



St John's School Newsletter

10th July 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



Alice in Wonderland Production

We have been treated to excellent performances of this year's production, 'Alice in Wonderland.' Sandpipers and Kingfisher classes really did themselves proud with their fantastic singing, acting and dancing. There were lots of very proud family members in each of the audiences! Many thanks to all the staff who directed and contributed to the shows, we are very grateful for all their efforts and enthusiasm in creating such memorable performances.



Year 6

Arbor Balances

It is less than a month until our Year 6 children leave St John's.

A gentle reminder to ensure you have paid any balance outstanding on Arbor in full **before** your child leaves.

Thank you

Attendance

Week Ending 3rd July 2026

Robins	90%
Starlings	91.7%
Kingfisher	93.4%
Sandpipers	90.8%

Beacon Pupils

Robins - **Iskirat** has been such a kind and helpful member of the class this year. She is thoughtful and will notice if someone needs some help or if there is something that needs putting away. Her careful work through the year has come together in some lovely pieces of writing recently, really showcasing all of her phonics and handwriting skills. We will miss her next year but know she will have a great time in Starling Class, keep up the great work, Iskirat.

Starlings - **Sophia** for her fantastic confidence in group work this week. In guided reading Sophia has read beautifully and shared her knowledge about the text clearly to the group. In our English this week Sophia has written a lovely account of the film Dangle and enjoyed writing her own story. In maths this week she has weighed objects with a group, taking turns and talking about how much each object weighed. On transition morning Sophia had lots of positive things to say about Kingfishers and was confident to make some new friends during the morning. Keep it up Sophia!

Kingfishers - **Julia** has shown fantastic confidence during our transition morning as the older year group, being supportive, helpful and reassuring to new class members. This confidence has also shone in her learning, where Julia has embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and maturity this week. Across our topics, she has thoughtfully extended her work by using ambitious vocabulary and adding detail, from descriptive writing in English to creating an informative tourist guide in Geography. She has continued to be a positive role model, always being kind, helpful and supportive around the classroom.

Sandpipers - **Zach** has really impressed us over recent weeks with his maturity and how much he has grown up! He has continued to be focussed on his learning, even with a very busy week of performances! He impressed us with his great understanding of our South America topic and how his research and final booklet showed off his learning. Zach was brilliant in our school play and we appreciated the time he took to learn lines and practise with his group, helping them all to shine. He was a caring and welcoming buddy on Thursday, being playful and kind and helping the new Robins settle in. He was also really welcoming and helpful towards the Year 4 children and made them feel at ease. We can really see what a wonderful Year 6

School Song - Ready for download!

As you know earlier this year 6, with the guidance of Mr Rapson composed a new school song, 'Don't Ever Give Up,' The children have now recorded the vocals and backing instrumental parts. The completed song performance has been put together by Mr Rapson and is now available to download, with a donation toward our Mission 26:26 being appreciated.

[Scan the QR](#)
[code or click to](#)
[download now!](#)



Warm Welcome

We would like to welcome two members of staff who will be working alongside Mrs Kay in our holiday club. A warm welcome to Leah Burke and Ethan Reid who will be joining this summer term's holiday club team along with Miss Wallace. We are planning for them to be part of the holiday club for future holidays as well.

Emotional Mental Wellbeing in Schools Mark-Advanced

Many congratulations to Mrs Gammon and the staff team who have achieved the Emotional Mental Wellbeing in Schools Mark-Advanced level for our school. This is a major achievement and is due to the hard work and commitment of Mrs Gammon and the staff. We have achieved the Advanced Practice level.

Here are some of the comments from the report:

'What a pleasure and a privilege it was for us, as assessors to visit St Johns Lemsford. School have ensured that the mental health and emotional wellbeing of pupils is constantly monitored.'

We will now be able to add this award to our headed note paper!

Church Layby Parking Restrictions 16th July 2026

We have had a request from Church Wardens to please refrain from parking in the Church Layby at drop off on 16th July 2026.

Thank you for your co-operation.

More photos from the performance of
Alice in Wonderland



Online Safety Advice

As we approach the summer holidays just a reminder about the importance of your children staying safe on - line. Here are two useful links; the first gives information on how to set parental controls and privacy settings to devices and the other is a presentation about internet safety for your child (ren.)

[Parental controls and privacy settings guides | Internet Matters](#)

[Staff Led Parent Online Safety Presentation | Childnet](#)

Please do have a look. Thank you



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

Rupert So - Starlings

Gracie - Kingfisher

Finley F - Sandpiper



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. Many thanks to the LSA and all parents for supporting us in raising more than our original planned amount—what an achievement!

The work on the new equipment is progressing very well and will hopefully completed before the end of term!

Holiday Club

July 2026

Thank you to those parents who have made Holiday Club bookings. Invoices have now been added to Arbor.

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.



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

13th July - Rock Steady Concert 2.15 p.m.
16th July - Governors' Treat
17th July - Leavers' Party
21st July - Music Concert with Mr Rapson (9am.)
21st July - Leavers' assembly 2.15 p.m.
22nd July - End of Term (1.30pm finish)

Autumn Term 2026

1st September - Inset
2nd September - Back to school
26th-30th October - Half Term
27th November - Occasional Day (school closed)
18th December - Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

Hello from Revd Kathryn

Hello

I hope you're managing to find some ways to stay cool - please share them with me!

It may be the height of summer, but there's still lots going on in church this July. On Thursday, in collective worship we explored the idea of a "Rule of Life" — a very old Christian tradition of building small, everyday habits that help us grow, rather than relying on one big effort now and then. Together we brainstormed ideas across relationships, rest, serving others, quiet, and time with God. It was brilliant to hear their thoughtful responses.

This weekend is a big one at St John's as we get together at 11am for special celebration service, welcoming Revd Dan as our new curate. There will be something for all ages, and we'd love to see you

After the service, we'll be heading over to the St John's School grounds for a bring-and-share picnic lunch and outdoor games. A huge thank you for letting us use this space.

If you've never been to a bring-and-share picnic before, just bring anything that can be shared: a quiche, cake, sandwiches, salad, pudding, fruit, or whatever you'd like to bring. Don't worry if you can't bring anything — we'd simply love to see you!

Please bring your food into the Annexe (around the back of church) before the service starts at 11am, and we'll arrange for it to be taken across to the school. Cool bags or boxes could be helpful if you have them, but don't worry if you don't.

Gazebos will be up to provide shade, but you may want to bring a camping chair or picnic blanket if you have one.

Most importantly, bring yourself and come and enjoy celebrating together!

See you soon

Revd Kathryn



Fundraising for Isabel Hospice

St John's Church

22nd July - 1pm-3pm

Join us from tea, coffee and cake. Everyone is welcome.