

Friday 6th February 2026

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

The children have enjoyed explored stories in 'National Story Telling' week and hopefully have brought in their favourite books today to enjoy! As a child I have such great memories of reading with my parents and also building the independence to explore authors such as Roald Dahl. Now as a parent of older teenage girls, I am delighted that they are both avid readers. I look back at the hours of reading Julia Donaldson books and 'You Choose!' and I'm pleased these experiences have given them a pleasure with reading. My thanks go to Miss Brown, who as English lead has led the work going on in the classrooms.

One of the treats of my job, is the opportunity to sit with students some lunchtimes and have lunch together in the school hall. The amount of school dinners has risen and lots of children are eating very well. There are some pupils who are getting upset because of the choices of food selected for them so please discuss these choices with them so they are aware. In the hall we do try and encourage all children to a eat a good meal, but there are some that reticent to try the food in front of them.

We are now officially closer to the end of the academic year than the start! The time has gone so quickly with the children improving in all areas of their schooling. Next week is the last week of the half term and the children can have a deserved break and re-charge the batteries.

Kind regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

- Windsor - Charley
- Attenborough - Eli
- Mandela - Logan
- McCartney - Sam
- Simmonds - Max
- Hawking - Cameron
- Pankhurst - Dylan
- Rashford - Koby
- Medal - Lily S (6)

Attendance:

We are pleased that our overall attendance is improving, and we thank you for your support. The table below gives an idea of what impact absence has for children.

Days off school add up to lost learning					
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR <small>150 days for your child's education</small>	10 days absence 180 Days of Education	10 days absence 171 Days of Education	20 days absence A term missed 161 Days of Education	30 days absence 152 Days of Education	40 days absence 143 Days of Education
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not fair on your child. Court action!	

Safeguarding/Well being:

With the children having access to a variety of media at home it is vital to monitor what the children are watching. One of the best way to check the children's viewing is to go on an app such as You Tube and flick through the shorts that have been selected through the algorithm of the child. The themes will match with frequent watches and can identify if there is any concerning themes that need to be discussed. For further information, speak to the office and a member of the team will contact you.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST GEORGE

2Wish

Representatives from 2Wish came in to school last Friday to collect a cheque for £2062.78, the amount raised for the charity by the school during the 2024-25 academic year. Huge thanks for all your support throughout the year.

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.

Free Webinar

We are pleased to share details of an upcoming FREE webinar series for parents and carers, delivered by Somerset's Mental Health Support Team.

These virtual sessions focus on helping children and teenagers improve their sleep, offering practical, evidence-based tools and techniques that families can implement straight away.

Helping Your Child & Teen Sleep – Tools, Tips & Techniques Free 1½hour online workshops for parents & carers

Many families struggle with sleep concerns. These workshops will explore:

- Why we need sleep
- Common teen sleep struggles
- How to help young people develop healthier sleep routines
- Practical strategies to improve sleep patterns at home

Parents and carers can choose from three session dates & times:

📌 **12th February 2026 — 12pm to 1pm**

Register: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/3cd7b30d-ca71-44af-9afa-2629202775f2@98ec91be-8de7-48a3-9e80-0f0180ed9219>

📌 **13th February 2026 — 10am to 11am**

Register: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f24ea995-a57f-4504-b3ec-2939f842f793@98ec91be-8de7-48a3-9e80-0f0180ed9219>

📌 **19th February 2026 — 7pm to 8pm**

Register: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/03da1f70-3c8d-43a5-b5a8-6fb83bfa1c4b@98ec91be-8de7-48a3-9e80-0f0180ed9219>

Upcoming events:

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.

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

