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| SBS Logo.bmp | **St Bridget’s C of E Primary School**  St Bridget’s Lane,  West Kirby,  Wirral CH48 3JT  Tel: 0151 625 7652  Headteacher: Mr Neil Le Feuvre  Email: [schooloffice@stbridgets.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@stbridgets.wirral.sch.uk)  Website: <https://st-bridgets.eschools.co.uk/site>  **T**ogether **E**verybody **A**chieves **M**ore |

**31-1-16**

Dear Parents,

January has been a busy month with some new clubs starting such as fencing, Minecraft and cross country. We have also enjoyed a whole week of multi-cultural education in which the children enjoyed tasting food and decorating their shoes to represent life journeys. In order for the children to appreciate the incredible efforts that they had all gone too (and parents too I think) we held a special assembly to show all of the 426 shoes they had decorated. Actually the number of shoes was slightly more as many of the teachers had also decorated a shoe themselves. The stories and conversation that the project created were amazing. This term our theme for assemblies is ‘Hope’.

**Reports this year and the addressing the National Curriculum**

This year we are changing our reporting arrangements again! This is to keep up with the pace of change provided by the government as well as to reflect the new curriculum. Previously we found sending out reports at Easter to be a useful so that parents and teachers could reflect on the achievements of the children half way through the year. As well as this some of our children might also have been accessing the curriculum for higher age/years groups. It is now clear that this is not allowed when using the new curriculum. Indeed the additional demands of the new curriculum have been raised and are challenging. Therefore, it is only when we are near the end of the year, will the teachers be able to confidently write about your child’s progress in terms of coverage of the curriculum as well as comment on their level of mastery in the different aspects. In the interim we will be having parents meetings to update on your child’s progress on the following days:

* **Tuesday 29th March (3.30pm-8pm)**
* **Thursday 31st March (3.30- 5.30pm)**

The usual sign up information will be sent out two weeks before this date.

**E-safety at school and home**

Having spoken to many children after Christmas and countless other conversations with parents I would ask that you carefully consider aspects of e-safety if your children have new devices that access the internet. Additional advice and links can be found on our website under the curriculum tab. One of the greatest challenges for parents is ensuring that children access suitable content. In school we have a number of filters and programmes which help with this. In addition we regularly teach e-safety and reference it where necessary. A vital skill for all children is that they learn to ask for help as well. It is not always as easy at home and if you have an older child with access to 4G networks. The sensible advice seems to be:

* Ensure that your child uses the internet in a public area
* That you take an interest in the apps they use and ask them to explain them to you, if necessary.
* Help them review their contacts to ensure they know everyone they have links too.
* Reassure them that if they have messages that they do not like or worry them that it is okay to share them with you.

**Mathletics**

Each week we award certificates for the use of Mathletics in merit assembly. Sometimes children have homework to complete on the programme and other weeks they can access the programme more freely. Recent independent research supports the use of the programme reporting that as little as 20 minutes can support children’s progress. Currently many of the children access this programme at school and a high proportion do so at home as well. If you do access Mathletics at home keep going because research says it makes a difference and if you have not been able to yet please encourage your child to have a go. Please contact school if there are any technical problems.

**Sport Blog Award**

Congratulations to the sport blogging team, made up of year 6 pupils, who have won a prize for their 'Why Competition?' as part of the Autumn Term of the Reward and Recognition Scheme in the 2015/16 academic year.

**Staff News**

I am delighted to announce that two members of our staff are pregnant. Both Miss Cotterell and Mrs Carver are expecting babies in the summer. Shortly I will be advertising their positions to cover their maternity leave and in the meantime I wish them the very best of health. I would also like to ask you to keep us informed in case your child has any infections such as Slapped Cheek or Chicken Pox that may be harmful to expectant mothers.

**Parent Views**

We take into account your views on a number of different matters from parking to picking up your children at the beginning and end of the day. Sometimes we do this formally through questionnaires and sometimes it is more informal passed on to a teacher in the playground. With this in mind I would also like to arrange a Parent Partnership Meeting. The next meeting will held on Wednesday 24th February at 2.45pm. Contact the school office if you are interested in attending this meeting. We have room for 10 parents. The topic to review will be behaviour and PSHE.

**Polite reminders**

**Uniform**

Please could you ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform. Increasingly we are seeing children wearing trainers and alternatives to the school jumpers. Whilst we understand that sometimes this is needed as a stop gap measure, several children have been wearing ‘alternatives’ for a few weeks. A comprehensive list of school uniform can be found in the Prospectus on the school website.

**New Contact information**

Please let the school office know if you have any new contact information so that we are able to keep our records up to date.

Yours sincerely,

