



St John's School Newsletter

17th 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



End of the school year

We have nearly made it to the end of the year and what a year it has been! It has definitely lived up to our school vision of 'life in all its fullness.' On Monday we will have the official opening of the new play equipment which has been a tremendous whole school effort led by the LSA. Please join us at 1.45 p.m. On Wednesday morning we will have the final Celebration Assembly of the year.

SATS results

After a delay of a week, year 6 received their SATs results yesterday. We are delighted with the results and, although not all national and Herts results are available, are pleased that this year the % of our children achieving at the highest level - greater depth - in Reading and Maths is above the national average. We have also seen a huge improvement in the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling results. Well done year 6!

Year 6

Arbor Balances

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

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

Attendance

Week Ending 10th July 2026

Robins	94%
Starlings	98.7%
Kingfisher	93.6%
Sandpipers	98.3%

Beacon Pupils

Robins - Thomas has been such a great example of resilience and perseverance in Robin Class this year. Even when he hasn't found things easy he has been happy to have another go and think about what he can do to make his next learning steps. He has a lovely sense of humour, and we all enjoy talking to him about his ideas, sharing stories and creative activities with him, as he has such lovely ideas. We wish him all the best for Starling Class, keep up the good work.

Starlings - Elisabeth for her continued hard work and positive approach to her learning. She has written beautiful summer poems using a range of adjectives and working hard on her handwriting. She has shown a great confidence when talking to her group in guided reading and sharing her ideas. In art Elisabeth thought carefully about her natural picture and where to place the nature she then portrayed this on the chrome books on the paint programme. Keep up the hard work.

Kingfishers - William has been an absolute superstar since joining our class in June - from performing in summer productions to showing excellent care in his schoolwork. He has thrown himself into every aspect of school life, tackling new learning with confidence and enthusiasm. He has quickly made new friends, shown great teamwork, and works brilliantly alongside his talk partner. He has fitted into our class so naturally, showing a positive attitude, resilience and kindness.

Sandpipers - Jo Jo has been a wonderful addition to our classroom and we can't imagine Sandpipers without him! He has enthusiastically jumped into all our learning and experiences, including joining in brilliantly with the Alice in Wonderland production. We have loved getting to know his happy and bubbly personality and it has been brilliant to see him readily making friends and socialising confidently. He offered great advice and thoughtful ideas during PSHE this week, and worked hard on summarising his learning about South America in Geography. Well done!

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!](#)



Sunflower Growing Competition Winner!

During our Outdoor Learning week, the children all planted sunflower seeds with Mrs Shannon. This week the most successful resulting plantlets were brought to the hall to be measured. The tallest and therefore winning sunflower belonged to Jonah. It measured an impressive 23 cms. Well done, Jonah!



Collective Worship

In Collective Worship this week we have continued to explore John 10:10. In school and church the children have reflected on the experiences and values that they will remember and that will help them in their next steps to enable them to continue to lead a life of fullness.



Rock Steady Concert

We were treated to performances by our 3 Rock Steady bands. The band members sang and played their instruments in one of the three songs: Shotgun, Stargazers and We will rock you! Well done to all who performed!



Dance performance

It was lovely to see the performance that our Dance Club gave last Friday. The dancers oozed confidence performing a complicated routine brilliantly. Dance Club will continue next term.



RE ENRICHMENT DAY

On Wednesday we had the final part of this term's RE Enrichment Day. We continued exploring the world views of Christianity. A worldview is the way people understand the world and their place in it. Christians around the world may worship differently, but all share the belief that every person is loved by God and should be treated with kindness and respect. In their house teams the children explored a different Christian festival and the ways it is celebrated around the world. At the end of the afternoon the children shared their learning.



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

Reggie - Robins

Rory - Starlings

William Pr - Kingfisher

Teddy - 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.

We are not able to take any additional bookings for July 2026. Look out for Holiday Club dates next term.

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 you 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

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)

Music Concert

Just a reminder that on Tuesday 21st we have our end of year concert. It will begin at 9am in the hall and each class will give a performance led by Mr Rapson. All parents and family members are warmly invited to join us for this performance.

Hello from Revd Kathryn

Hello

Our final church collective worship of the year was all about what we carry forward with us in life. We started with a game of guess-the-holiday-item, then thought about a different kind of packing — things like courage, kindness and the friendships that have carried us through the year. Our Year 6s each took away a word to carry into their new schools, and the rest of the school sent them off with an emotional blessing.

I think Rev'd Dan will be carrying love and welcome into his curacy after Sunday's packed celebration service! Thank you to everyone who made the joint celebration service so special. It was wonderful - as always - to have the children involved in every part of the service, and to share time with people of every generation over an amazing lunch afterwards.

Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday, whatever you're packing and carrying, and wherever you're headed.

See you in September, if not before.

With love,
Revd Kathryn



Fundraising for Isabel Hospice

St John's Church

22nd July - 1pm-3pm

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

