



St John's School Newsletter

23rd May 2025

Values of this half term

Dignity and Respect

'Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.'

Matthew 7:12



TT Rockstars Day



The children (and staff) rocked their way through TimesTables RockStars day on Tuesday.

The aim of the day was to promote enjoyment of maths, especially times tables. Throughout the day the children took part in a variety of mathematical activities including TT RockStar battles and mathematical challenges. We even squeezed in a Rock Stars catwalk which was quite a sight to behold!

Thank you to parents for their support in this event. For more information on TT RockStars please visit:

<https://ttrackstars.com>

Beacon Pupils

Robins - Ava has shown great focus on our challenges recently. She wrote a piece describing an animal using all of her writing skills including careful spaces, phonics and tricky words. She has wonderful, creative ideas and loves to role play with her friends. Her doubling work on TTRS day was speedy and accurate. Well done Ava!

Starlings - Hargun for her kind and caring attitude towards others. She is a great learning partner and often helps others when they need it. This week Hargun has shown good knowledge in her English, writing clear and concise instructions. She was very involved in our TT rock star day showing super knowledge of her times tables and sharing this knowledge with others. Hargun has a great attitude to her learning and always takes on board the new information especially when it has come to our History topic about Welwyn Garden city and she was able to recall facts. She is a delight to have in the classroom showing a kind, polite attitude.

Kingfisher - Jack has shown real confidence and determination in his learning, working alongside talk partners in maths to tackle multi-layered reasoning problems, and using his excellent creativity to write a missing chapter for our current topic book. Jack represented our school fantastically at the golf competition this week, and continues to be a positive, kind and caring member of our class and school.

Sandpiper - Bernadette is a valued member of our class and school community, and it is wonderful to hear from different grown-ups how helpful and kind she is, including in dance club where she offered great suggestions and was really encouraging of others. In collective worship, Bernadette always shares thoughtful and reflective ideas. Bernadette is conscientious and hard-working, and cares deeply about her learning. She is always reliable and trustworthy, it has been lovely to see her blossom this year and laying great foundations to soon move into Year 6!


"I came that they may have life, life in all its fullness."

John 10:10


Top Tips and Word of the Week

Talking is important. It is closely linked to reading, writing and learning. Did you know that research shows that spoken language abilities at 5 years of age predict their reading at 15? By playing simple speaking and listening games you may not think you are developing reading and writing, but you are. Get talking!

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
captive 	Not being able to get away.	How does the word captive make you feel? Why?

This week's word for older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
beserk 	Crazy and out of control.	Slip beserk into a conversation with a classmate or family member and see if they notice.

This weeks sporting events

This week the children have taken part in athletics and golfing events. A group of 10 Year 4 children took part in the Tri-Golf competition at Brocket Hall.

The team did themselves and the school proud. We appreciate being able to take part in events like these on such a lovely golf course.

Sports Day - **CHANGE of DATE**

We have had to reschedule our date for Sports Day later this term. It will now be on the afternoon of Friday 27th June (this had previously been our reserve date.) The new reserve date will be Friday 4th July.

Governors' Award Day 2025

The school year is flying by and the Governors' Awards Day event will soon be here. We are very grateful to the governors for planning and leading this fun annual event which celebrates the achievement of those children who have attained 5 (check the number of) merit certificates. Please note that the final date this year for being able to hand in 5 merits certificates in order to receive a governors' award this term is **Friday 27th June.** After that date any merit certificates achieved will count towards the next year's governors' award day.

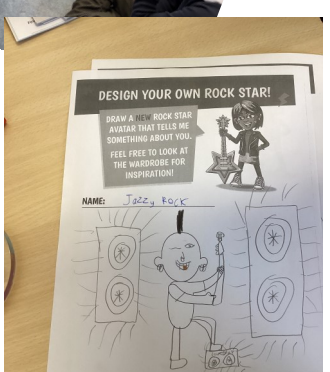
Goodbye Sabrina

The children said a very sad goodbye to our amazing Cook Manager, Miss Sandiford, who is not returning to St John's after half term, having left Herts Catering for new opportunities.

School Kitchen

We have resolved the issue with the water heater in the kitchen and are delighted to say that from Tuesday 3rd June our school dinners will be cooked in our school kitchen.

More from Rock Star Day...



Attendance

As you know good attendance at school is vitally important for children's' development - social, emotional as well as academic. Good attendance is viewed nationally as being 95% or above.

We appreciate that this is the time of year when there are all kinds of illnesses going around but at present we have many children whose attendance is considerably lower than 95%

Our aim is to work with families to support them to ensure good regular attendance for their children. The following link is a blog on the subject of attendance produced by the DfE.

[DfE external document template](#)

Building work at St John's

To support us with vital projects we would like parents to consider making donations to our Governors' Fund. We held parent consultations about this last summer term and would now like to proceed with it, with the support of parents.

Here is a link to the school website which also explains the reasons and process further.

[governor-fund.pdf](#)

Many thanks for your support with this, once you have read the information, please to contact us if you have any queries. We are delighted to say that our bid to update the children's toilet areas has been successful.

Sickness Reporting

A reminder to please ensure you ring the office each day your child is absent by **9.10am**

You can find our Attendance Policy on our website.

Breaktime snack

A reminder that breaktime snacks should only be a piece of fruit/vegetable or plain biscuit. Chocolate or crisps are no allowed.

Payments / Balances

Trips/Events/Workshops/Swimming/ Meals & Milk

Please check your account(s) and clear any unpaid invoice.

If you have difficulty making payment, and have not already contacted Mrs Boylan, please do so.

Nut Free School

Children are still bringing nuts into school. As we are a nut free environment, packed lunches and snacks must not contain nuts. Pesto is often overlooked but not allowed.

Parking

The safety of our children is paramount. Parents are **not** permitted to use the staff car park between 8.30 and 3.30 to turn around, drop off or collect your child.

Staff, deliveries and emergency vehicles must be able to access the car park at all times of the day.

Parents must use the pavement alongside Lemsford Road and into the side gate by Treetops - not walk through the car park at any time.

Children that are late should come to the main office using the pavement only, never through the main gate/car park.



Grapes in School

A gentle reminder that grapes are to be cut in half lengthways.



DIARY DATES

INSET day—Monday 2nd June

Children back to school—Tuesday 3rd June
Year 5 and 6 activities and residential events —
week beginning Tuesday 3rd June

Robins to Library and Theatre - 6th June

School class and team photos—Thursday 12th
June (note new date!)

Outdoor learning week—week beginning Monday
16th June

Sandpipers class visiting Stanborough School—
Thursday 19th June

Sports Day— Friday 27th June

Last day for handing in merit certificates—
Friday 27th June

Sports event for years 4 and 5—Wednesday
2nd July

Sports day back up date—Friday 4th July

Move-up day—Thursday 10th July

Rock Steady concert—Monday 14th July

Music concert—Tuesday 22nd July

End of term—Wednesday 23rd July 1.30 p.m.

Start of the new school year—Thursday 4th
September

Hello

Rev. Kathryn will return next week with news of
her week and upcoming events.



House Names Competition

Thank you to everyone who entered the com-
petition, we are now in the process of choos-
ing the winning House Names and look for-
ward to sharing them with everyone after
the half term holiday.

Pentecost service at St John's Church Sunday 8th June 11.00 a.m.

Once again, the children have been invited by
Revd Kathryn to take part in the All-age service
at St John's Church, including reading, leading
prayers and singing with the choir. If you would
like you child to participate please let us know
when we return after the half term break,.

Food donations

We would like to begin Food Bank donations
once again, after half term. Non-perishable
items would be appreciated including tinned
food and toiletries. The donation dates for the
classes are:

Friday 6th June Starlings class

Friday 13th June Robins class

Friday 20th June Kingfishers class

Friday 27th June Sandpipers class

Finer Diner

Children with exemplary manners during
lunchtimes are given a Best Behaviour slip.

Those slips are put into a hat and four children are
then invited to have lunch with Mrs Boylan on a
Friday.

This is a lovely way to end the week with a chance
to share their news with Mrs Boylan in person.

Today the children were

Henry - Robins

Emma - Starlings

Sophia B - Kingfisher

Anna - Sandpipers

