



St John's School Newsletter

17th October 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



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Freddie is such a cheerful presence in our Class. He has been persevering on tricky tasks such as forming his letters and finding the first sounds in words. He is such a kind friend, always joining in play beautifully and spotting when someone needs a bit of extra care. Keep up the good work Freddie!

Starlings - Carter for his excellent attitude to all areas of learning. He has shown great . Carter has demonstrated excellent phonic knowledge in his writing and he has worked hard to write sentences independently. It has been great to see Carter setting a good example in both collective worship, church and around the school. Well done for both great work and fantastic behaviour this week.

Kingfishers - Mabel has shown a great attitude to her learning and a real confidence in tackling activities both in paired work and independently. Mabel wowed us with her subtractions with exchange in maths, and tackling our new area topic enthusiastically. In English Mabel is really extending her sentences to include detail, and in History she was careful at choosing which facts should be included in her group research project. Mabel has been thoughtful both in class and out, showing real care to her friends and those around her. Well done Mabel.

Sandpipers - Milo is a valued member of our class - he has a great sense of humour and fun but also works extremely hard. He has shared fantastic ideas about our class book, concentrating and focusing well to get these into his writing and using great vocabulary! Milo showed great attention to detail in his clay coral reef, and helped others with tips on how to add effective texture. He is a keen mathematician and has loved learning about prime numbers, showing a brilliant understanding and challenging himself well.

Road Safety Talk

Starling class took part in a road safety workshop. They learned how to cross the road safely, how to always wear a helmet when riding your bike or scooter and to wear bright colours when out at night.



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

John 10:10

Netball

Members of the school netball club have been taking part in netball sessions at Stanborough School. Netball players from several local schools have also been attending these sessions. Many thanks to parents for arranging lifts. Next Monday there will be a netball festival in which the children will be using all their skills in game situations.



Saying Goodbye

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Freddie Lovegrove and his family. Freddie will be attending a school which is closer to his new home. We wish him all the very best and will miss him.

September 2026 Open Days

Hello, if you are a parent and have children attending local playgroups or nursery - would you be able to pop in and collect some leaflets to hand out to the other mums and dads who also attend.

Thank you

LSA Café

Many thanks to Starlings class for providing a lovely array of cakes for today's Cake Sale. Thank you also to the LSA for organising the event and to parents who supported it through the buying of the cakes!



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

Holiday club

Just a reminder that we are offering a holiday club during the half term break. The dates it will be running are:

Monday 27th October
Tuesday 28th October
Wednesday 29th October

Do please contact Ms Lewis or Mrs Kay as soon as possible to book a place for your child.

Parking

We would strongly encourage parents to park in the public carpark at Lemsford Village Hall on Brockett Road rather than 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 

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.

School Meals

As the kitchen needs meal choices by 9.30am, please either ring the school beforehand and pre book a choice or send in a home packed lunch if your child misses morning registration for any reason.

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.

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.

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.



Breaktime snack

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

Grapes in School

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



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



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

Reggie - Robins

Toni - Starlings

Freya - Kingfisher

Astrid - Sandpiper



DIARY DATES

21st October - 1.30pm - Open Afternoon

21st October - 3.30—6.00 p.m. **Meet the Teacher (in person) appointments**

22nd October—Young Shakespeare Company workshop and performance for Kingfishers and Sandpipers classes

23rd October - 4.00—6.30 p.m. **Meet the Teacher (on line) appointments**

24th October - 10am - Open Morning.

24th October -2-4pm Macmillan Tea at the Church

27th October - 31st October - **Half Term break**

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

4th November 1.30 p.m. Open afternoon

5th November 10.00 a.m. Open Morning

11th November Remembrance Day

14th November LSA Fire works evening

21st November LSA Hamper donation day in exchange for non-uniform (more information to follow.)

27th November LSA Pre-loved Christmas jumper sale after school

28th November - School Closed to Pupils

4th December—**The 12 days of Christmas activities begin. Watch this space for information about the many events taking place!**

17th December - Christmas Lunch

19th December - End of Term (1.30 finish)

There's lots happening at the moment in church!

This week in Collective Worship we continued travelling through *God's Big Story* — focusing on **David and his journey to becoming king!** David's story reminded us that what matters most isn't being the biggest or the best, but showing kindness and love — the sort of qualities that help God's kingdom grow.

Macmillan Tea, Coffee & Cake - Friday 24th October, 2-4 pm

We'd love you to join us in the **church grounds or annexe** for our **Macmillan Coffee Afternoon** — with tea, coffee, delicious cakes and good company!

You can *eat in or take away* — every slice helps raise money for the brilliant work of **Macmillan Cancer Support**.

Pop in on your way home with the children — they'll thank you for it!

Coming up...

All-Together Worship with Baptism - Sunday 2nd November, 11 am

One of St John's children will be baptised during our All-Together service! It would be lovely to have lots of their friends there to cheer them on at this joyful, interactive celebration for all ages.

Light Party at St John's@3 - Friday 8th November, 3 pm

As the afternoons grow darker, come and join us for our **St John's@3 Light Party** — with games, crafts, songs, tasty treats and plenty of fun.

Rev Kathryn
Vicar, St John's Church

