



## Message from Mrs Stevenson

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2022 - 2023 academic year! What a pleasure it has been to welcome all of the children back into school and hear about their summer holidays, and all of the things they are looking forward to over this coming year.

We welcome four new teachers to our wonderful staff; Miss Mulgrew (Year 1), Miss Winson (Year 2), Mr Bennett (Year 3) and Miss Ward (Year 5). They have already settled in very well to St John's and have been enjoying getting to know their new classes with lots of fun activities.

Mrs Henderson and I are planning lots of exciting things for our school this year, with the first one being the launch of the Mini and Junior Duke awards. These awards were founded in 2007 and were inspired by the Duke of Edinburgh Awards that young people can begin in secondary school. Mini Duke is for Years 1 and 2, and Junior Duke is for Years 3 - 6. Please see the flyer for more information and there is also a detailed video if you'd like to learn more about the history of these awards.

<https://vimeo.com/user121403138> The deadline for ordering is Thursday 15th September so please look out for the letter which is coming home on Monday.

It has been wonderful to see children celebrating their birthdays by coming to school in their own clothes so this is a reminder that they are allowed to do that if they wish to.

We have minimised the newsletter this week as a mark of respect for Queen Elizabeth II. We spent time on Friday morning celebrating her life and reign and we thought about her leadership and service. The children were all very thoughtful and reflected on the celebrations they had last year for her Platinum Jubilee.

I will end for now with a prayer that we said together on our first INSET day:

### Prayer for a new school year

Loving God, let me be strong today  
as I meet new people in new places.  
Make me brave when I am worried,  
show me how to learn from everyone around me,  
and help me to do my very best.  
Amen.

### Meet the teachers

On Tuesday 13th September, all teachers will be available in classrooms if you wish to drop in for an informal chat. Their doors will be open as soon as all children are dismissed until 4.15pm.

Mrs Stevenson

Headteacher

[laura.stevenson@stjohns.covmat.org](mailto:laura.stevenson@stjohns.covmat.org)

### Feedback from families



We welcome your feedback and ideas for St John's. This QR code links directly to Mrs Stevenson so if you have an idea to make our school even better, please share it via the QR code. You can also see staff daily on the gates, pop into the office or email us. We love hearing from you and thank you for the ideas shared so far.

### Safeguarding Reminder

At St John's C of E Academy, we have a Safeguarding Team who work to keep children safe both in and out of school. Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Henderson are the school's safeguarding team so please contact them if you are worried about the safety of a child at St John's.

