



St John's School Newsletter

6th June 2025

Values of this half term

Courage & Responsibility

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go'.

Joshua 1:9



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Elisabeth has been working so well in class recently. Her hard work in our phonics sessions is showing in her growing confidence with reading. Her thoughtful friendliness is a joy to see in the classroom as she accepts anyone who wants to join in with her wonderful, creative games. She has brilliant ideas and we love to hear her stories. Keep it up Elisabeth!

Starlings - Freddie for having a huge burst in confidence. He has started contributing to class discussions sharing his knowledge on telling the time. When working with a learning partner Freddie has shown attentive listening to his partner and shared his ideas. He has written lovely English work using wonderful range of adjectives and has tried his hardest to keep his letters neatly sized and on the line. Well done Freddie

Kingfisher - Reuben has shown fantastic determination in his learning, particularly in maths where he has shown a mature attitude by putting strategies in place to support him to achieve his best. It has been excellent to see Reuben thinking maturely about his actions, learning and acting on his reflections, and being an excellent friend and peer yesterday.

Sandpiper - All the children have shown determination, team work and a sense of community this week as they undertake a range of activities at Preston Montford. Look out for the special feature next week.

Sandpipers residential

Sandpipers class have been staying at Preston Monford in Shropshire this week. They have had a great time involving all kinds of activities including pond dipping, building mammal nests, singing around campfire. Earlier in the week they enjoyed themselves trampolining and next Monday they have a day of water sports at Stanborough Lakes to enjoy.

As well as providing fun and enjoyment for the children these trips are hugely important in developing their self-confidence, resilience and independence, all of which are crucial as they move on to secondary school.

Many thanks to Miss Ng for all the hard work she puts into preparing these activities and events as well as huge thanks to her and Mrs Kay who have stayed with the children on their residential, caring and supporting them throughout.



Camp St John's Saturday 5th July

The popular Camp St John's will be taking place once again! This year it will be on Saturday 5th July. If you fancy an evening of fun, games and pizza on our lovely school field please do come along. More details are included in the attached LSA poster.

Photos


Nic Sanders will be coming into school next Wednesday to take the whole school and class photos. Please make sure that your child has their school jumper or cardigan with them - thank you.


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

John 10:10

Top Tips and Word of the Week

This one is for adults only! Listen to yourself when you talk to your child. Who does most of the talking? Who does the listening? Who asks the questions? Children's language develops more when adults follow the child's interests, use comments instead of questions and really show they are listening. Set yourself a little target such as: giving your child more time to answer, comment more and question less, talk about things that interest your child. It is not as easy as it sounds, but really worth the effort.

Word		Definition	Challenge
cautiously		Carefully because you don't want something to go wrong.	What might you do cautiously ? Would you be cautious crossing a road, when on a high climbing frame or trying new foods?

Word		Definition	Challenge
bustling		Moving in a hurried way, often because they are very busy.	What places do you know that are bustling ? Are different times of the day bustling ?

Mary Poppins is coming!

Once Sandpipers class are back from their residential trip they along with Kingfishers class will be preparing their performance of Mary Poppins. Auditions, line learning and rehearsals have already begun and we can't wait to enjoy their supercali..... performances!

The dates for Mary Poppins are:

Wednesday 16th July 2.00 p.m.
and 6.00 p.m.

Thursday 17th July 6.00 p.m.

Please put these dates into your diaries.



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.

Hello Mrs Crisp

Claire Crisp has joined the Catering Team as our new Cook Manager, we are certainly having some lovely meals this week, now that the kitchen is back up and running.

Goodbye to...

Daphne, Charles and Jaime have all said their goodbyes today. We wish them all the very best, moving on. You will never be far from our thoughts. Good luck to you all and we truly hope to see you again.

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.

Parking 10-11 June 2025

The church have asked that on 10th and 11th June, parents do not park in the Church lay-by as they hold a private service on both days.

Thank you for your understanding

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

School class and team photos—Thursday 12th June

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

Camp St John's - Saturday 5th July

Move-up day—Thursday 10th July

Rock Steady concert—Monday 14th July

Mary Poppins - Wednesday 16th July 2.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m.

Mary Poppins - Thursday 17th July 6.00 p.m.

Music concert—Tuesday 22nd July

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

Start of the new school year—Thursday 4th

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 13th June Robins class

Friday 20th June Kingfishers class

Friday 27th June Sandpipers class

And finally...

Robins Class have had a super day out today, walking to the local Library and taking in a show at Campus West.

Thank you to the parents who joined us for the walk.



Hello

It's the Church's Birthday! All Together Pentecost Service at St John's — 11am THIS SUNDAY

Did you know that the Church has a birthday?

At Pentecost, Christians remember the day when God sent the Holy Spirit and brought people together in a brand new way — creating what became the Church. It's a brilliant story about community, welcome, and belonging — and about how the Church is still growing and being renewed today.

This Sunday, we'll be celebrating Pentecost with a special **All Together Service** at **11am**. Our theme is **"Together in a New Way"**, and the service will be full of joyful, interactive all-age worship — with lots of ways for everyone to take part.

We'd love to welcome children, families, and friends from the school community — whether you come to church regularly, or are simply curious to find out more.

Looking ahead — **next Sunday (15th June)**, our children-focussed worship continues with **Sunday Club** during the main 11am service. And do pop **Saturday 13th July** in your diaries — we'll be having a special **church family picnic** after the service to celebrate the end of term.

We'd love to see you this Sunday, or at one of our other events — or just out and about!

Rev Kathryn

