied and creative array of activity from Maths problem solving, creative writing, sport to music and are already preparing for the Harvest Festival. I hope that all members of the St Hilda's community were able to relax, recharge and take stock over the summer break, blessed largely with sun and warmth. It seems quite some time since the whole School last met together in July on the field to watch Form VI release their balloons into the sky, and then to wish them farewell and every success for the future. We hope that they are now settling well into new schools. It is at the change of year especially that we are reminded of the passage of time and how short life seems sometimes.



We are delighted to welcome all the new pupils and their families to St Hilda's and trust that you will all feel welcome and a part of our close community. Some families have come from far afield and we hope that the new culture, country, home as well as school will soon feel quite normal. We also give a very warm welcome to the new staff who are quickly becoming a part of the new team and we hope will be very happy.

As always, the start of an academic year is a time to acclimatise to new routines and I am sure that the children are very tired after their first full week. I know how hard it is for the girls to remember everything but once routines are embedded they will become second nature. The girls look very smart in their uniform and, as always, we request that everything is named and that coats, blazers and other hanging items have strong loops. So far hair accessories all look fine, these should be red or navy. Please can expensive watches and Fitbits be left at home as this can be difficult if items are not carefully looked after.

eSafety

At the start of the school year, it is always timely to remind ourselves, as educators and parents, that we have a duty of care and responsibility to ensure that any girls who have a mobile phone or have regular access to the internet are careful and protected. The subject of whether your child should have a phone at primary school always sparks a great debate and I know that parents differ widely on this. Some girls towards and at the top of the School do have a device and it is essential that you ensure that there are correct and sufficient filters, and that you regularly track your child's usage. Social media is, as we know a great way to communicate but used carelessly or without due regard, whether in accepting 'friends' or writing unnecessary or hurtful comments, needless and lasting damage can be caused. Mobile devices should not be brought into School.

Outdoor Learning

I was pleased to teach Form VI their first Outdoor Learning lesson on Monday and delighted that St Hilda's pupils are now experiencing this exciting and explorative opportunity. We are so grateful to the FOSH committee for their generous support of this new venture.



Breakfast Club

As sent yesterday, please may I remind parents that new arrangements for Breakfast Club come into effect on Monday.

Email communication

A reminder that all communication for your child regarding their progress should be made via the Form Teacher, who will then forward on information to other teaching staff as necessary. Staff will endeavour to reply within 24 hours and within regular school hours. If you have important matters to discuss, it is often easier to pop in for a short meeting or a phone call which is often more appropriate and beneficial than email.



School Photographs

Next Friday, 21st September, is the day for individual and class photographs. Please ensure that your daughter is especially smart in full winter uniform and has tidy, clean hair and shoes.

A date for your diary – FOSH Ball

The FOSH team would like to remind everyone, and especially our new parents, of the Summer Ball which is already booked for Saturday, 8th June 2019 in the Conservatory at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden.

Art request from Mrs Rigby

If you read broadsheet newspapers please could you consider donating them once you have read them. We could really do with some in Art. I would also be happy to receive any old cotton sheets (fitted or flat). Many thanks for your support.

Harvest Festival

Arrangements for the Harvest Festival are now confirmed and a letter has been sent out today explaining this and our charities. Please do encourage your daughter to do jobs around the home (I trust this happens as a matter of course!) which may enable her to collect some change for her brown envelope. I look forward to seeing many of you at our service on Friday, 28th September at the High Street Methodist Church.

With best wishes
Mr Sayers
Headmaster

Starlight Kids Musical Theatre



Fun classes for
boys and girls
aged 4 - 12.
Back from Sept
10th (Mon)
or 14th (Fri)

Acting, singing and dancing combine
in these vibrant workshops based on
favourite West End songs, with
West End lead actress Helen Morfitt!

Mon - Batford Memorial Hall

Fri - Batford Methodist Church

4.30 - 5pm age 4 - 5


5 - 6pm age 6 - 8

6 - 7pm age 9 - 12

Email helenmorfitt@hotmail.co.uk to book

and for info on drop in Zumba classes -

Wed - Zumba Kids, Thurs - adults



Harpenden Junior Netball Club

Autumn 2018

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or call 07932 246309

THE PEOPLESWALK FOR WILDLIFE

SAVE THE DATE

On 22nd September join Chris Packham for the first People's Walk for Wildlife in central London.

- Bring beautiful banner art – not rude slogans!
- Make a portable papier mache wildlife friend.
- Dress up as your favourite plant or animal.
- Download birdsong from our web page to play on the day.
- Or just come along.

Assembly location coming soon:
chrispackham.co.uk/the-peoples-walk-for-wildlife



YOUR WILDLIFE NEEDS
YOU

DICTIONARY OF WILDLIFE WONDERS AND SPELLS

The Dictionary of Wildlife Wonders and Spells will be a collection of awe inspiring words and writing to capture the wonder of wildlife. Submit any of the following to be included.

1. A brand new, made up word describing:
A feeling you have when you encounter wildlife
A creature or plant you love the most
Your hopes and fears for our disappearing wildlife
2. A spell to conjure nature into our lives and landscapes forever.

3. A couplet (two lined poem) about what you love about wildlife.

Send your words, spells and couplets to
wildlifewonders@chrispackham.co.uk.

The most awesome will be read on 22nd September by Robert MacFarlane and Chris Packham.

See you there!

SEPTEMBER 22nd LONDON



For more information please visit chrispackham.co.uk   @ChrisGPackham