

Friday 14th February 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

Today is the last day of the half term and falls on 'Valentine's Day'. It is a day on which it has become traditional to celebrate love for one another with gifts of flowers, chocolates and cards aplenty. I did try and convince the children this morning that my house was like a scene from the first Harry Potter film, with me struggling to open the door for cards - but even the youngest members of the audience failed to believe this! But there are links to Christianity with St Valentine being a Christian clergyman living in Rome in 269AD. At the time, Emperor Claudius had banned young men from marriage to encourage them to fight and be stronger on military campaigns, but young Christian men wanted to join in matrimony with their loved ones. Valentine secretly led services of marriage in the name of God - until Claudius found out and ordered him to change his beliefs or be executed. Valentine wouldn't change his beliefs and was killed on February 14th - with his final letters signed off 'From your Valentine ...'

So very much a man that shared joy and hope for the young Christians of Rome and living by his values and beliefs. His act of service to God and others ultimately led to his own death - but his good is remembered by us all when handing out cards and presents.

Wishing you all a very happy half term and I look forward to seeing you all when the children return on the 24th February . I hope you enjoy some quality time together with your families.

Kind Regards Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners: Windsor - Tobias Attenborough - Danica Mandela - Leann McCartney - Whole Class Hawking - Harry Simmonds - Francis Pankhurst - Cohen Rashford - Holly Medal - Isla (5)	Attendance: Windsor - 100% Attenborough - 97.6% Mandela - 88.9% McCartney - 95% Hawking - 91.5% Simmonds - 96.1% Pankhurst - 90.7% Rashford - 97.1% School: 94%	Safeguarding/Well being: Safeguarding during the holiday If you have a concern about a child outside of school, or are having difficulty in managing your own child, you can ring Somerset Direct on: 0300 123 2224 Online safety If you need any help or guidance regarding online safety you can find helpful links here Staying Safe - Safeguarding & Online Safety St John's C of E Primary School
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Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST DAVID

School Disco

What a lovely evening we had, the children were amazing and the atmosphere was buzzing. Our thanks to DJ Mitchell and to the Friends of St Johns. We will let you know how much was raised after half term.

We're sorry if any children were disappointed by not being able to pay on the day to attend, but in order for the event to run smoothly a deadline for booking had been given two weeks in advance by email, and it was made clear that you could only book by Scopay.

SCOPAY

Sometimes technology can be tricky and isn't always easy to use. If you are ever having trouble with Scopay please contact the school as soon as possible and we will do our best to sort out the problem.

Half Term

Don't forget that next week is half term. We hope you have an enjoyable week and look forward to seeing you on Monday 24th February.

World Book Day

World Book Day is fast approaching, and as usual we are looking forward to a dress up day alongside many other book-based activities over the whole month of March. The theme this year is Read Your Way.

On Thursday 6th March 2025, your child is invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. If you need some ideas to celebrate World Book Day at home or some costume help, take a look at their website: Families - World Book Day (<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>)

We know how fast children grow out of their costumes and as part of the Green Team's drive to reduce clothing waste, we are inviting you to drop in any old costumes that no longer fit. The Green Team will then hold a costume exchange event after half term where you can pick a costume and donate to the Green Team's garden fund in exchange. Please send any costumes in to Miss Allen.

World Book Day vouchers were handed out to each child in this morning's assembly. This will give you the opportunity to browse the local bookshops over half term in search of a wonderful new book to read.

Upcoming events:

17th-21st February	Half Term
6th March	World Book Day
3rd April	Easter Service in Church
4th April	Last day of Spring Term
22nd April	First day of Summer Term
28th-29th April	Y3 & 4 residential trip to Barton Hall
5th May	Bank Holiday
26th-30th May	Half Term
10th June	Sports Day
27th June	School Closed for Staff Training
30th June	School Closed for Staff Training
17th July	Year 6 Leaver's Ceremony

EVENTS AT TIVERTON MUSEUM OVER HALF TERM

Help us to celebrate the Tivvy Bumper's 90th birthday with fun family activities around the museum

Craft sessions Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th February 10 - 12 Drop in. £3 per child with paying adult (£2.50 per child with museum member) Normal admission applies. Accompanied kids go FREE! Plus: dressing up, train toys and more!

ENGINE-EERS FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

Go behind the scenes for an exclusive view of our iconic steam engine from trackside and find out more about the engine through photographs, video and an object handling session.

10.30am - 12pm Booking essential £5 per child. Recommended for age 7+

Plus: Design and make a birthday badge to take away with you. Must be accompanied by an adult (normal museum admission applies).