

St John's Primary School Newsletter

9th June 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you all enjoyed the half term break. Children and staff were definitely ready for the holiday after a packed term!

The term ended with a trip to Dorchester Abbey for Year 5 as part of their Anglo-Saxon topic and Geography and Art trips to the river in Wallingford for Year 4, a ballroom dancing workshop and a Key Stage 1 football tournament—as well as our Open Afternoon for parents, sharing the learning from the term. Year 2 and Year 6 completed their SATs tests and we were very proud of how hard they all worked. This term there will be a Phonics check for Year 1 and a Multiplication check for Year 4. If your children are in any of these year groups, we will inform you of the outcomes as part of your child's end of year report.

We were expecting work to begin on our new Adventure Playground this week. This has been delayed but will hopefully start next week. The funds to pay for the playground were all raised by our PTFA so our huge thanks to them for all of their hard work at events and through crowd-funding. It will be an exciting addition to our play areas! The PTFA are also looking to buy a further three new smartboards before the end of the school year and to help us purchase more iPads for the children to use in school. You will have seen the email regarding a Sponsored Obstacle Course, which was very successful last year and will be taking place again this term. We are awaiting confirmation of the date and once we have this, will share a timetable with you so that you can come along and support. Please do help your child to get sponsorship for the event—people can donate online via [St Johns School PTFA - Donate now \(cafonline.org\)](https://www.cafonline.org).

We have a very busy term ahead so do keep an eye on the dates shared with you below and on our website and on any additional emails from the office. Year 4 and Year 5 have their residential trips this term, Year 3 have a sleepover in school, Year 5 and 6 will be performing 'Joseph' and the choir are attending the Festival of Voices at Dorchester Abbey. We are hoping for a successful entry at the Wallingford Carnival on Saturday 17th June—the first in person event since 2019. Hopefully, lots of children will be able to join our float dressed as something we might find in the 'Wonderful World' of our back gardens. Please complete the Google form to let us know if your child is able to attend—<https://forms.gle/Yc31YBad2avf3wCF8>. Thank you to everyone who has donated materials to help make props. The children all enjoyed being part of a Carnival Making Workshop this week!

We will be recruiting for a new parent governor later in the term and will be sending a separate letter with more details regarding this over the coming weeks. Do look out for it if you would like to know more and might be interested in supporting the school as a governor.

Finally, some sad news for St John's—we will be saying goodbye to our Year 2 teacher, Mrs Sue Shaw, at the end of the Summer Term. Mrs Shaw has been a much valued teacher at St John's for many years and will be greatly missed by parents, children and staff. We hope we will still be able to involve her in the life of St John's after she finishes with us as a class teacher!

We have recruited a new teacher to join the team from September and will be able to tell you the allocation of teachers to classes soon, before the 'Move Up' day on 6th July.

If you have not already seen it—do take a look at our updated website—[St John's Wallingford Primary School – St John's Wallingford Primary School \(stjohnswallingford.org.uk\)](https://www.stjohnswallingford.org.uk). Hopefully this will be easier to navigate and you may spot photographs of your children on the pages!

Kind Regards,

Nicky Hughes

Upcoming dates :

Monday 12th June—Year 4 to Ashmolean Museum

Friday 16th June—Festival of Voices, Dorchester Abbey

Saturday 17th June—Wallingford Carnival

Monday 19th June—Sponsored Obstacle Course—date to be confirmed

Tuesday 20th June—Class Photos

Week beginning 19th June—Year 4 Residential

Week beginning 26th June—Year 5 Residential

Monday 26th June—Life Bus sessions

Thursday 29th June—Zoolab visit for Year 1 and 2

Tuesday 4th July—morning—Sports Day

Thursday 6th July—Move Up day—visits to new classes

Week beginning 10th July—Year 5/6 Production

Wednesday 12th July—Open Morning for parents

Friday 21st July—Break up at 1pm



Year 4 went on two walks to the river as part of their topic. One was to sketch the scene which they later painted in the style of Monet. The other visit was to carry out Geography fieldwork and take temperature readings of the river.

Ballroom Dancing Workshop at Cholsey School



Year 1 Castles—Design and Technology

In DT lessons, each child in Year One designed and made a castle with a working drawbridge. They used many skills such as turning boxes inside out, cutting drawbridges and battlements, threading wool and attaching the parts securely. The children helped each other and showed resilience when things didn't go as planned.



Year 2 Pirate Puppets

As the culmination of their Pirate topic, Year 2 practiced their sewing skills to make puppets!



Carnival Making Workshop this week

All classes took part!

