



St John's School Newsletter

12th June 2026

Values of this half term

Courage and Responsibility

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go'.

Joshua 1:9



MISSION 26-26 Amazing news!

We are delighted to share with you the news that we have achieved our mission of raising £26,000. Thanks to everyone's fundraising the installation of the new play equipment will begin before the summer break, much earlier than anticipated.

Many thanks to Faye Dave, the leader of our LSA, for organising the fundraising events and for applying for grants, along with her team of dedicated helpers, so successfully!

Thank you also to parents who continue to support us in our fundraising initiatives. Along with the Silverline and Mr Rapson's song, fundraising will continue.



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Ozzy is a great example of our value of responsibility in Robin Class. He works hard to think about what needs doing in the classroom and how to look after his friends. It is a joy to see how he includes people in his play and thinks carefully about how to create games that everyone can enjoy. All of his learning from the year is coming together beautifully in his expressive writing and his good explanations in his maths work. Keep up the good work Ozzy.

Starlings - Kalia for her excellent attitude to learning and towards her friends this week. In English Kalia has listened carefully to instructions to ensure her work is correct she wrote a fantastic piece of writing all about our book *Stuck*. In art she impressed us all with her beautiful piece of natural artwork whereby she worked carefully to create a picture using a range of resources. In maths she has been a great learning partner in working on bar graphs investigating the class's favourite animal. Keep up the great work.

Kingfishers - Joey has been a fantastic role model. He has approached every lesson with enthusiasm, from creating poems and exploring prepositions to practising songs for *Alice in Wonderland* and identifying parallel and perpendicular lines in maths. Joey is always ready to learn, persevere when challenged, and is a caring and dependable friend to everyone in the class. Well done Joey!

Sandpipers - Evie W has really impressed us throughout Year 5 with her positive attitude to learning, how much she has matured and her enthusiasm. Evie has really embraced all the opportunities and new responsibilities that being in Sandpipers brings, and has been a trustworthy role model to others. She has shown great determination to succeed in her learning, being resilient and taking time to think how she can tackle challenges in her learning, especially some tricky maths recently. Evie has been working hard in our *Alice in Wonderland* rehearsals - we love seeing her enjoyment when singing the songs, how well she is learning her lines and acting on stage, and how she is also helping others. Well done!

Attendance

Week Ending 22nd May 2026

Robins	99.2%
Starlings	97.5%
Kingfisher	98.7%
Sandpipers	95.7%

Sports Day

12th June 2026

Sports Day 2026

What an afternoon! Full of good humour, tremendous effort and keen competitiveness! Each of the houses—Ash, Oak, Maple and Willow—did themselves proud. Congratulations to everyone that took part.

Special congratulations go to :

SPORTSMANSHIP— MAPLE (red)

OVERALL WINNERS— OAK (yellow)

Thank you parents for coming along and for supporting your children so enthusiastically. Thank you to the sports leaders from Stanborough School and Mrs Moxham for their continued support. Thanks also to Mr Davies for providing the sound system. Finally, many thanks to Miss Ng and the staff who worked so hard to make it such a successful event.



Gardening Day

Many thanks to those parents who have volunteered to come into school tomorrow to work on the school grounds. There is plenty to be done so if you have not volunteered so far but could spare some time, please do come along.

Governors' Award Day - July 2026

Once again Carrie Shannon, our Chair of Governors, will be organising a Governors' award day for those children who have received 5 merit certificates. **The deadline for children to hand in their 5 merit certificates is Friday 3rd July.** Any that are handed in after this date will be included in the Governors' award day in 2027.

Collective Worship - 'Fullness of Life.'

This half term we are continuing to explore John 10:10. Our focus is particularly on change and the ways in which change is an important part of leading a full life. In our collective worship in church yesterday Jo reminded us of the key church seasons, their meanings and symbols.

RE Enrichment Day

Our next RE Enrichment Day is on Wednesday 24th June. During the day in class and as house teams the children will be exploring the Christian Faith and how it is celebrated around the world. The children will explore the key Christian festivals and the way in which they are celebrated in different parts of the world and will compare Christian church services in our country with those in other places. If you have any experience of Christianity in other countries or cultures we would love to hear about them.

Silver Line Mission 26:26

The deadline for bringing in silver coins is next Monday, the 22nd June. We would like the children to bring in silver coins in envelopes or bags with their names on. In house teams, the children will line up the coins with the house team creating the longest line receiving 50 house points. Do bring in your coins on Monday, their total will go towards the 26:26 Mission.

Holiday Club at St John's

Booking is now available for our Summer Holiday Clubs

Dates coming up are:

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.

Food Donations

Food Bank donations will continue this term. Any tinned or dried food or toiletries would be very much appreciated. Suggested donation days are:

Friday 19th June Robins Class

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.

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

We have reached our initial target, but fundraising continues. We aim to replace 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.

Camp St John's

You will have received a message about this year's Camp St John's which, weather permitting, will take place on Saturday 27th June. Pizza and camping will be fun. We are only opening this event up to parents of children who attend St Johns.

Thank you.



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.





National Year of Reading
Coming soon to a Library near you...



The Summer Reading Challenge is back, encouraging children to read over the holidays.

This year's theme is Read to the Beat, exploring the creative power of music and reading.

The challenge runs from 4th July until 5th September, helping to broaden reading horizons and maintain reading levels for the next academic year. It is a fun, free family activity.

Last year more than 17,500 children took part in Hertfordshire. Please visit The Reading Agency website for more details.



Forest School

As mentioned in previous newsletters we are planning on establishing Forest School as part of the curriculum. We are beginning to gather resources for use as part of Forest School. If any parents have any access to logs that we could use for a seating area in the spinney, then do please let us know. Just a reminder too that on Saturday 13th June there will be a parents' working party who will be completing tasks in the school grounds including creating a path through the spinney. Many thanks to everyone involved!

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

- 13 June** - Parent Volunteers / Gardening**
- 15 June** - Outdoor Learning Week*
- 27 June** - Camp St Johns*
- 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

Hello

If you're an avid reader of this newsletter, you may notice the same piece popping up for a couple weeks — I'm taking my summer leave in June this year. The good news is that this gives you plenty of time to get all our summer dates for children and families in your diary!

St John's@3 Wild Summer Worship - Sunday 28th June, 3pm

Our outdoor, all-age gathering in the churchyard at Lemsford — with space to explore, create, eat, and simply be together. Brilliant for children, and for anyone who wants to "do church" in a more informal way.

All Together Service - Sunday 5th July, 11am

Our monthly all-age service in church, where we worship together in a simpler, more interactive way.

All-Age Celebration Service for the arrival of Revd Dan - Sunday 12th July, 11am

We'd love to fill the church for this service for all ages as we say a big hello to Revd Dan, our new curate (think trainee vicar), who will be joining us for nearly three years. The service is followed by a bring-and-share picnic lunch and games in the school grounds — please do come and help us make him feel at home in the St John's family.

Alongside these services, we'll be continuing to explore our Collective Worship theme of Fullness of Life in lots of different ways. This half term our focus shifts to a full life including change, endings, and new beginnings — very fitting for the final weeks of the school year.

See you soon

Revd Kathryn

A CELEBRATION SERVICE
with
St John's & St Michael's
to welcome Revd Dan - our new curate!

Join us on Sunday 12th July @ 11am at
St John's, Lemsford

St John's and St Michael's come together
for a special joint service for all ages,
followed by a bring and share picnic
and games!

Christenings

Many congratulations to Benji and Lukey who were christened at St John's Church last Sunday. It was a special and memorable day for all involved.

