



St John's School Newsletter

27th 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 - Iretri has been sharing more of her thoughtful ideas in Robin Class recently, both with her talk partner and in whole class discussions. Her great attitude to learning has shown in her beautiful writing recently, using all of the range of skills she has been practising this year so far. She has lovely ideas in her play and takes care in all of her creative work. We are so glad you are part of Robin Class!

Starlings - Mila for her fantastic effort in her learning this week. She has shown excellent ideas in our English providing her group with a range of thoughtful adjectives. In maths she has been a great learning partner when talking about position and direction. She has taken turns with the Beebot listening carefully to her partner and sharing her ideas with kindness. It has been great to see Mila supporting others in their learning.

Kingfisher - Morland has shown such a positive and enthusiastic nature in all our learning this week, joining into class discussions with excellent contributions and questions, working hard independently and with his learning partner, and creating some fantastic work. He has shown excellent mathematical language when identifying properties of shape, created excellent expanded noun phrases to begin his free verse poem, and shared excellent reflections in RE symbolism.

Sandpiper - Aarav has really matured and blossomed throughout the year. We have been so pleased to see him coming out of his shell and growing in confidence socially with others, showing great empathy and care. He is always hard-working and motivated to learn, asking for more tasks and learning to do! When faced with tricky learning, he shows great perseverance and independence, and uses resources to support him well. He has a brilliant positive attitude to learning and has laid great foundations for the move to Year 6!

Sports Day 2025

What an afternoon! Full of good humour, tremendous effort and keen competitiveness! Each of the houses—Ash, Oak, Maple and Willow—did themselves proud. Congratulations to everyone that took part.

Special congratulations go to :

SPORTSMANSHIP— ASH (blue)

OVERALL WINNERS— OAK (yellow)



Ash and Oak House Captains

Thank you parents for coming along and for supporting your children so enthusiastically. Thank you to the LSA for providing ice lollies for the children at the end. Many thanks also to Ollie Redmond for providing the sound system. This is the last time that Ollie will be helping in this was—we are very grateful for his support over the years. Finally, many thanks to Miss Ng and the staff who worked so hard to make it such a successful event

Our New School Website

We have been working on a new website. It is the same URL as previously and you should find that you go straight to the new website by using it. It is, of course, a work in progress but we hope that it will be easier to find the information that is most useful to you quickly and easily. In the journey to the new website some information will take a while to update so do please bear with us while we continue to refine and update it.

[St John's Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School - Home](#)


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

John 10:10


Top Tips and Word of the Week

Build a story. One person starts a made-up story with one sentence, such as 'Once upon a time an enormous giant was sleeping when...'. Other players then take turns to build on the story. You might have 'Big Blue Riding Hood' or 'Goldilocks and the Three Kittens'.

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
cling 	To hold very tightly.	What things might you cling to? Why?

This week's word for older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
cascade 	Lots of water flowing downwards, very quickly.	How does the word cascade make you feel?

New House Names

We had some fantastic new suggestions for house teams names. The following were chosen and featured in our activities this week in school. Here is the big reveal!

Brockett (red) is now **MAPLE**.

Palmerston (yellow) is now **OAK**.

Cowper (green) is now **WILLOW**.

Melbourne (blue) is now **ASH**.

Each house will retain its original colour. The children have prepared a display of the names and are inventing sports day chants!



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.

Mary Poppins is coming!

Sandpipers and Kingfishers classes are busy preparing their performance of Mary Poppins. Rehearsals are well underway 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 and return the reply slips relating to requests for tickets as soon as possible.

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 merit certificates.

Please note that today is the **final** date this year for being able to hand in 5 merits certificates in order to receive a governors' award.

After today any merit certificates achieved will count towards the next year's governors' award 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](#)

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.

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.

Year 6 Leavers - can parents please ensure balances are cleared before the end of term. Thank you

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.

Also, please ensure car wheels are not on pavements, blocking pedestrian walkways.

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.

Breaktime snack

A reminder that breaktime snacks should only be a piece of fruit/vegetable or plain biscuit. Chocolate or crisps are not allowed.

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.



Grapes in School

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



DIARY DATES

Sports event for years 4 and 5—Wednesday 2nd July
Camp St John's - Saturday 5th July
School reports come home—Wednesday 9th July
Move-up day—Thursday 10th July
Full Governing Body Meeting—6.30 p.m.
Rock Steady concert—Monday 14th July—1.15 p.m.
Mary Poppins - Wednesday 16th July 2.00 p.m.
Mary Poppins - Wednesday 16th July 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.
Inset Day- 3rd September (no children in school)
Start of the new school year—Thursday 4th September

Food Bank donations

Many thanks for all the food donations that the children have been bringing into school over the last 4 weeks. We won't be asking for further donations this term but the box is always at the front of school if you would like to donate at any point. The items that you have brought in will go to a local food bank. Thank you!



St John's Church Sunday Club

End of term party!

Join us on **Sunday 13th July at 11 am**
for Sunday Club followed by a
whole church bring-and-share picnic.

Hello!

What's On at Church for Families – June/July Highlights

I'm away at the moment so here's a quick round-up of everything coming up at church for children and families before the term ends:

- **Sunday 6th July** – It's our *All Together 'Thank You' Service* at 11am, celebrating all the amazing people who help make our church, school, and community such a great place. If you'd like to be involved in the choir, doing a reading, or leading a prayer — speak to Mrs Boylan.
- **Sunday 13th July** – It's our *final Sunday Club of the term* and we're going out in style with an *end-of-term party!* Whether you come every week or have never been before, this is a great time to join in. There'll be music, games, a craft activity and afterwards, a *whole-church bring-and-share picnic*. Everyone's invited... and there might even be a rounders match!

We would love to see you at any (or all!) of these. Everyone is welcome.

Rev Kathryn

