

Friday 20th June 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

It's the end of a week which has seen such glorious weather - it is pleasing to see the children coming into school with their hats and being very sensible in the sunshine. The weather is meant to continue on Saturday so I hope all families have a chance to enjoy some outdoor time together.

We are fast approaching transition time for the children where they will be moving up to their new classes on Wednesday 2nd July for a taster session. At the beginning of next week, we will be sharing with families who the children will be taught by next year. The following week they will enjoy a morning with the new team, in the classroom where they will be based.

Congratulations once again to the school choir who were highly commended in the Somerset Schools Choir Competition. In every concert they have impressed and we have already had a number of people contact us to book them in for events in the new school year. I am very proud of them for their efforts and thankful to Miss Wordley and Mrs Cook for supporting them.

A reminder to all that the school is closed on Friday 27th June and Monday 30th June - we have Inset days on the Friday and Monday so the children are at home. Hopefully this will refresh them in the middle of this long half term so they are rejuvenated for the rest of the summer term.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Hunter
Attenborough - Bella-Rose
Mandela - Leon
McCartney - Tony
Hawking - Madison
Simmonds - Ellah and Daisy
Pankhurst - Ruby-Rose
Rashford - Juanita
Medal - Jackie & James

Penalties for taking holidays in term time

You might have heard in the news that issuing penalties for parents taking their child out of school in term time is being debated in parliament. Current guidance is that children may only be absent in exceptional circumstances-guidance can be found here [Information about Penalty Notices for Parents](#)

We do ask that if you are taking your children out of school that you complete and return an absence request form, even if the absence will be unauthorised.

Safeguarding/Well being:

A reminder to all parents whose children have access to either phones or tablets to explore what the children are looking at online. If they have access to social media, which isn't advised at primary age, then please look through their video stream because it will help you understand the algorithms that are applied to their devices. For example, if the videos are related to cats, this is then the theme for what they see. If the videos are inappropriate it suggests that similar have been watched and a discussion is needed.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST GEORGE

Year 6 Moving Up Ceremony at Taunton Minster

Rashford Class had a wonderful morning at Taunton Minster for a very special Moving Up celebration. They celebrated the time they have had at Primary School, sang songs, joined in with prayers and watched a special performance of a bible story. The morning was a very thought provoking occasion, enjoyed by all. Every child received a gift of a bible and a school candle.

There are more photos on the website under the News and Events tab.



Free School Meals

You may have seen in the news that the criteria for eligibility for Free School Meals is changing. We have received notice today that there will be no changes until August 2026, so all children who currently receive them will continue to receive them at least until August 2026. At this point, the government have said it is their intention to cease all protection and anyone in receipt of free school meals from September 2026 must meet the new eligibility criteria.

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 who receive Universal Free School Meals will not be affected.

If your child does not yet receive Free School Meals but you think you may be eligible please apply online here [Free school meals](#)

PARKING

Once again can we remind to please be considerate when dropping your child off at school. We have had 2 instances recently when emergency vehicles were unable to get through as cars were so badly parked in the area. We also ask that you don't park in Priory Gardens as this is a very limited space and residents regularly have difficulty using their own driveways.

Allow yourselves a little extra time and please park with consideration for others.

Upcoming events:

27th June	School Closed for Staff Training
30th June	School Closed for Staff Training
1st July	Y6 Transition day at Courtfields
2nd July	Step Up Day-Y6 at Courtfields, other pupils visiting classes for September
7th July	Non-uniform day-please bring an item for the summer fair
8th July	Choir Singing Festival, Courtfields
9th/10th July	Bikeability
11th July	Summer Fair
16th July	9.30am iRock Concert-parents of participating children only
16th July	2.30pm Trumpet concert-parents of participating children only
21st July	Year 6 Leaver's Ceremony-Church
23rd July	Last day of Summer Term
2nd September	School Closed for Staff Training
3rd September	School Closed for Staff Training
4th September	First day of Autumn term

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 Primary School

On Monday 7th July we are asking children to come in to school in non-uniform.

*We invite children from Reception to Year 2 to bring in an item to put in a hamper to raffle at the school fair, perhaps a chocolate bar, some bubble bath or a packet of biscuits.

*We invite children from Y3 to Y6 to bring in a packet of sweets-not chocolate please-for a sweet tombola. Please ensure the items are in date and that none of the items include nuts.

The Summer Fair is on Friday 11th July starting at 2.30pm. Please see the poster on Facebook for more information.

If you are a small business and would like a stall for a small donation at the summer fair, please contact dtowers@st-johnsprimary.uk

There will be an end of year disco-watch out for further details.

Thank you for your support,.