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"LIVE, LEARN, LOVE WITH CHRIST"

6 September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, can I say welcome back to our returning pupils and parents and a big hello and welcome to our new pupils and their families. I hope that this will once again prove to be a successful year for everyone.

I would also like to welcome Miss Vincent to St Patrick's School. She will be our new Reception Class teacher and I know you will all make her feel at home. We also welcome Mr Simpson as a student teacher in Class Wharfe. He will be working alongside Mrs Mitchell during this academic year.

We have also engaged the services of ProjectSport, a company who provide a wide range of sporting activities for pupils of all ages. They will be facilitating lunchtime provision with a range of structured activities, as well as providing the specialist sports teaching in the afternoons for both key stages and a new range of activities in our After School Club. This term we have introduced Archery and Boxercise as new sports for our pupils to try out. Please contact our school office about availability for these clubs as some are already proving really popular.

Monday 11th September sees our new initiative "Wake Up, Shake Up" starting. It is held at school on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8.30 am on the playground (weather permitting). Parents should accompany children and we encourage you to join in too!

The last Friday of every month is usually a "dress down" day where we encourage children to dress in clothes of a particular theme / colour. We ask for £1 donation for this per child to support our yearly diocese contribution. The School Council agree the themes in advance and they are published on our website in advance.

Our PTA continues to work extremely hard to support our school and to raise much needed funds to purchase resources to improve the school environment and provision for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6. Can I please ask that you all consider becoming involved with our PTA. We need new members to help us run these events as some of our longstanding members have now stood down as their children are no longer at St Patrick's. I can't emphasize enough that the PTA provides essential resources for all our pupils due to increasingly tighter budgets for schools. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

All information about events happening in school and in individual classes is uploaded to our school website. There are general areas for information about school events but also individual class pages, which can be accessed from the teacher link on the home page. Can I also remind our new parents that we have the use of "OurSchoolsApp" which can be downloaded free to your mobile phone. Details of how to download the app can be found on the front page of our website. Details of all events in school and any changes to information can be sent directly by text alert to your phone to keep you up to date on a daily and weekly basis. If you have any problems downloading the app, please contact the school office.

Finally, as you know, we now have a totally cashless system in the school office. In the light of this, could we please ask all parents, as we already do with Nursery and Pats' People fees, to collect school account details from the office to facilitate payments for dinner money online or via standing order. If you have any queries, please contact either Mrs Anderson or Mrs West in the office.

May I take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your continued support and hope to celebrate another successful year here at St Patrick's and if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Mrs L Brown Headteacher