



St John's School Newsletter

12th September 2025

Values of this half term

Hope & Aspiration

'For I know the plans I have for you' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29:11



Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new member of staff, Mrs Hope who has joined us as a teaching assistant. Mrs Hope will be working mainly with the children in Starlings class.

We would like to welcome Joseph (Elizabeth's brother) and Payman to Kingfishers and Sandpipers classes respectively. We look forward to getting to know them and to seeing them become part of our school community.

Dance workshops

Today Kingfishers and Sandpipers classes took part in dance workshops led by Charlotte from Elite Dance. The children really enjoyed themselves and have been talking about it all day.

If you are interested in your child taking part in Contemporary, Ballet, Street or Jazz dance, Elite Dance will be running classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school. These are as well as the dance club that was offered as part of our clubs offer. For further information please go to:

[Elite Training Academy](http://etadance.co.uk)
(etadance.co.uk)



Beacon Pupils

Robins - It has been lovely to see them settle into life at St John's. This morning they attended their first Celebration Assembly and received certificates for doing so well during their first week in Reception.

Starlings - Tilly for her amazingly confident start to the year. This week she has shown that she is ready to learn and has a great attitude. In whole class sessions she has contributed to discussions and helped her learning partner. In group work Tilly shared great adjectives with her group and built a fantastic word mat. In the playground Tilly as always has been a great friend to those in our class.

Kingfisher - Hargun has shown real confidence and enthusiasm, joining straight into class discussions, working alongside her talk partner sharing ideas and showing care and attention to her work. Hargun created excellent descriptive sentences of a character in English, imaginative mosaic painting in art, and has partitioned and compared numbers in maths.

Sandpiper - Alex has really impressed us with how well he has settled into Sandpiper Class - he is right at home here! He is an inquisitive and curious learner, and we have loved his interesting questions and thoughtful ideas. Alex has also shown beautiful manners in class and around school, as well as being incredibly helpful and kind towards others. He risen brilliantly to the new challenges and routines of Year 5 and we look forward to seeing him continue to blossom!

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

John 10:10

FETE MONDAY 4th MAY 2026!

Plans are afoot for the next Lemsford fete - the committee just does not stop planning!

We would like to invite all parents to a fete meeting in which we aim to explore ideas for next year's event. The meeting is on Wednesday 1st October in school at 8.00 p.m. Do please come along - the more the merrier!

Relating to the fete. One of parents is aiming to make new signs to advertise the fete. They would like to use old tents for this and would prefer polyester or nylon ones to transform into signage. If you have any old tents that you no longer need would you please let us know via Ms Lewis in the office. Thank you!

Harvest Celebration Thursday 2nd October 9am

All parents are warmly invited to our Harvest Celebration at St John's Church beginning at 9am.

As part of the collective worship each class will be sharing a Harvest Poem.



Young Leaders training

Once again, we were joined by Mrs Moxham, one of the PE teachers at Stanborough School, who worked with our year 6 to develop their leadership skills. The children learnt lots of new games and then had some time with Starlings class to try them out. We look forward to seeing year 6 lead their activities in the coming weeks.



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](#)

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.



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 not 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.

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

Grapes in School

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



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.

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

George & Benji - Starlings

Gracie - Kingfisher

Nevena - Sandpiper



DIARY DATES

- 15th September - School Clubs Start
16th September - 6pm - Governors Premise Committee Meeting
24th September - 1pm Year 5 Fun Run at Stanborough Lakes
24th September - 7.30pm LSA AGM - All Welcome - School Hall
24th September - morning - Individual Photos
24th September 6pm-8pm Full Governing Body Meeting
27th September - LSA Quiz Night - School Hall (time tbc)
- W/C 29th September - BikeAbility Week for Sandpipers
- 2nd October - 9am - School Harvest Celebration at St John's Church - all welcome
- 16th October - Road Safety Talk for Starlings
- 17th October - LSA Café at 3.15 in our Dining Hall - Starlings to provide cakes please!
- 21st October - 1.30pm - Open Afternoon
21st October - time tbc - Meet the Teacher (in person) appointments - more details to follow
- 23rd October - time tbc - Meet the Teacher (on line) appointments - more details to follow
- 24th October - 10am - Open Morning.
- 27th October - 31st October - Half Term
28th November - School Closed to Pupils
19th December - End of Term (1.30 finish)



Welcome back!

I hope everyone is settling back into school life after a brilliant summer — and a very warm welcome to all the children who have just joined St John's!

One of my favourite parts of being vicar is the close connection between the church and the school — so please do come along to any of our church activities, and don't hesitate to say hello.

Collective Worship in church is back on Thursdays at 9am. Parents are always very welcome at this short service — the children love showing you their church!

It was wonderful to see so many St John's families in church on Sunday for our All Together 'New Term' Worship. The service was full of music, laughter, and even a spot of paper aeroplane making as we explored the theme of Daring to Try. We rounded it all off with a brilliant BBQ — thank you so much to everyone who made it such a special start to the year!

A few dates for your diaries...

Sunday 14th September, 11am

Sunday Club for children during the 11am Communion service. We love welcoming new members!

Sunday 21st September, 3-4pm

St John's@3 - Autumn Wild Worship
Meet outside the Annexe (round the back of church)

A relaxed, creative afternoon service for all ages, with storytelling, hands-on activities, music... and always cake! Come dressed for the weather. Whether you've been to church before or are just curious, you'll be very welcome.

Sunday 5th October, 11am

Harvest Festival All Age Communion, followed by a bring-and-share lunch
An accessible, family-friendly service with plenty to engage all ages as we celebrate the gifts of the harvest.

With every blessing for the term ahead,

Rev Kathryn
Vicar, St John's Church

