



St John's School Newsletter

14 November 2025

Values of this half term

Peace & Understanding

'Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased.'

Luke 2: 14



Remembrance Day

On Tuesday the children took part in a Remembrance Collective Worship at St John's Church. Each class took their wreath to the service which was led by Revd Kathryn. In class the children had written values and key words relating to Remembrance including love, hope and armistice onto bunting. At the end of the collective worship, we gathered around one of the trees near the pond and strung the words up onto the tree and kept the two minutes silence.



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Prayer is our Beacon Pupil as she has been showing lovely St. John's values this week, such as taking care of her friends and our classroom resources. She has been working hard in our phonics and maths lessons, blending and using vocabulary well. She loves to create and is generous with making cards and pictures for other people. Keep it up Prayer!

Starlings - Elisabeth for her continued enthusiasm, always showing a positive attitude towards her learning. She has used wonderful letter formation to make a poster about Remembrance day. In maths she concentrated hard to create fact families. She has shown great understanding building numbers with ten and more. She was able to carefully position shapes in the style of Piet Mondrian in Art. In class she is a great role model for always sitting ready for learning.

Kingfishers - Jack continues to show great positivity and enthusiasm- he has shown real confidence throughout the week, from representing our school fantastically as part of school council through to sharing great ideas within class. He has shown real determination in maths tackling problem-solving enquiry questions and produced an excellent alternative chapter for our narrative using a range of devices to add detail. Well done on all your hard work Jack.

Sandpipers - Finley has shown great maturity since being in Year 6, making positive choices in class and on the playground, and working hard to be a good role model. He is focussed on his learning, listens carefully, and is showing great care and thought in all he does. Finley has really understood the Highway Man poem in English and we have loved his brilliant ideas, questions and description in his writing! He had a fantastic understanding of division and improper fractions in maths showing great perseverance.

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


John 10:10

LEST WE FORGET




Word of the Week

This week's word for younger children:

Word		Definition	Challenge
damp		A bit wet.	Imagine your clothes are damp . How do they feel?

This week's word for our older children:

Word		Definition	Challenge
curiously		In an interesting way.	Think of fictional characters that behaved curiously . What did they say or do?



Children in Need Day

Thank you to all the children for bringing sunshine and spots to our School. We raised an incredible £82.90

December 2026 Extra Open Day

Hello, for children starting in Reception in September 2026 we have added another tour to our list, that will take place on 5th December at 10-11am.

Holiday club

We are taking bookings for 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.

Christmas Lunch & Panto

Thank you, 70 children have now signed up for Christmas Lunch and Panto trip - if your child wishes to join in, please complete and return the form that was sent home - by Wednesday 19th November.

12 Days of Christmas

The traditional St John's 12 Days of Christmas will soon be upon us. We will soon be sharing the full programme of events with you.

On Friday 21st November, in exchange for hamper donations, there will be a non-uniform day. On the class Whatsapp groups the LSA have listed the donations that they would appreciate class giving. The hampers are always a popular part of the 12 Days of Christmas celebrations and all support in providing for them is appreciated.

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 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

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 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

Prayer - Robins
Rupert St - Starlings
Joseph - Kingfisher
Sophia - Sandpipers



DIARY DATES

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

24th November - **rearranged Netball Festival**

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!**

9th December - Panto visit

17th December - Christmas Lunch

19th December - End of Term (1.30 finish)

*more details to follow

Fundraising at St John's

BUILDING FUND

The first is the Building Fund which was introduced last year and again at the start of 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.



Hello

Light Party!

It was so lovely to see children and families coming together at our St John's@3 Light Party on Saturday afternoon. The Annexe and church were full of colour, laughter, and sparkle — a real celebration of light, hope, and friendship as the evenings draw in.

Huge thanks to everyone who helped, baked, created, played games, listened to stories, and joined in in any way. You made it a brilliant afternoon!

Our next St John's@3 is our Christingle and Pizza Service on Sunday 18th January at 3 pm, so do pop the date in your diaries now. Before that it's Christmas (as if you needed reminding!), so keep an eye out for all the great things we've got coming up for families in December.

School Act of Remembrance

On Tuesday we gathered as a whole school to pause, remember, and pray for peace. Each class brought up a stone to build a small cairn of remembrance. Then we stood together in silence under our memory tree, with the children's beautifully decorated Remembrance words fluttering in the breeze. It was a really moving moment — full of respect, with every single child listening so well.

With love and thanks.

Rev Kathryn

