

Friday 26th September 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

There has definitely been an Autumnal feel about the weather in the last week. The Year 4 and 5 children enjoyed a trip to the Solar Farm this week and managed to bring the sun back with them! Climate change is an area of education that we will be developing over the next year and the school will be looking for ways to improve and raise awareness. The children are extremely engaged by the topics when taught across the curriculum and demonstrate an understanding of trying to help their community and the world.

I have enjoyed a couple of learning walks with visitors this week and I have been delighted with the feedback—the happiness and confidence of the children in the different classes was highlighted as were the relationships between the children and staff. As a school we have always wanted the children to achieve their potential academically, but we also want to celebrate their uniqueness and allow their personalities and strengths to shine. The amount of children wanting to become Well-being Champions, School Councillors, Green Team members and Pupil Chaplains has been staggering and demonstrates how the pupils want to be active in our community.

Please keep an eye on the dates on this newsletter so all families are aware of what is happening at school. We want you to have as much notice as possible with key events.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Attenborough - Marnie-Rae

Mandela - Andreea

McCartney - Walter

Simmonds - Reinhard

Hawking - Jason

Pankhurst – Martha

Rashford - Edin

Medal - Ezze (3)

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:

It is absolutely vital that the school is aware of who will be picking up the children at the end of the day. There are occasions where a different friend or family member will pick the children up in an emergency or exceptional circumstances. This needs to be communicated with the school office as early as possible. For regular collectors, this information can be stored on our system—please ask for an end of day form to complete or update. Please don't be offended if we ever have to make calls to confirm collection plans, we need to ensure that children are safe.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST DAVID

Data Collection Sheets

Each child will have taken home their data collection sheet last week. If you haven't already done so, could you please read, check, amend and sign the sheet before returning it to the office. It is essential that we have up to date information so that we have current contact details. Thank you.

Free School Meals

Eligibility

Children eligible for free school meals must be in school all day. They will be provided with a meal at lunchtime which is paid for by the school.

It is the responsibility of parents or carers to register their entitlement and request free school meals for their children. Children in pre-school or nursery (known as childcare providers) do not qualify for a free meal until they start school. But applications will be processed so that when your child starts school, you will already be notified whether they qualify for a free school meal or not.

Parents and carers who receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals.

- Income Support (IS)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Universal Credit with an annual household income of less than £7400 after tax
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190
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Only the benefits listed above qualify for free school meals. If you have recently become unemployed, but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. Please phone us on **0300 123 2224** for advice.

If you think you are eligible but do not yet receive free school meals, please apply here [Free school meals](#)

Moving GP Surgery

If you are registered at Luson Surgery you will be aware that they are closing next week. If you are haven't already done, so could you please inform the school of your new GP surgery for our records. Thank you.

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
10th 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.

Friends of St John's

The Friends of St John's have a number of exciting events planned, dates to follow soon. We encourage you to take part where you can. These events are not only enjoyable but also play a vital role in raising funds and strengthening our school community. New members are always welcome, and your involvement-no matter how big or small-is greatly appreciated.

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)

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