

Friday 6th March 2026

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

March has arrived and the sun has re-appeared which has lifted everyone's spirits. The drive to work is so much more enjoyable with daffodils appearing everywhere. Spring has most definitely sprung!

This week we enjoyed the annual World Book Day which is celebrated all over the country. It always makes me smile throughout the day watching Harry Potter play catch with an Oompa Loompa - or Gandalf the Grey chatting away to the Cat in the Hat over lunch! This year we are very grateful for the organisation by Miss Brown, who with support from the staff, provided the pupils with an enjoyable day. The children were off curriculum yesterday and all classes were provided with a new picture book which the days learning would be based around. As well as this the children enjoyed a quiz in the afternoon, before a book sale at the end of the day. Lots of fun was had by all.

A reminder to all that Parent's Evening is next week so contact the school if you haven't yet got an appointment. It is a chance to see the progress that the pupils have been making over the last year. If there are any questions or queries, this is an opportunity to ask the class teacher. Senior members of staff will be available as well if there is anything that needs to be discussed.

Wishing you all a happy weekend - long may the sunny weather continue!

Kind regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Dakota
Attenborough - Evie-May
Mandela - Maisie
McCartney - Lyra
Simmonds - Teddy
Hawking - Julieta
Pankhurst - Lily-Rose
Rashford - Daria
Medal - Reuben (6)

Friends of St John's Easter Bingo

Wednesday 1st April

**More information to follow
next week.**

Safeguarding/Well being:

Sleep

For people young and old - sleeping is a vital component of being the best forms of ourselves. There are occasions when normal bedtime routines have to change for unexpected circumstances but it is important that children of primary age have the appropriate amount of sleep to be successful. 3-5 year olds are recommended to have 10-13 hours of sleep. 6-13 year olds are recommended to have 9-11 hours of sleep.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST PATRICK

Science Week

St. John's School will be taking part in a Science Week starting on Monday 9th March. Each class will be absorbing themselves in various fun and informative activities around the theme of Space, including investigations, scientific enquiry and learning about famous Astronauts.

We are going to be bringing the Universe to our school with a Mobile Planetarium on Friday 13th March from the company Wonder Dome! The friends of St. John's have kindly paid for this fantastic experience. Each year group will have an immersive, presenter-led session, inside the dome.

We will also be running a poster event. The theme this year is 'A Mission to Mars'. There are loads of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) topics that could be explored! Students could design a Mars Rover or design a space suit. Maybe the poster could be about the wonders of Mars, or whether we could live there. The posters can be either A4 or A3 in size. Every child that takes part will receive a certificate. Please return your posters to your class teacher by Friday 20th March.

World Book Day

St John's Primary School was bursting with colour, creativity and a love of reading as pupils and staff came together to celebrate **World Book Day** in spectacular fashion. Children and adults were invited to arrive at school dressed as their favourite book characters, and the results were truly impressive. Staff were amazed by the incredible array of characters that filled the corridors and classrooms, with awesome costumes and wonderfully creative outfits on display throughout the day.

The celebrations began with a special whole-school assembly. Mr Priestley shared one of his favourite picture books, 'Press Here', which quickly captured everyone's attention. As the interactive story unfolded, the hall erupted with laughter as the book appeared to perform a series of surprising tricks. With enthusiastic tapping, shaking and tilting from the children, the pages seemed to magically change before their eyes. Luckily, with all of the children's help, the book returned to normal by the end of the story!

There was then an exciting surprise for everyone. Each class received a special delivery — a brand new picture book! With great excitement, a class representative opened the book and shared it with the rest of the school during the assembly. The rest of the morning was filled with an action-packed schedule of activities inspired by each class's new book. Some classes joined live BBC World Book Day lessons, while others showed brilliant imagination through creative writing. Across the school there was also plenty of artistic activity, with pupils creating colourful artwork linked to their stories.

In the afternoon, pupils gathered again in the hall for the school's annual World Book Day quiz. Key stages competed enthusiastically, with lots of excitement as teams discussed answers and shared them with their Year 6 House Captains.

After careful marking and counting of the scores, the results were announced. The EYFS and KS1 winners were St George, while St David took the top spot in KS2. With the combined highest score earning the prize of extra playtime, the final overall results were incredibly close. With just nine points separating first place from joint third, the final standings were:

1st Place: St George – 59 points

2nd Place: St David – 56 points

Joint 3rd Place: St Patrick and St Andrew – 53 points

Well done to all the children who took part and shared their fantastic book knowledge. It was a wonderful day celebrating stories, imagination and the joy of reading. To round off a busy day, we had our book sale in the hall.

Upcoming events:

9th March	Parent consultations except Attenborough
10th March	Parent consultations-all classes
11th March	Parent consultations-Attenborough only
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
1st April	Easter Bingo-more information to follow
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



Come and join local schools, preschools and nurseries on
Monday 30th March 2026 at 7pm
at
The Kings Arms Community Hub
for

Let's Get Ready for School

Information and guidance about how to support your child and how to access support from a range of professionals.

