



# St John's School Newsletter

## 8th May 2026

### Values of this half term

#### Dignity and Respect

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

Matthew 7:12



### LEMSFORD FETE

Just to reiterate the emails that have been sent to you this week regarding the Lemsford Fete. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH. It was a super event! All of your contributions were very much appreciated. If you have any suggestions for future fetes please let us know.



### SATS - Year 6

Next week our year 6 children will be sitting their SATs tests. They have been working diligently on their revision and have been positive as well as resilient. We are very proud of them and of the progress they have made since first joining us. We know that they will try their best and will do themselves proud. We look forward to seeing them bright and early for the traditional treat of breakfasts at school! Many thanks to Miss Ng and the Sandpipers class team. GO FOR IT YEAR 6!

### World Faiths

An important part of our Religious Education provision is learning about other world faiths. We would like to invite parents and family members of different faiths (such as Sikhism, Buddhism, Judaism) into school to share aspects of their faith with the children. Do please let us know if you are able to help us with this. Thank you.

### Beacon Pupils

**Robins - Ruben** has shown such brilliant resilience in the last few weeks. He is happy to meet challenges with quiet determination and will go back and make changes to his work or play to make improvements to what he is doing. We have seen him using all of his skills in his writing, carefully sounding out tricky words in his dinosaur book. He plays creatively and is happy to share ideas with his friends. Keep up the good work Ruben!

**Starlings - Rupert (St)** for his excellent attitude to all areas of his learning. He has taken on some difficult maths challenges involving finding fractions of given numbers. In English this week he has worked incredibly hard on keeping his handwriting neat and on the line. He has developed use of excellent adjectives to describe the character in his Wanted poster. Rupert always has a great confidence in sharing his ideas in both whole class and small groups and enjoyed sharing his news about his new baby chicks. Well done for always being a great friend to others and a hard worker.

**Kingfishers - Marley** has shown real resilience and determination throughout the week. We have been impressed with Marley's perseverance tackling increasingly difficult equations in maths, her confidence in reading and sharing excellent comprehension, and her great progress in her spelling. Marley represented our class and school fantastically in our dancing at the beginning of the week, we were so impressed of her overcoming prior nerves to do this. Marley's imagination shone in art this week, planning her own Carl Warner style collage and we can't wait to see her complete this.

**Sandpipers - Aarav** has really impressed us over the year with his huge growth in maturity! He has been stepping out of his comfort zone recently, in particular taking on new roles and responsibilities such as helping in assemblies. Aarav has been working hard to be more independent in his learning, showing great note taking skills, lovely descriptive writing, and fantastic understanding of time. Aarav has shown great resilience when speaking about and preparing for secondary school, sharing what he wants to work on and enjoy while at St John's, and enjoying an extra visit where he asked good questions about what to expect. Well done!

### Joey's Litter Pick

The litter pick went well! If you see Joey ask him about the odd things he found! His epic clean up took over 4 hours, going around the school grounds, the village hall field and down through the village. Total as of lunchtime today is £526 plus gift aid!

Joey's fundraising link is still available and is on the Newsletter Attachments email.



### Holiday Club at St John's

Booking is now available for our May Half term and Summer Holiday Clubs

Dates coming up are

#### May half term

26th May

27th May

#### Summer Holiday

23rd & 24th July

27th, 28th, 29th, 30th & 31st July

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

### 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 cloak-rooms, 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.

### Art Explorers Club

Two spaces left for the next block of sessions. Please book early to secure your slot.

### Attendance - Holidays in School time

We kindly remind parents that holidays should not be taken during term time, as this disrupts children's learning and can impact their progress and well-being. Attendance at school is a legal requirement, and requests for leave during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. We appreciate your cooperation in planning family holidays outside of school terms and thank you for your continued support in ensuring the best possible education for all pupils.

### School Census Meal Change

As two classes are out on a trip 21st May, we are having our Census Day meal on 19th May instead.

Year 1-6 - please see email sent 22/4

Robins - thank you all for pre-selecting a meal.



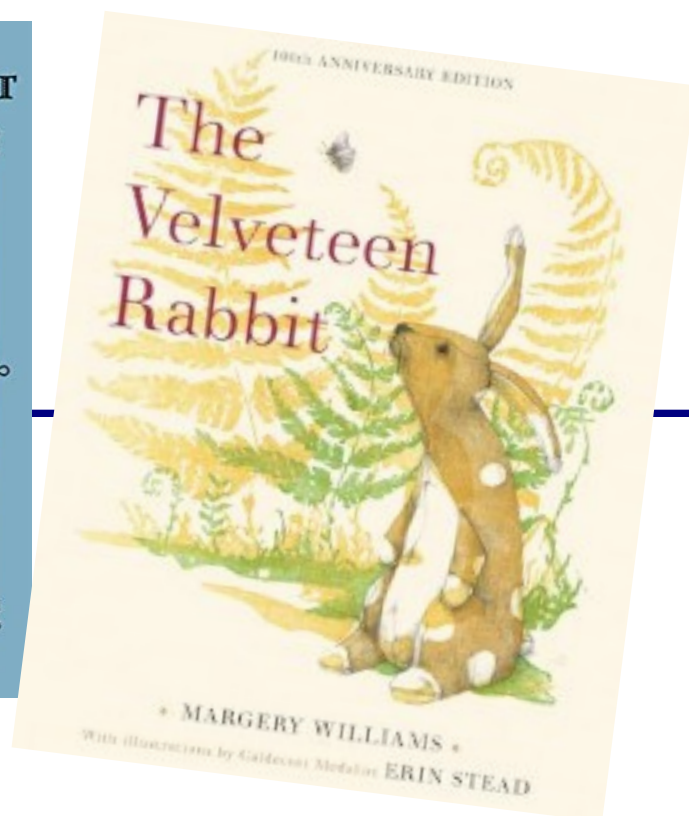
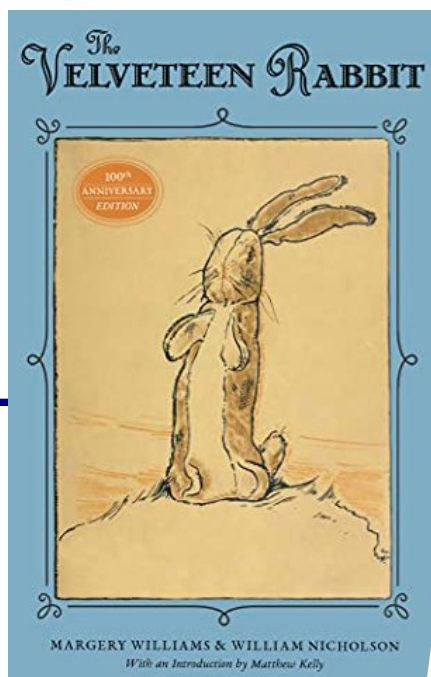
## National Year of Reading What did our staff read?

This week our Teaching Assistant, Mrs Wallace from Starlings, has shared her review.

I chose *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams because I read it as a child and found it really magical, it was a favourite book of my children too and have gifted it to many others.

Every child should read this wonderful book.

Once there was a velveteen rabbit who longed to be real. He was owned by a boy who loved him more and more every day, even when the rabbit's velveteen coat grew old and shabby and worn. Then one day something magical happened, and the rabbit's wish began to come true...



### 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](#)

### 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.

### 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 9.25am, 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.

### 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 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 

## DIARY DATES

- 11-14 May** - SATS week
- 14 May** - Robins Trip to Mill Green Museum
- 18 May** - School District Tri Golf Event
- 21 May** - Starlings and Kingfisher to Herts Zoo
- 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

## Hello from Revd Kathryn

We hope to have more from the Church next week, in the meantime don't forget to check out the St John's Church Website where you will find copies of the Parish Magazine with updates and more photos from the Fete, lots of diary dates and local information.

The Lemsford history website is particularly interesting too, please visit

[www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk](http://www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk)

## Trainers and Shoes

Just a reminder that the shoes and trainers that children wear to school each day must be completely black including any logos and sides of the soles. Trainers that are worn only for PE can be other colours but we would prefer them to be a dark, plain colour. Please bear this in mind when you are replacing shoes and trainers over the coming months.

Many thanks for your cooperation with this.



More Fete Photos