



St John's School Newsletter

22nd 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



Goodbye to year 6

Today we are saying goodbye to our year 6 children. They have been a fantastic year group who have given so much to St John's including being exemplary buddies, brilliant members of the school councils and super young leaders at lunchtimes. We are very proud of their achievements. We hope they take with them the lessons they have learnt at St John's and that they carry our school values into their new classrooms, their new friendships and their new adventures. Keep in touch year 6!



Opening of the Play Equipment

Our new play equipment was officially opened on Monday afternoon by Mayor Michal Siewniak, the Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council. After a tour around the school the Mayor joined the children and parents on the playground to open the new equipment. He praised everyone's efforts in fundraising, especially the speed and amount that was raised. CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!



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!](#)



Class Meetings

We will be holding our class information meetings at the start of term. This is a useful opportunity to hear our class teachers explain the arrangements for the year, the curriculum and all the other things that will be happening. It is also a useful opportunity to ask questions. The meetings are scheduled for:

Monday 7th September Robins Class 2.30 - 3.15 p.m. in hall - Presentation followed by an opportunity to meet other school staff.

Tuesday 8th September 2.45 - 3.15 p.m. Starlings class meeting

Wednesday 9th September 2.45 - 3.15 p.m. Kingfishers class meeting

Thursday 10th September 2.45 - 3.15 p.m. Sandpipers class meeting

Please do try to attend even if your child is staying in the same class.

Year 6 Leavers

Arbor Balances

A reminder to ensure you have paid any balance outstanding on Arbor.

Thank you

Attendance

Week Ending 17th July 2026

Robins	94.7%
Starlings	97.7%
Kingfisher	98.6%
Sandpipers	96/6%

Concert

Once again, we were treated to a marvellous concert organised by Mr Rapson with each class performing a song. The children provided their own accompaniments using piano, violin, lead guitars, bass guitars, tuned and untuned percussion instruments. Each performance was very effective and it was amazing to see the progression of learning in Music from our reception class right through to year 6. A huge thank you to Mr Rapson who brings so much to St John's.



More photos from our Concert



Leavers' Service

The leavers' service was once again very moving. Each year 6 prepared a speech in which they shared with us their memories of their time at St John's. They sang cover versions of two songs with the lyrics expertly changed to fit the occasion by Miss Ng. Here are some of their lyrics to Wonderwall!

Today is gonna be the day that we're gonna say goodbye to you
By now you should somehow have realised what we're gonna do
We don't believe that anybody feels the way we do about St John's

Before we walk out of the door, we need to let our feelings out
We're sure you've heard it all before, but you never really had a doubt

We don't believe that anybody feels the way we do about St John's

And we are all now wonderful at writing
And all our maths could be described as blinding

There are many things we will remember from our time
Being with you all

Because maybe
St John's has really helped to make me
And after all
We're living life to the full

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



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!

Autumn Term 2026

1st September - Inset

2nd September - Children back to school

26th-30th October - Half Term

27th November - Occasional Day (school closed)

18th December - Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

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.

Summer Art Challenge

Attached is an information sheet about our summer art challenge. It contains lots of ideas for Art activities that could be completed in the summer holidays. We would encourage the children to bring their best piece of art in at the start of next term and we will choose which ones will go into a local art exhibition.



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

