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**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As we bring the academic year to a close I would like to congratulate all our children for their efforts and subsequent achievements this year. It has been another very fruitful and successful year at St Stephen's. In particular, I would like to pay tribute to our year 6 leavers who have done so well, not just in their end of year SATs, but in all they have accomplished at St Stephen's, and are fully ready for the new challenges of life in secondary school. On behalf of the staff and governors, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support and commitment to our school. Have a lovely summer break as we look forward to doing it all again starting in September.

#### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 has been 92.07% this week. Our attendance for the full year is 94.5% which is well below national average figures and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education. This is an area we must improve in the next academic year and we will be sharing more information in the new year about the actions and support we will be implementing.

#### **Uniform**

In readiness for September, can I ask that you take note of our uniform policy which you can see on our website. Recently, we have seen many pupils coming to school inappropriately dressed and wearing jewellery. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

#### **KS2 Residential Programme**

We are pleased to share with you details of residential visits planned for the 2024/2025 academic year. Further details will be sent to the relevant classes today and more information will follow in the new academic year.

Year 3 – The Sill, December 2024

Year 4 – Newby Wiske Hall, May 2025

Year 5 and Year 6 – High Borrans, June 2025

#### **School Meal Price**

The price of a school meal for pupils will be increasing from £2.30 to £2.40 in the new academic year. The new price will be reflected in Appetite from September.

#### **Spread the Word Magazine**

We have lots of exciting news to share with you in our termly school magazine, 'Spread the Word'. Unfortunately, the magazine isn't going to be ready for the end of term but will be uploaded to our school website over the summer holidays and paper copies available in September. We hope you enjoy reading!

#### **INSET Day**

Please be reminded that school will be closed on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** for INSET day. Pupils will return on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**.

#### **Data Collection Update**

In preparation for the new academic year, parents should access their SIMS Parent App and confirm the details and consent preferences in place for their child are up to date, if not already done recently. If you experience any issues, please contact the school office. Parents of Year 4 children can use this to update consent preferences for walking home in Year 5.