



# St John's School Newsletter

## 17th April 2026

### Values of this half term

#### Dignity and Respect

'Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself'.

Matthew 7:12



### Welcome to the Summer Term

It was lovely welcoming everyone back this week. We hope you all had a lovely Easter.

It is incredible to believe that we are at the beginning of the summer term already! It is a busy term with lots of things going on from Sports Days, SATs, performances, class trips and so much more. We have updated the diary on the school website and on this newsletter with the dates that we have so far.

#### School Values

Our values for this half term are **DIGNITY** and **RESPECT**. In Collective Worship this week we have explored how these values are very important in how we treat one another. We have also related them to our school vision which is based on **John 10:10 'I came that they may have life, life in all its fullness.'** In the coming weeks our programme of Collective Worship will more fully explore John 10:10, including what a 'full life' is and how being part of a community brings with it fullness.

#### Welcome to St John's

We would like to welcome Miss L Redmond who will be working in school with us this term. Miss Redmond is part of the local Mental Health Support Team and is working in schools to provide early help and preventative support for the mental health and well-being of children.

#### Joey's Fundraising Journey

Joey in Kingfishers has been busy fundraising for Mission 26:26 by carrying out a sponsored litter pick over Easter hols. We are so grateful for his efforts which has raised about £300!

Please see the 'newsletter attachments' email for details on supporting his amazing efforts.

Congratulations and many thanks Joey!

#### Beacon Pupils

**Robins - Artemis** has bounced back into class this week with real enthusiasm for her learning. She has shown that she is able to listen to our new learning and take on the ideas for herself. This week she has been trying out lots of independent writing for different purposes and thinking about how she can make improvements. We love her thoughtful questions and her depth of knowledge which she enjoys sharing with all of us. She enjoys sharing her ideas with friends and creating interesting games inside and outside. Keep up the good work Artemis.

**Starlings - Alice** for her perseverance and engagement in tasks. In maths Alice has shown good understanding of capacity and volume reading measurements with confidence and contributing to during class discussion. She worked well in her group measuring the capacity of range of containers. In English she has shown a good understanding of the film *Snack Attack* and thought of great adjectives to describe the old woman. Alice has shown an independence in her work this week and in Science she matched baby and adult animals. Alice has grown in confidence sharing ideas in class.

**Kingfishers - Jenson** has made a fantastic start following the Easter break, showing great confidence and engagement across all of his learning. He has been keen to take part in activities and has stayed focused to complete his work to a high standard. In Science, Jenson showed excellent concentration while researching endangered animals. He thoughtfully explored why conservation is so important and produced a brilliant magazine article. In History, he showed further determination when retelling the events and impact of the Viking invasion. In Maths, Jenson has embraced our new topic of time with real enthusiasm and a positive attitude to learning. Well done Jenson.

**Sandpiper - Luca** always really impresses us with his brilliant commitment to his learning! Whether it's in class, small group work or in our early morning Year 6 groups, he always works hard, listens carefully and contributes well. He has shown a fantastic understanding of *The Jabberwocky* this week - we loved his creative ideas about the nonsense words and how engaged he was throughout the lessons. Luca has also shown great reasoning skills with tricky coordinate questions across one and four quadrants, and when solving missing coordinate problems using his shape knowledge. Well done!

## DIARY DATES

20 April - School Clubs Start  
22 April - Sandpipers PGL Info Session 3.30pm  
4 May - Lemsford Fete  
11-14 May - SATS week  
21 May - School Census Day\*  
25-29 May - Half Term (school closed)  
1 June - INSET (school closed to pupils)  
10 June - District Athletics\*  
12 June - Sports Day \* (1-3.15pm)\*\*  
15 June - Outdoor Learning Week\*  
26 June - Back Up Sports Day \*\*  
29 June - 1st July - Sandpipers Residential  
7 July - KS2 Production\*  
8 July - KS2 Production\*  
9 July - Year 6 Move Up Day\*  
22 July - End of Term (1.30pm finish)

\*more details to follow

\*\*all parents welcome

## 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.



## Finer Diner

Children with exemplary manners during lunchtimes are given a Best Behaviour slip.

Those slips are put into a hat and we invite children 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

Alice - Starlings

Joseph - Kingfisher

Samuel M - Sandpipers



## Fete Preparations

### LEMSFORD FETE - Bank Holiday Monday - 4<sup>th</sup> May

The fete committee are continuing to plan and organise as the fete draws ever nearer! Thank you for all your generous donations of chocolate and bottle. Please check the diary and school website calendar for further donation days. Rehearsals for the Maypole and country dances are well underway - we can't wait to see them! As the theme of this year's fete is Star Wars - "May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you.....!" the songs that the school are singing all have a connection with space. The children will also be singing the new St John's school song which was premiered at the music concert prior to the Easter holidays.

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May the school will be performing their songs and dances for those parents who will be working on the fete stalls at the time of the performances on the day itself. If you are on a stall at the time of the school performance at 2.00 p.m. please do not leave your stall at that time but do come along on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May to enjoy a more exclusive performance!

Many thanks for the generous donations of chocolate that came into school today. Further donation days are:

24 April - Bottle & Chocolate donations\*\*

27 April - Bric a brac and toy donations

29 April - Lucky Bag donations

3/4 May - Cake donations

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Cake donations - This year we are requesting that donated cakes are portion size, cakes like cupcakes, tray bakes, buns etc, if possible. Thank you!

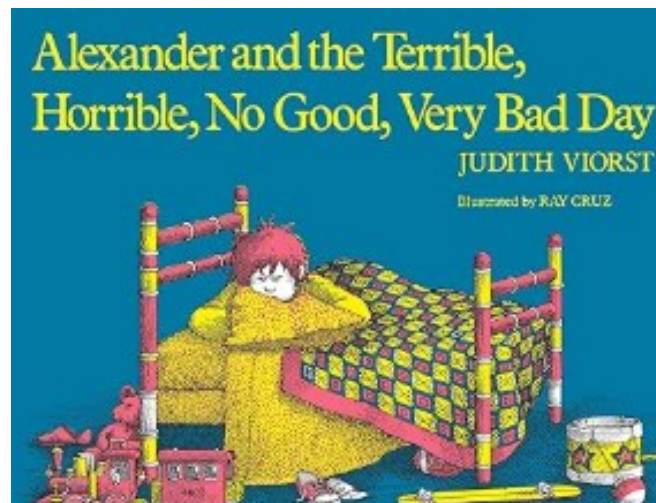
\*\* non uniform day



### Our Favourite Books

This week we have the choice of Mrs Shannon, our Chair of Governors.

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst is one of those books that has so many levels and will be picked up time and time again. With relatable humour and timeless illustrations, this children's book classic gently explores emotions, behaviour, and the ups and downs of everyday life, making it the perfect story for teaching kids about feelings and how to handle a bad day.



Alexander wakes up with gum in his hair and quickly realises it's going to be a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. From missing out on the window seat in the car to getting in trouble at school, nothing seems to go his way. As the day unravels, Alexander's mood gets worse, leaving him feeling cranky and convinced moving to Australia might be the only solution.

### Holiday Club at St John's

Booking is now available for our Easter and May Holiday Club.

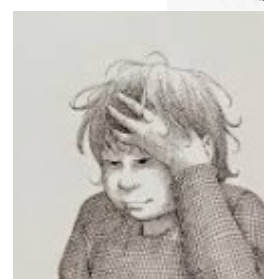
Dates coming up are

**May half term**

**26th May**

**27th May**

Children can join for full days, just mornings or just afternoons - please ask the school office for a booking form.



### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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

A reminder that 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.

Pesto is also not allowed.



### 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.



### 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 close.

We would appreciate your support with this.



 show you care, park elsewhere 