

Friday 10th October 2025

Telephone: 01823 662541

Email: office@stjohnsprimary.uk

Website: <http://www.stjohnscofeprimary.co.uk>



St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

Another week has passed by and I am delighted by the standard of work I have seen in the children's exercise books on a recent scrutiny. The school hand out pen licenses to students who have worked hard to perfect the formation and size of their handwriting—a lot have been handed out in recent assemblies. When looking at the English books, the standard has been extraordinary with superb content. The teachers have carefully selected texts which will inspire creativity and enthusiasm; this can be found with abundance.

In the last year the staff have worked with the school council to reshape the school menu for dinners. It is pleasing to see the amount of food waste decrease and numbers having dinner rise. We do make a request to parents that menu choices are filled in advance so that we can make accurate projections when cooking. There have been a number of surprise extra meals recently which makes Mrs Mair's job extremely challenging.

This half term is the longest the children will experience in the school year—we are moving into week 7. Already we can see tiredness creeping into the students as we approach a half term break. Please ensure the pupils are going to sleep at sensible times during the week. If they are fresh then they are far more alert and ready to learn.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Attenborough - Janice
Mandela - Melvin
McCartney - Noah
Simmonds - Elsie T, Aubree
Hawking - Jessica
Pankhurst – Alfie
Rashford - Noella
Medal - Harriet (5)

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultation bookings will be going online on Monday 20th October, but to give you advance notice, the dates and times are as follows:

Monday 10th November 3.30-5.20pm-not
Attenborough Class

Tuesday 11th November-3.30-6.20-all
classes

Wednesday 12th November 3.30-5.20-
Attenborough Class only.

Safeguarding/Well being:

Doomscrolling or doomsurfing is the act of spending an excessive amount of time reading or watching large quantities of user-generated content or news, particularly negative news, on the web and social media. This is having an enormous impact on many people. The following is an article raising awareness.

[Doomscrolling - tips for healthier news consumption | Mental Health Foundation](#)

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST GEORGE

Absence Reporting

Whenever your child is absent for any reason, you must let us know. Each day your child is absent please notify us either by leaving a message on the absence phone line, or by calling the school office by 9am.

As a school the safeguarding of our students is absolutely paramount. Where students are absent from school we will follow the process below:

Day	School Follow Up
Day 1 of absence	A text message will be sent to you. We may also phone.
Day 2 of absence	A text message will be sent to you. We will also phone.
Day 3 of absence	A text message will be sent to you. A home visit may be made

We understand that sometimes medical appointments are needed during school hours. We encourage you to make appointments out of school hours if at all possible so that this does not impact on your child's attendance. However, if it is unavoidable, please give the school as much notice as possible as to the reason for your child's absence.

If your child is not unwell enough to see a doctor but is feeling under the weather, we encourage you to work with us in trying to get your child into school. Perhaps the administration of paracetamol, antihistamines or throat sweets might help. We do not expect children to attend if they are not medically fit to do so, but by taking this approach we may be able to avoid students having frequent short periods of absence, which can impact heavily on their overall attendance. If there has been vomiting or diarrhea children must be kept home until 48 hours after the last episode.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance please ask for an appointment to speak to Mr Priestley, we are happy to help.

EV6 Form

Thank you to everyone who has returned their child's Educational Visit form. If you haven't already done so, it is really important that you complete and return the form for each child, otherwise they will be unable to go on local visits such as to the Church or on local walks.

Upcoming events:

23rd October	School photos
23rd October 1.30	Harvest Festival Service in Church
27th-31st October	Half Term
10th November	Parent Consultations-not Attenborough
11th November	Parent Consultations-all classes
12th November	Parent Consultations-Attenborough only
11th December	Christmas Lunch
18th December 1.30	Christmas Service in Church
19th December	Last day of Autumn Term
5th January	First day of Spring Term
16th-20th February	Half Term
26th March 1.30	Easter Service in Church
2nd April	Last day of Spring Term
20th April	First day of Summer Term
25th-29th May	Half Term
9th June	Sports Day
15th July 9.30	Y6 Leaver's Assembly in Church
17th July	Last day of Summer Day
20th-22nd July	School closed for staff training

Term dates and INSET days for the 2025-26 academic year are now on the school website under the News and Events tab.

Name a Somerset Council Road Gritter

Somerset Council have two new gritters that need names and are asking local primary schools to come up with suitable names-last year's suggestions were Gritty Gritty Bang Bang and Spready Mercury and the two successful schools had visits from their gritters.

If you can think of any witty names please send your ideas to the school office by 5th November for us to submit.

Councillor Richard Wilkins, Somerset Council's Lead Member for Transport and Digital, said: "Last year's entries were brilliant with some inventive pun-tastic ideas.

"It's a great way for local children to get involved in naming the road gritters and learn more about road safety in the winter. I can't wait to see the creative names the children come up with and see some new gritters on the road this winter."



Autumn 2025

FREE PARENT & CARER WEBINARS

Hosted by Somerset's Mental Health Support Team


WONDERING HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING?

WHAT'S ON?

- SLEEP
- SUPPORTING BIG FEELINGS
- BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM & RESILIENCE



 [BIT.LY/AUTUMNWEBINARS25](https://bit.ly/AUTUMNWEBINARS25)

 [BIT.LY/MHSTINFO](https://bit.ly/MHSTINFO)
[BIT.LY/YOUNGSOMERSETMHST](https://bit.ly/YoungSomersetMHST)

SOMERSET MHST
[@SOMERSETMHST](https://twitter.com/SOMERSETMHST)



Come and join local schools, preschools and nurseries on

Monday 20th October 2025 at 6.30pm

at

The King Arms Community Hub

to find out how to help your child become

Ready for School

Including advice and guidance about next steps from a range of professionals.

