



St John's School Newsletter

11th July 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

Move Up Day

It was lovely to welcome our new Reception children and their families to St John's yesterday morning. The children spent some time playing outside and met their buddies.

Thank you to the Buddies, Faye and Robins Class staff for helping to make the visit a success.

Celebration Assemblies

As we approach the end of term there will be two further celebration assemblies on the following dates: Friday 18th July and Wednesday 23rd July both beginning at 9.30 a.m.

Elite Dance Club

You will have seen the flyers for the dance workshops that Elite Dance training academy will be holding at St John's. They are bookable directly with the company. Elite dance will also be leading a dance club every Wednesday after school next term which we will include as one of the clubs that we offer. They are also going to be offering other dance clubs including contemporary, street and ballet. Further details will be available at the start of the new term. The Elite training academy are a local company who offer similar dance clubs in another local school as well.

www.etadance.co.uk



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Ava Boe is such a calm and kind member of Robin Class, always offering a smile or a polite word to everyone. She has grown in confidence to share her thoughtful ideas and we love to hear her voice more in class now. She takes care in all of her work, thinking carefully about her phonics, reading and maths through the week and she explores our topics with great curiosity. We will miss her next year but know she is ready to fly off to Starling Class. Keep it up Ava!

Starlings - Otilie for her continued efforts in everything she does. She is a shining example of our values in starling class and she is always ready to learn. This week in maths she has enjoyed the challenge of finding change using money and taking turns in the shop. In English she has used great descriptions in our writing about the Great Pet Sale. She is a great help in the classroom and a wonderful, kind friend to everyone in the school.

Kingfisher - Skyla continues to be a positive, thoughtful and hardworking member of our class, reflecting on the progress this year and showing such confidence when preparing to move up to Sandpipers in September. Skyla has tackled tricky coordinates in Maths, drawing on all her previous understanding to support her. She has shared thoughtful and well-evidenced ideas in English and also generated excellent questions to extend her learning in geography. Well done, Skyla.

Sandpiper - Ahamdi has been noticed by adults around school for always being responsible, reliable and trustworthy. We can always count on him to get our class discussions started and he shares brilliant ideas! Ahamdi impressed us in History with his mature analysis of different evidence, coming to great conclusions about the varied views of the railway. In PSHE, he asked sensible questions and offered good suggestions to the class too. He has been fantastic in our Mary Poppins rehearsals - showing great expression, knowing his words, and being supportive of others too.


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

John 10:10

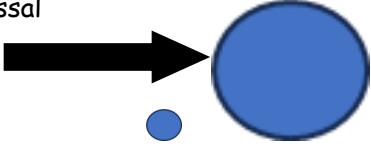
Top Tips and Word of the Week

What would you do? Think up small problems that your child might encounter such as getting lost, finding a mobile phone, losing money etc. Ask your child what would they do? Why? Ask other people what would they do and why. Which one is the best? Why? All of this is good practice with reasoning skills which are really important for lessons such as science as well as learning social skills.

This week's word for younger children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
courageous 	Brave or not afraid.	When have you done something that was courageous , or something that is very brave?

This week's word for older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
Colossal 	Really big.	What things would you call colossal ?

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.

Tickets are now sold out and we have started a waiting list. Please let us know if you do not need the places that you have booked.



School Reports

These were sent out on Wednesday, please return your comments before the end of Term. Thank you.

Black trainers

You will have received an email regarding a change to our school uniform. We are now including black trainers as an alternative to black school shoes. However, the trainers must be entirely black and suitable for school. The email regarding this contains further information. We do hope that parents will find this helpful.

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.

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

Ava Boe - Robins

Freddie - Starlings

Lillia - Kingfisher

Bernadette - Sandpiper



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

Rock Steady concert—Monday 14th July—2.15 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.

Mary Poppins performance for Quantum Care residents—Friday 18th July

Governor Award Day - Friday 18th July

Music concert—Tuesday 22nd July 9.00 a.m.
Parents are welcome to attend.

Celebration Assembly - Wednesday 23rd July 9am

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

Inset Day- 3rd September (no children in school)

School Clubs

With the exception of Ukelele, school clubs have now ended for the term.

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!



**STJOHN'S CHURCH
SUMMER CELEBRATION!
SUNDAY 13TH JULY AT 11AM**

**SUNDAY CLUB PARTY
DURING THE 11AM SERVICE
BRING A PICNIC FOR
A WHOLE CHURCH GATHERING
AFTERWARDS!**

Hello,

I hope everyone enjoyed the 'not quite' Camp St John's—I've seen a few pictures and it looked like great fun!

All Together Worship

It was fantastic to see some of you in church on Sunday morning, thinking about how each of us can be a living stone in God's house.

There was some wonderful reading, singing, and the building of our St John's wall of living stones, which showed so many gifts, hopes, and ideas for the future of the church—all built on God and 165 years of faithful service that has gone before.

Why not come and be part of building the next phase of the life of St John's? Our services our 11am each Sunday, with child-friendly activities on the 1st and 2nd Sunday's of the month.

Sunday Club End-of-Term Party & Whole-Church Picnic – 13th July

On Sunday 13th July, it will be our final Sunday Club of the term during the 11am service, and we'll be going out in style with an end-of-term party.

Afterwards, everyone is invited to stay for a whole-church picnic. Bring along a rug or a deckchair, your favourite picnic lunch, and enjoy some relaxed time outside with friends and family.

Collective Worship This Week

On Thursday at Collective Worship, we explored the next line of the Lord's Prayer: *Give us this day our daily bread.*

We recognised that this isn't just about asking God to give us what we need, but also about asking for help to share what we have with others.

Have a great weekend, whatever you're up to.

Rev Kathryn

