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NEWS/GH
24th September 2022

Every Child A Champion In Their Own Right Matthew 5.16 – ‘Let Your Light Shine’

Hi Parents...

Please see the smiling kiddies tucking in to their hot meals- many trying hot dinners for the first time (photos below at the end of this email):

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PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN THE LEARNING PROCESS:

A SUMMARY OF THE CHALLENGE AHEAD:-

Preparation for forthcoming Parent Consultations:-

As you know, your role in supporting your child is enormous in developing their basic skills. It is a sad fact that in any school there are some children - even in the older age groups who struggle with the alphabet, simple number work, being able to read properly etc. Our aim to support and help kiddies and parents in the learning process is as relentless as ever here at St Andrew's - especially after the disruptions of the Pandemic.

Next week ...arrangements are well underway for Parent Consultations.

In these, we are really evaluating where our pupils are at regarding knowing basic letter sounds and basic number work (especially times tables) at the beginning of this new school year.

Some simple questions for parents to try on their children :- DO NOT DESPAIR IF YOUR CHILD STRUGGLES WITH THE ANSWERS - BUT PLEASE USE THE RESPONSE AS AN INDICATOR AS TO HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT STAFF AND PARENTS WORK SO WELL TOGETHER IN HELPING YOUR CHILD....EVERY CHILD.

1.Can he/ she recite the alphabet? (not just sing it, but actually say it and write each letter properly? - for example, not back to front!!)

2.Can he/ she recognise every letter - lower case + upper case. For example a and A, b and B etc.

3.Can he/ she give the proper phonetic sound for each letter (see the video links sent out in last weekend's newsletter)

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4. Try asking your kiddie some basic number questions based on the information below:-

MATHS...the National guidelines clearly emphasise that children should know their times tables. These guidelines show that:- in Y2 they should be confident in their 2,5,10 times tables and starting to understand their 3's times table....this means a lot of preparation work through Reception and Y1.(being confident in counting in 2's,5's,10's etc + eventually, simple times tables questions in Y1)

In Y3 ALL children should know their 2,3,4,5,8,10 times tables

The work carried out in the Younger age groups is crucial in giving kiddies a solid grounding in their number work. This is the National Curriculum.

In Y4 ALL PUPILS NEED TO KNOW ALL TABLES :- 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 times tables.

Y5 and Y6 can then delve deeper into more challenge involving division, fractions ,area, perimeter etc - all needing a thorough knowledge of times tables. Every child must know their times tables before they enter Y5 in order to tackle their SATs preparation work (which starts in Y5). Why not ask your child daily times tables questions?

Of course, there is also the National Testing - Y1 phonics - all children need to know their letter sounds. All questions devised by the National Authorities.

- Y2 SATs - questions devised by the

government to test children's understanding of phonics, reading, times tables, problem solving, maths vocabulary etc

- Y4 National Times Tables test...children have only approx 5 seconds to answer questions from ALL the Times Tables. Again, all questions devised by National Authorities.

- Y6 National SATs- all basic skills areas covered + grammar + writing standards + deeper maths questions.
EACH YEAR GROUP HAS A CRUCIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN DEVELOPING THE NECESSARY SKILLS WITH ALL PUPILS.

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DINNER TIME AT ST ANDREW'S ...some of our very youngest children tucking in...yummy, yummy!

