



St Johns School Newsletter

11th September 2026

Values of this half term

Hope & Aspiration

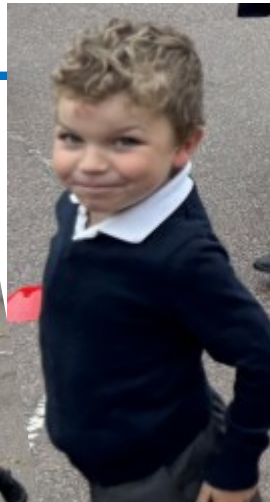
"For I know the plans I have for you' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29:11



Young Leaders

Our year 6 children worked with Mrs Moxham from Stanborough School to learn the skills of being play leaders. They then worked with children from Starlings class to try out their new games and activities ready for lunchtime play!



Beacon Pupils

Robins - Today we celebrated all the children in Robins Class who successfully completed their first week at St Johns.

Starlings - **Jesse** for his positive and calm attitude to his learning. He has shown an understanding of the routines in class and has taken part in all group activities. In forest school he showed great enthusiasm and love for nature and the chance to explore. Jesse has worked hard to write out the words for his Autumn poem thinking carefully about his letters and used words to match his picture. In maths he showed great enthusiasm for making number lines outside using chalk and objects. In class Jesse has shown great sharing and kindness to his friends.

Kingfisher - **Max** for returning to school with such confidence and enthusiasm. Max has been an excellent learning partner, supportive to our new class members and sharing great ideas in class discussion. He has created a range of well structured and punctuated sentences in English, and confidently completed our place value investigations in Maths. It has been fantastic to see Max really relishing his role in year 4.

Sandpipers - **Reuben** has really impressed us with his mature start to Year 6 and the new school year! He has had an enthusiastic attitude, shown great resilience and focus in his learning, and made lots of positive choices. He has shared brilliant ideas in class and we have been blown away with his great questions and thoughtful observations. Reuben has been a fantastic, caring buddy who has really helped to settle and look out for all the Robins with his intuitive and fun nature. Well done on a great start to the year and being a fab role model!

Open days Reception places September 2027

We are planning this year's Open Days for families of children who will be beginning their Reception year in September 2027. The dates are:

Wednesday 14th October 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.

Thursday 15th October 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday 20th October 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Wednesday 21st October 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.

Please ask anyone you know, with a child in this age group, who is looking for a reception place to ring us to book a place on one of the tours. Many thanks!

A few reminders:

Name labels

Please make sure that all school uniform items are named. We already have several pieces of uniform with no name visible!

Jewellery

Children should only wear gold or silver studs - no hoops. Children wearing studs should either be able to remove them and put them back in independently for PE lessons or should have micro-tape to cover them up. The children are permitted to wear a watch but if it is a smart watch it must not be able to connect to the internet and must not have a camera function.

Our school Harvest celebration

Our school Harvest will be on **Thursday 8th October at 9.00 a.m.** in St John's Church. We would appreciate donations of non-perishable food items being brought in for this; these will be donated to a local food bank. All parents are warmly invited to join us for the celebration.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

Harvest Celebration at St John's Church Sunday 4th October 11.00 a.m.

Children are once again invited to take part in the Harvest service at St John's Church. There will be opportunities for our children to read, lead the prayers, sing in the choir and other roles. Please let us know if your child(ren) are able to take part. Thank you.

Online Safety Advice

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

Violin Lessons

Just a reminder that violin lessons are available in school. For further information please find our school page on the Musicale website -

[St John's C of E Primary School - Musicale](#)

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 Building Fund is an on-going fund for the development of the school buildings, recent developments have included the new children's toilets and cloakrooms, 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.

Forest School

Robins and Starlings had a great first Forest School session this week. We began by learning about our Forest School rules and how we can look after our Forest School area. The children were great at exploring their surroundings, noticing the different plants, trees and natural features around them, and talking about how we can care for the space and the wildlife that lives there. It was a lovely start to our Forest School sessions, and we are looking forward to finding out what we can discover next.



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.

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.



Payments / Balances

Trips/Events/Workshops/Swimming/Meals

Please check your account(s) regularly 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

14th September - School Clubs Start**
15th September - Elite Dance Starts
22nd September - Kingfishers and Sandpipers
Three Faiths Tour to Bedford.
30th September - Individual photos*
3rd October - St Francis Art Festival*
3rd October - Parent Social at Crooked Chimney
4th October - Harvest All Age at St John's
Church 11.00am
5th October - Sandpipers Online Awareness
8th October - Harvest Celebration
12th October - BikeAbility Week
26th-30th October - Half Term
13th November - LSA Fireworks Event
27th November - Occasional Day (school closed)
29th November - Advent Sunday
8th December - Pantomime*
10th December—Nativity performances
13th December - Candlelit Service at St John's
Church 4pm
14th December - School Christmas Lunch
14th December - Rocksteady Concert (time tbc)
15th December—Christmas Concert
17th December—Carol Service
18th December - Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

*more information to follow

October & December School Holiday Club

We are planning to run a Holiday Club on Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th October 2026

and

Monday 21st December & Tuesday 22nd December

Booking forms will be sent home soon.



Enjoying the BBQ on Sunday.

Hello from Revd Kathryn

Hello

It's been a week of new beginnings in church, with everyone coming back together after the summer break - both at our All Together Service and BBQ on Sunday, and for Collective Worship on Thursday.

Our new collective worship theme explores how a small group of frightened followers of Jesus became a community that carried God's love into the world. On Thursday, we filled a backpack with stones representing some of what Peter carried into his own new beginning: fear, regret and uncertainty. In the Bible story, the disciples experienced God's Spirit with them in a new way. This didn't magically erase everything Peter was carrying, but it helped him find the courage to speak openly about who he believed Jesus was. We ended by holding up and blessing the children's school bags, and praying for all they will carry into this new year.

On the subject of new beginnings, my first newsletter of the term didn't get off to the best start last week! Thank you to the eagle-eyed amongst you who spotted the mistakes.

The dates below are the correct ones. Honestly!

Sunday 13th September, 11am

Creation Care Sunday Club. Exploring how we can love and care for God's world.

Sunday 20th September, 3pm

St John's@3 Wild Autumn Worship. An interactive outdoor, all-age gathering, experiencing God in nature and enjoying the changing season.

Sunday 4th October, 11am — All Together Harvest Service. Our popular all-age service, followed by a Bring and Share Harvest lunch.

St John's is very much your church, and you will always find a warm welcome—whether you're a regular churchgoer at St John's or somewhere else, or have never stepped through the doors of a church before.

We really hope to see you there.

Have a great weekend.

Revd Kathryn and Revd Dan

