



St John's Primary School Newsletter

17th January 2025

It has been a fantastic start to 2025, with the children returning with lots to say about their holidays, and whether they visited amazing foreign places or had some lovely lazy pyjama days, they have come back smiling and ready to learn.

We have enjoyed our first class assembly, with Year 6 planning and creating their assembly in just a day and a half before performing brilliantly to the school and their grown-ups. Thank you to all who attended. Do not forget to check out when your child's class assembly will take place.

In staffing news, we will welcome back Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Long from maternity leave this term. However, we will also sadly say goodbye to Mrs. Burgess, who has been at the school for longer than she will admit to any of us, and will be leaving us at Easter. Mrs. Burgess has decided that she would like to take a break from teaching and is looking forward to exploring different opportunities and taking term-time holidays. We cannot underestimate the positive impact she has had upon St. John's and on so many educators and children. Her shoes will be hard to fill and her presence will be felt for many years to come. She won't be a stranger though and whilst we will ensure that she has a proper St John's farewell this term, we expect to see her still at future events and celebrations.

Please come along to our PARENTS' FORUM on Thursday 30th January at 5.30pm.



This will be an informal meeting for you to raise your views, ideas and opinions about the school and areas that are important to you and your family.

If nothing else, there will be tea and biscuits!

We have had a growing number of toys and fidget-type gadgets coming into school from the start of term and these are proving distracting for the children. We have also had very upset children when these items are lost or accidentally smudged with pen or paint. If your child needs a comfort item from home, this should be something that fits in their pocket or their drawer and should not be anything that might break. If your child wants to bring in a larger item in, this must be agreed with the class teacher beforehand.

If your child needs a fidget toy in class, this will be provided by school and should not be brought in from home. If you think your child needs a fidget toy, but school has not provided one, please talk to your child's class teacher or Mrs. Shepherd.



Dates for your diary:

- **30th January 5.30-6.30pm Parent Forum**
- 4th February NSPCC Workshops in School for Years 2, 5 & 6
- **11th February Parents' Evening 3.30- 6.00pm**
- **13th February Parents' Evening 3.30 – 7.00pm**
- **14th February Stay and Learn 09:00 – 09:30 & 09.30 – 10.00am**
- 17th – 21st February Half Term Holiday
- **27th February Year 2 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- 6th March World Book Day
- 7th March St John's Reading Awards
- **20th March Stay & Learn 2.00 – 2.30 & 2.30 – 3.00pm**
- **20th March 5.30 – 6.30pm Parent Forum**
- **21st March Comic Relief Red Nose Day**
- **27th March SATs Meeting for Year 6 parents**
- 1st April Life Bus visiting school
- **1st April Year 3 /4 Performance afternoon**
- **2nd April 2025 pm Easter Service at St Mary's**
- **3rd April Year 3/ 4 Performance Evening**
- **4th April at 1pm End of Term**
- 22nd April Start of Summer Term
- 24th April – Year 4 swimming starts at Didcot Wave for 6 weeks
- **1st May Year 5 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- 12 – 15th May – SATs Week
- **22nd May Foundation Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- 26th – 30th May Half Term Holiday
- **2nd June 2025 INSET - School closed for children**
- 12th June – Year 5 swimming starts at Didcot Wave for 6 weeks
- 12th – 13th June – Year 4 to Court Hill
- 16th – 17th June Year 5 to Youlbury
- **19th June Year 4 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**

Dates for your diary (continued):

- 27th June Stay and Learn 09:00 – 09:30 & 09:30 – 10:00
- 3rd July Year 3 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am
- 10th July Year 1 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am
- 11th July Sports Day
- 15th July Reports home
- 15th July Year 6 Production afternoon performance
- 17th July Year 6 Production evening performance
- 22nd July Leavers' Assembly
- **22nd July at 1pm School Year Ends**
- Tuesday 2nd September INSET – school closed for children
- Wednesday 3rd September INSET – school closed for children
- Thursday 4th September – Autumn Term Starts
- Friday 24th October INSET – school closed for children
- Friday 22nd May INSET – school closed for children
- End of term Summer 2026 – Friday 17th July.

Stars of the week

Foundation -Oscar & Theodore

Year 1 - Tristan & Isla M.

Year 2 - Charlie, Bill & Billy

Year 3 - Nick & Bea

Year 4 - Rory & everyone

Year 5 - Luke & Maisie

Year 6 - Jack & Ruby



The whole school would like to congratulate **Elin, Edie and Eva in Year 6** for raising £250 for The Brain Tumour Charity – we are all exceptionally proud of them.



See below for our St John's competition!

Perseverance, Ambition, Curiosity, Kindness

Competition Time



This is the picture we use on our website and letters to represent our school. The portcullis is really important to the history of Wallingford and our school, so we don't want to lose it completely BUT we want it to represent us more too.

Could you design something better?

You might use different colours, our PACK values, things we do in school or anything else that you think would make it a better reflection of our school community.

We may end up using a mix of ideas but there will be prizes!!

Please put your idea on a piece of plain paper and return to school by 31st January, 2025.

It can be hand-drawn or computer generated- it is up to you.

Get creating!