



St John's School Newsletter

26th 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



Fun Run

Many congratulations to Sophia, Nevena, Reuben, Finley, Lillia, Milo, Lily, Skyla, Astrid, Alex, Morland, Miley, Evie W and Zach who took part in the Fun Run at Stanborough Park on Wednesday afternoon. The sun shone and it was fantastic to see so many children from at least 10 local schools participating. The event was organised by the Stanborough Sports partnership of which we are a member. Our children ran Race A, Race B and Race C - the latter being the 'Fun' race. Many congratulations to all 14 children who took part. They showed resilience and teamwork, it was great to see how supportive they were of one another! Well done, particularly to Alex who came third in the final race.



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Reggie has been such a fantastic friend this week. He is a thoughtful listener and he loves sharing his ideas with his friends. We love listening to his ideas in our class sessions and he is learning so well already. We can't wait to see what he will do next, keep up the good start Reggie.

Starlings - James for having an excellent attitude to his learning. He has impressed us with his knowledge of place value partitioning 2 digit numbers and talking about tens and ones. When working on our English topic of The day the crayons quit he was able to share his ideas for each crayon and their complaint. He has worked really well in his group to sequence and organise the flow of the story. James is a kind and caring friend and a great learning partner, which has shone through this week.

Kingfishers - Josie has shown real confidence in her work, not just in her independent tasks but also in her confidence in facilitating excellent learning within group work. It has been fantastic to hear Josie sharing her knowledge using excellent subject-specific learning, working alongside her partner too. Josie has shown real creativity throughout subjects, from designing and creating her sculpture in art, to planning her own story based on the structure of a text in English. A fantastic role model and showing real maturity in her year 4 role.

Sandpipers - Astrid has settled brilliantly into Sandpiper Class and it has been great to see her taking new challenges in her stride and really thriving! Her thoughtful nature is shown in her interesting ideas and questions. She has a real motivation to learn! Astrid has written some great descriptive pieces in English and has shown off her fab vocabulary, she has also worked incredibly hard on tricky maths and shown great determination. At the Year 5 fun run, she showed brilliant perseverance and was a supportive team mate too. Well done!

"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!

LSA AGM

Many thanks to the members of the LSA for holding their AGM on Wednesday evening. Reports were shared relating to their achievements over the last year as well as plans for the coming year. There was much discussion about the need to replace the large play equipment on the playground and ways that this might be funded. Please watch this space to find out about how you can support us in our fundraising for this.

Menu Changes

We will have a new lunchtime menu starting after October half term - more information will follow soon.

Parking

We would strongly encourage parents to park in the public carpark at Lemsford Village Hall on Brockett Road rather on the road beside the school, whenever possible. By parking outside the school, traffic is being impacted and it is difficult for cars to drive past. The Village Hall car park is large and is fairly close.

We would appreciate your support with this.



 show you care, park elsewhere 

Jobs around school

Maintaining the school buildings and grounds is a full-time job! There are a number of jobs that we would appreciate support with. If you can help with any of the following or make recommendations for us please do let us know:

- Painting the sheds
- Painting the end of the Treetops building
- Repair or replacement of the windows of Treetops
- Help with monitoring the health of the trees in the school grounds

School Census 2nd October 2025

The Autumn Term School Census is taking place on 2nd October, an email has been sent regarding meal choices on the day. Please leave the packed lunch at home and encourage your child to have a school meal on this day as each one taken helps boost our school budget going forward. Thank you.

Choir - Harvest Service Sunday 5th October

Reminder for children in the Choir, who wish to take part in the Harvest Service, to let School Office or Mrs Boylan know, and to return the permission slips that were sent out Tuesday.



Harvest Celebration Thursday 2nd October 9am

All parents are warmly invited to our Harvest Celebration at St John's Church beginning at 9am. Donations of non-perishable food would be appreciated.

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



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. Sandwich filling containing nuts, such as Nutella® and chocolate nut spread are not permitted.



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.

Grapes in School

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



Site Safety Message

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.

Please label school uniform so it can be reunited with your child.



DIARY DATES

W/C 29th September - BikeAbility Week for Sandpipers

2nd October - School Census Day

2nd October - 9am - School Harvest Celebration at St John's Church - all welcome

8th October at drop off - Sibling Photos followed by Individual Photos

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

Half term holiday club running on 27th/28th/29th and 30th October

28th November - School Closed to Pupils

17th December - Christmas Lunch*

19th December - End of Term (1.30 finish)

*more details to follow

St John's Holiday Club

We are offering provision on the following dates:

**27,28,29,30 October 2025 and
22,23 December 2025**

To book, please see email sent Wednesday or pop into the school office for a form.

2026 dates will be shared soon.



Hello!

This week in Collective Worship we continued our journey through God's Big Story in the Bible. With the help of an inflatable globe, we explored God's promise to Abraham and Sarah — a family as many as the stars in the sky — and discovered that promise includes us too!

Last Sunday afternoon we had a fantastic time together at St John's@3 Autumn Wild Worship. The weather was very kind to us, as families explored the churchyard on a scavenger hunt, tried leaf printing, made mobiles, and planted seedlings as a sign of God's life in every season (with plenty of cake to share as well!). Our next St John's@3 will be a light party on 8th November.



We're now looking forward to our All-Together Harvest Festival with Communion on Sunday 5th October at 11am. This joyful, child-friendly service is a time to give thanks for God's good gifts and to share what we have with others. We'll be collecting for the local foodbank and the Bishop's Harvest Appeal — so if you can, please bring a tin, packet, or some spare change. Everyone is always very welcome — we'd love to see you there.

Have a great weekend.

Rev Kathryn
Vicar, St John's Church

