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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 |

**Friday 5th September**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of the new school year. I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and experienced some good weather at some point. In our first school assembly of the new school year it was lovely to see all the children looking proud in their new school uniform and full of energy. Over the next few weeks we will welcome all of the new reception children. I am pleased to say that many of them are being very brave and are quickly adjusting to life in St. Bridget’s. We have also had a number of children start across the other year groups. I have checked on all of them this week and they have settled well and have received a warm welcome.

This term in our assemblies we are exploring the themes of Peace and Hope. We will help the children explore:

* the ideas of peace and justice both locally and nationally
* how they can resolve their disagreements in a constructive way
* how to appreciate quietness and opportunities for reflection

This work will support the children’s understanding of the centenary of the First World War.

At the start of each school year you may have a question or a concern about school. To help with this each morning the junior playground and the door for the infants are staffed as well as the school office. You can leave messages with these staff and they will pass on the information. At the end of each day all staff are available to answer any quick queries you may have. If there is a concern that needs more time and privacy please arrange an appointment with the class teacher.

**New Staff**

This term we welcome Mrs Carver who is teaching in Year 6 and Mr Marriot who is working in Year 3. Mr Marriot becomes a full time member of staff replacing Mrs McCarthy who gained a promotion late in the summer to work at St. Georges Primary, Wallasey. Mrs McCarthy is an excellent teacher who has developed our school music and helped us gain our Rights Respecting Award. We wish her every success in her new school.

**Data Sheets**

Next week the data sheets are being sent out from the school office. Please check these as it is critical that we have the most up to date information for your child. Previously, on some occasions we have tried to contact parents and the mobile number has changed or the email address has changed. Please check all the information carefully and then sign and return this as soon as possible to the school office.

**Our School Website Upgrade!**

Over the last year our school website has been essential for keeping parents up to date with activities in school, communicating homework and sending email. Due to an upgrade it is not working as we expect it to. I have been assured that this will be corrected shortly. In the interim we will send out information/letters with the children.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Le Feuvre

chools have been asked to bring to parents’ attention the need for families who qualify, to apply for F.S.M. so that the Pupil Premium can be allocated to schools where appropriate. It would seem that some schools are offering incentives to families to complete the applications (Tesco Vouchers / uniform etc) and further incentives if the application is successful.

On the face of it schools are working hard to persuade parents to apply but there is a problem.

**The applications should come only from parents who fulfil the criteria published. The volume of applications from families who will not qualify is swamping the small department who process the applications. This is taking up so much time that applications for other benefits are being held up.**

**Please encourage parents to apply so that the school doesn’t lose out but emphasise to parents not to apply on the chance of success if they do not fulfil the criteria for benefits**

1.       the website link for checking the eligibility criteria is  [www.wirral.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

2.       Applications from anyone who qualified last academic year and haven’t had a change in their circumstances are not needed **unless** they want to add another child to the original application