



# St John's School Newsletter

## 24th 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 - Aurora** for being an all round star in class. She is so kind and helpful to the teachers and other children, noticing if someone needs resources or if we need some help tidying up. She listens carefully in our learning sessions and it has been wonderful to see her growing in confidence with her sounds and blending to read words. She enjoys being creative and has such wonderful ideas to share with her friends in her imaginative games.

**Starlings - Dougie** for his excellent attitude to his learning. This week we have seen him grow in confidence. In maths he has been working on number bonds to 10 and using resources, he was also able to write all the bonds independently and with great presentation. In English he has concentrated on using word and phonic cards to create sentences about the character from the story. He has also impressed us with his sewing skills creating his own puppet using the needle and thread.

**Kingfishers - Julia** has worked hard throughout our topics, showing great focus and determination in her learning. Her creativity has shone throughout the week from creating a crest inspired by one of the families in Romeo and Juliet to making a detailed water cycle diagram using the correct terminology. Julia remains a fantastic friend and learning partner, and her enthusiasm for her learning has really supported her group during group work too.

**Sandpipers - Evie W** has really impressed us with her great start to Year 5. She settled well into the class and has really found her voice! She was brilliant in the Young Shakespeare workshop, answering lots of questions and following the story well. Evie's worked very hard on her newspaper report this week, adding lots of details and taking time to proof-read carefully. Her times tables have helped her in maths, she's been multiplying with great confidence! It's been lovely to see her so comfortable in her new class and working hard.

#### MISSION 26-26

Our mighty Mission 26-26 rocket was launched today in our Celebration Assembly. The first £200 (proceeds from last week's cake sale) was coloured in by James from Year 1—the first step in our aim of raising £26,000 by the end of 2026.

We have lift-off!!!



#### Young Shakespeare

Kingfishers and Sandpipers class took part in workshops and a performance of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet on Wednesday morning. The Young Shakespeare Company, a group of young professional actors, led the morning and the children were enthralled by the story telling, acting and fun of the workshop and presentation.



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

John 10:10

## FUNDRAISING at St John's

There are presently two different fundraising streams taking place:

### BUILDING FUND

The first is the Building Fund which was introduced last year and again at the start of this term. This is an on-going fund for the development of the school buildings. Recent developments have included the new children's toilets and cloakrooms, the external steps to the hall and Sandpipers class, repairs to the flat roof and the fencing and tarmac in the Robins class outdoor area. Diocese fund these projects but as a school we contribute 10% of the cost. For this fund we would appreciate monthly contributions or one-off payments. Further details are available on the school website.

### MISSION 26-26

This is a fundraising venture led by the LSA with the aim of replacing the play equipment on the main playground. The cost is considerable, one quote being around £35,000, for example. LSA fundraising events between now and the end of 2026 will go towards this goal but any suggestions for match funding and donations from companies and other donors would be much appreciated. Please speak to Mrs Boylan, Faye Dave (chair of the LSA) or other LSA members about this.



### Open Days for families of Reception age children - September 2026

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

### Holiday club

We are offering a holiday club at the end of the Autumn term. The dates it will be running are:

Monday 22nd December  
Tuesday 23rd December

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 

### LSA cake sale - Friday 17th October

Many thanks to the parents of children in Starlings class who provided such an amazing array of sugary delights for last week's Cake Sale. £200 was raised! That is an amazing amount - can the next class beat it?! Many thanks to parents for buying the cakes and to the LSA for organising the sale.



### LSA Fireworks

Don't forget to book your tickets for the LSA Fireworks evening on Friday 14th November. Please see the attached poster for further information.

### 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

### 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

Aurora - Robins

James - Starlings

Hallelujah - Kingfisher

Aarav - Sandpiper



## DIARY DATES

**27th October-31st October** - Half Term break  
**Half term holiday club** running on 27th, 28th and 29th October

**4th November 1.30pm** - Open afternoon

**4th November 3.15pm** - Book Look (see below)

**5th November 10.00am** Open Morning

**5th November 1.10pm** - U11 Basketball Tournament

**8th November 3pm** - Light Party at St John's Church

**11th November** - Remembrance Day

**14th November** - LSA Fire works evening

**21st November** - LSA Hamper donation day in exchange for non-uniform\*

**27th November** - LSA Pre-loved Christmas jumper sale after school (please bring in any unwanted Christmas jumpers for us to include in the sale—thank you.)

**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)

\*more details to follow

### Book Look Tuesday 4th November 3.15 - 4.00 p.m.

For those parents whose Meet the teacher appointments were on-line there is an opportunity to come in school to see you child's books on 4/11/25 at 3.15 p.m. If you are intending to come in please let Ms Lewis know so that we can have your child's books ready. Thank you.



Hello

This week in Collective Worship we continued exploring God's Big Story, meeting some remarkable prophets — those brave messengers who spoke God's truth to the people. During Thursday's church gathering, we heard from the prophet Micah (with a little help from a mysterious postbag!) who reminded us that what matters most to God isn't impressive words or expensive gifts, but how we treat others with kindness and fairness.

Coming up...

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

Join us in the church grounds or annexe for a lovely Macmillan Coffee Afternoon! There'll be delicious cakes, hot drinks and friendly conversation — whether you fancy sitting down or grabbing something to take home. Every penny raised supports the amazing work of Macmillan Cancer Support. Perfect for popping in after school pickup — the children will be thrilled! ☐

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

This promises to be a really special morning, as one of our St John's school family is baptised during our All-Together service. It will be a joyful celebration for all ages — we'd love to see you there!

### Light Party - Friday 8 November, 3 pm

As autumn evenings draw in, come and brighten things up at our St John's @ 3 Light Party! We'll have games, creative activities, singing, tasty treats and plenty of laughter as we celebrate light, friendship and life together. Everyone welcome!

Have a great weekend whatever you are up to.

Rev Kathryn

