



St John's School Newsletter

18th 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



Camp St John's

Many thanks to Faye and the LSA for organising the Camp St Johns event. Due to the weather forecast families stayed for the evening rather than camped. Games, chat and pizza was enjoyed and a great time was had by all!

Leaver's Treat

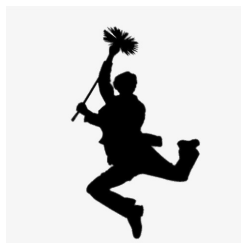
Our Year 6 children had a very special treat on Monday, at RollerCity. All survived with no broken limbs and some skating was achieved!



Thank you Miss Ng for organising this.

Mary Poppins

What a supercali..... show. We were all so impressed with the quality of the children's singing dancing and acting. But more than anything their confidence and sheer joy as they performed was amazing to see. Many congratulations to all the children in Kingfishers and Sandpipers classes and many, many thanks to the staff team that made the show happen so expertly! Everyone involved was 'practically perfect in every way!'



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Hazel has been such a consistently helpful presence in our class this year. She has grown in her ability to listen carefully to others and she is quick to try to sort out problems between her friends. She has developed a great sense of perseverance to take her learning to the next level and challenge herself to add more to what she has done. We know she will continue to fly in Starling Class, keep it up!

Starlings - Joey for his consistent positive attitude to all he does. He has come on so far in his confidence sharing his ideas with small groups and with his learning partner. Joey is always a shining example in both his behaviour and attitudes towards his work. This week he has shown great ability in his maths work creating bar charts and pictographs both independent and with his learning partner. In English he used the chrome book to type up his summer poem.

Kingfisher - Freya always shows such a fantastic attitude to her learning, excellent participation in all our topics and an excellent learning partner. Her creativity has shone this week creating calligrams, using descriptive language to convey a setting. It has been a joy to see her confidence on stage in Mary Poppins and supporting others with the performance too. Always such a positive and hardworking member of our class, well done Freya

Sandpiper - Ella is a joyful member of our class who has been a lovely friend. She has really made the most of her last few weeks at St John's! She was great fun at the roller skating, zooming around and helping others out too! She had some very complicated songs to learn for Mary Poppins and really impressed us with her perseverance and dedication, really shining on stage during the performances. Well done!


"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
cunning 	Clever and sometimes trying to cheat.	Can you think of a book character who is cunning ?

This week's word for older children:

Word	Definition	Challenge
cosmopolitan 	A cosmopolitan place or society is full of people from different cultures.	How cosmopolitan is our school? Which places can be described as cosmopolitan ?

SATS results

In May the children in year 6 were busy preparing for and taking their SATs tests in Reading, Grammar and Spelling and Maths. The results alongside the teacher assessment for Writing and Science were shared with us last week. We were delighted with the results which show the tremendous progress the children have made in their time at St John's and the quality of teaching and learning throughout the school.

We were particularly pleased with our results in Reading, Writing and Grammar and Spelling.

For Reading 85 % of our year 6 children achieved the expected standard in Reading (compared with 75% nationally and 78% in Hertfordshire.)

For Writing 77% of our year 6 achieved the expected standard (compared with 72% national and 70% in Hertfordshire.)

For Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling 77% of our year 6 children achieved the expected standard (compared with 73% nationally and 76% for Hertfordshire.)

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.

Holiday Work

The school will be particularly busy during the summer holidays. Work has already begun on the play equipment in the Robins class outdoor area. Funding for this project has come from proceeds from the fete as well as the school budget. We will also be having the boys' and girls' toilets refurbished, funding for this project will come from the Diocese and the Governors' building fund. As well as these projects we also have the St John's Holiday club and a usual tutoring programme as well as the Elite Dance Academy running show based dance workshops!

Celebration Assembly

Our last celebration assembly of the academic year will be held on Wednesday 23rd July at 9.00 a.m. (not 9.30 a.m. as stated in our last week's newsletter.)

Rock Steady

Congratulations and well done to the children who took part in the Rock Steady gig on Monday afternoon. The three bands performed so well, playing everything by memory and who played with such confidence. Fantastic to see!



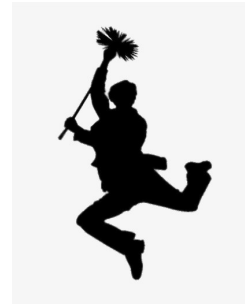
Anyone for tennis...!

Starlings Class had a fantastic tennis session with the team from Gosling. Learning new ball skills and having a wonderful time.



Mary Poppins

A few photos of from the performances of Mary Poppins. The week concluded with a performance for residents of Quantum Care Homes who visited us on Friday morning.



PRACTICALLY
PERFECT
in every way



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

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

Celebration Assembly - Wednesday 23rd July
9,00 am

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 term. 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 Alzheimers' Society Tea and Cake

Enjoy tea, coffee, cake
and good company

Everyone welcome on
23rd July from 1pm to
3pm



Hello,

Summer Choices!

In our final collective worship of term, we finished our journey through the Lord's Prayer by thinking about what it means to say, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

With the help of a (fairly!) dramatic tug-of-war, we explored how we can often feel pulled in different directions — especially when it comes to making good choices — and how God is always ready to forgive us when we take the wrong path, and guide us towards the right one when we ask.

This was also our last Collective Worship in church with our wonderful Year 6s. We prayed a blessing over them and asked them to lead the 'From a Tiny Ant' song one last time — and they did so brilliantly!

In other news, a huge thank you to everyone who came along to the end-of-term picnic after church on Sunday — it was such a joy to see families relaxing and enjoying the sunshine together.

And speaking of getting together... please pop these two All-Together dates in your diary!

- All-Together Worship with Baptism – Sunday 10th August, 11am

Church might be a little quieter during the holidays, but it's still full of life! In this joyful all-age service, we'll be baptising two wonderful children from St John's school and church — come and support them as they take this exciting step.

- Back Together Service and BBQ – Sunday 7th September, 11am

A relaxed, interactive all-age service as the new term begins. Whether you've been away over the summer or just want to reconnect, everyone is warmly welcome. And do stay afterwards to enjoy a BBQ in the sunshine (we hope)!

Wishing you a restful, joyful summer — whatever you're up to.

And I hope to see you again soon!

With love,
Rev'd Kathryn

