

Friday 31st January 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

January has come and gone and we are now motoring towards the Spring term and hopefully a rise in temperature and certainly lighter evenings. Last week I included an article regarding screen time - the longer evenings hopefully allow for the children to be out in the gardens more or out on walks with families. This will certainly support their mental health and hopefully allow for a reduction in staring at screens.

My congratulations go to Austin in Year 5 who has been commissioned this week as a Pupil Chaplain. In a ceremony during assembly, Helena and Reverend Colin were in school for Austin to make his promise and become part of the group. The support which the group showed him was lovely to see and a wonderful example of our school values.

Again the theme of assemblies has been endurance and we have been discussing bible characters and stories where endurance has been evident. This is a quality that we have noticed has developed with the pupils with regards to their writing. As a school we have tried to improve the stamina of the children and I have been delighted with the progress that has been made. It is pleasing that the children have become far more enthusiastic about their writing.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Marnie-Rae
Attenborough - Andrea
Mandela - Archie
McCartney - Elsie T
Hawking - James
Simmonds - Harriet
Pankhurst - Isabel E
Rashford - Keren
Medal - Sofia-Rae

Attendance:

There are an increasing amount of children who are arriving at school later in the mornings. A reminder that if the child arrives 15 minutes after registration closes then they are officially marked as U code which means they miss out on a positive attendance code for the morning. If unauthorised absences start rising then families are at risk of fines. The children should be at school for the bell at 8:55am.

Safeguarding/Well being:

Healthy packed lunches

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

The above is a website which provides some tips about healthy packed lunches for the children. It is absolutely imperative that the children are getting a balanced diet in terms of their health and we actively encourage the children to be eating plenty of fruit. A reminder that the pupils should not have sweets in lunch boxes.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST GEORGE

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is a mental health awareness week that was launched by children's mental health charity, Place2Be. The week exists to empower, equip and give a voice to all children and young people in the UK.

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 will take place next week from 3-9 February 2025. This year, Children's Mental Health Week is focusing on Know Yourself, Grow Yourself and will encourage children, young people and adults to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. This will help them grow and develop resilience to cope with what life throws at them.

This year, Inside Out 2 characters are helping us to explore our theme Know Yourself, Grow Yourself. Families - Children's Mental Health Week provide top tips and resources for families, parents and carers.

Attendance

A reminder to all families that the children should be aiming for attendance of 95% + over the academic year. If this slips to below 90% then there will be letters prompting an improvement and other sanctions if this doesn't improve. When children are off repeatedly then the children miss out on valuable learning that can hamper their future progress.

Times Table Rockstars

A reminder that the children have access to an APP called Times Table Rockstars, which helps them to develop their recall of times tables. In the process they can win different awards - one of which is a Rock Hero certificate for pupils who can consistently answer under 1 second per question! Well done to Munya this week in Year 5 who achieved this. If there are problems signing in please contact the school for help.

Upcoming events:

13th February	School Disco
17th-21st February	Half Term
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
23rd July	Last day of Summer Term

School Disco

The Friends of St John's will be organising a disco for the children on the 13th February.

Times:

KS1: 3.15pm to 4.15pm

Yr 3 & Yr 4: 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Yr 5 & Y6: 5.45pm – 7.00pm

Cost: £2.00 per child to include refreshments. Please book via Scopay.

Could children please bring their own, named water bottle which will be refilled, thank you.