

Friday 30th January 2026

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

I managed to resist the temptation this week to share the story of Noah in story assembly! The beginning of the week was considerably disrupted by the monsoon conditions and I thank you all for your patience with the delay to the start of the school day. Appreciation has to go to a number of staff members who braved challenging conditions to make their way to work on that day. My own journey resembled a trip to the Lake District, with flooding all around!

On Monday, it was a pleasure to be invited to the Drama Club showcase at Wellington School, where they performed an abridged version of 'Alice in Wonderland' in the Great Hall. What a joy it was to see the group entertain and show such great confidence in the show. I am extremely appreciative to Mrs James from Wellington School and her pupils for providing a memorable experience on the stage at the Great Hall. As always, Miss Allen is working hard to provide different opportunities, with the ukulele club now progressing rapidly as well.

The weather has been inclement and this naturally leads to an increase of cars dropping off children at school. Once again, I have received complaints regarding the parking in front of driveways and on yellow lines. Children and families are crossing Priory and illegal parking is creating a safeguarding risk. Please consider the safety of the pupils when making choices about where to leave cars.

Kind regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Amelia
Attenborough - Reggie
Mandela - Danica
McCartney - Darcy-Mae
Simmonds - Scarlett
Hawking - James
Pankhurst - Iydon
Rashford - John
Medal - Lindsey (1)
Egram (4)

Use of mobile phones in school

The Department for Education has published strengthened expectations on mobile phones in schools, setting out a clear position: all schools should now operate as mobile phone free environments by default. The guidance requires schools to prohibit pupil use of mobile phones and similar smart devices throughout the entire school day, including lessons, social times and transitions. The school mobile phone policy can be found here:

[Policies | St John's C of E Primary School](#)

Safeguarding/Well being:

A reminder to all families that the school needs clear guidance from parents/carers with regards to pick up arrangements. Regular family members or friends who can pick up can be recorded on the school records - see the office to update. If there is a change of person on a one off basis - such as the child going for a play date - then the teaching team or office need to be informed. The same applies to children walking home independently.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST ANDREW

National Year of Reading 2026: Go All In!

St John's are pleased to launch "Go All In at St John's" as part of the National Year of Reading 2026. This is a nationwide celebration of reading, encouraging children and families to (re)discover the joy of books and make reading a happy part of everyday life. Reading helps children grow their imagination, confidence and thinking skills, but we know that busy lives can make it harder to find time to read. This exciting national campaign, led by the Department for Education alongside the National Literacy Trust, aims to spark a love of reading again for everyone – especially our children.

The message of the year is simple: *Go All In* on the things you already love. Whether your child is into football, music, baking, animals, adventures or bedtime stories, there is a book or text for everyone. Reading helps unlock interests, supports learning across the curriculum, and brings families together.

We have a wonderful year of activities ahead, launching next week with **National Storytelling Week**. More information to follow. We can't wait to share stories, events and reading fun with the children throughout the year and look forward to your support at home as we *Go All In at St*

John's. 📖 ✨

Miss Brown, English Lead



SCHOOL VALUES PRAYER

Written by the Pupil Chaplains January 2026

Loving God

Thank you that Jesus showed us how to live by your values.

Help us to show **compassion** by caring for each other.

Help us to show **endurance** by not giving up when things are difficult.

Help us to show **friendship** by sharing, playing and celebrating together.

Help us to show **respect** by always listening to other people.

Help us to show **service** by helping without asking for any reward.

Amen



Upcoming events:

2nd-6th February	National Storytelling Week
9th-13th February	Children's Mental Health Week
16th-20th February	Half Term
5th March	World Book Day
9th-13th March	Science Week
13th March	Science Wonderdome
24th March	Wizard of Oz-performance in school
26th March 1.30	Easter Service in Church
1st April	iRock concert
2nd April	Last day of Spring Term
20th April	First day of Summer Term
W/b 11th May	Y6 National Tests
25th-29th May	Half Term
w/b 8th June	KS1 Phonics Screening
9th June	Sports Day
30th June/1st July	Y6 Secondary School Transition Days
1st July	Step up day
3rd July	Summer Fair
6th-8th July	Y6 Residential Visit
15th July 9.30	Y6 Leaver's Assembly in Church
17th July	Last day of Summer Term
20th-22nd July	School closed for staff training

Term dates and INSET days for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years are on the school website under the News and Events tab.

Save the date! Wacky Wednesday

Somerset West and Taunton Council Community Event

Wednesday 18th February 2026

11.00am - 12.45pm

Wellington Rugby Club

Booking details available nearer the time.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The school website is in the process of being updated. The new site will be going live on 16th February. In the meantime, all existing information will be available on the current website but there will be no updates, for example the weekly newsletter, until after 16th February.

A warm welcome awaits at Wellington's Wellbeing Hub.

Big news for your community!

Local partners have come together to launch the REGAIN Wellington Wellbeing Hub - a safe, confidential space for help, advice, or just a quiet chat over a hot drink.

Whether you need support, want to regain control of your life or just want to escape the cold for a bit, our doors are opening on 24 February 2026 to everyone living or working in Wellington. No appointment needed, no stigma, just friendly faces.

When: Tuesdays from 24 February 2026, midday onwards

Where: Kings Arms Community Hub, 4 High St, Wellington

Let's build a stronger, healthier Wellington together. See you there!

#WellingtonSomerset #CommunitySupport #WellbeingHub #WarmSpaces

REGAIN

Connecting your community

**Need a listening ear,
advice or just want to
connect with others?**

The REGAIN Wellbeing Hub is open every Tuesday from 24 February 2026 at the Kings Arms Community Hub in Wellington

Midday onwards

Everyone welcome

Come and join us for refreshments and confidential chat

