

Friday 21st November 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

It was pleasing to hear this week that the Year 4 children enjoyed their trip to the Museum of Somerset, where staff commented on their positive behaviour throughout the day. What impressed me was the information that was picked up by the children, with pupils sharing facts they had learnt. History is a subject that many of the children really enjoy, with school trips and artefact days very popular.

There will be a new menu shortly available for the Spring term for school dinners. I have been delighted to see members of the school council involved with food selection. In a meeting, it was raised that the current yogurt hasn't been very popular, so Mrs Mair has been trialing a new brand with the children to see if it is a popular change. It is important that the children have a voice in the school so that we can make improvements for all to enjoy.

We are only a week away from the start of advent and in assembly we were looking at the importance of the shepherds coming to see Jesus after he was born. The purpose was to highlight the importance of every individual to God - everybody is unique and special and this is a message that the children will absorb. At St John's we are blessed with 220 wonderful individual pupils that are all important and deserve to have a positive education, and we will always endeavour to make sure every person is celebrated for being them.

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

- Windsor - Amelia
- Attenborough - Hunter
- Mandela - McKenzie
- McCartney - Flo
- Simmonds - Emily
- Hawking - Josie-Marie
- Pankhurst - Isla
- Rashford - Henry
- Medal - Winter

Attendance



Safeguarding/Well being:

The temperature has dropped considerably and a reminder to all families to ensure that children have the appropriate clothing, which might include warm coat, scarves, hats and gloves. Please make sure every item is named. There is also a warning that sections of the school grounds will be very slippery in the morning. Efforts are made to make walking areas safer, but ice can be difficult to spot. Therefore, please take care when coming to school.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST DAVID

Non-uniform day

We celebrated Children In Need day by dressing in non-uniform for a donation, copper coin artwork creating a large number 25, undertaking 25 challenges throughout the day including poetry, PE, colouring and making good deed and act of kindness adverts!



St John's School likes to support smaller charities each year, therefore although recognising Children In Need, the money raised will be going to the school charity which is the Dementia charity Reminiscence Learning.

Michael Rosen Poetry Day

On Thursday 13th April, School was filled with excitement as pupils celebrated Michael Rosen Day. Several classes were thrilled to join a live video call with Michael Rosen himself, where they listened, laughed and learned more about some of his most loved poems. Across the school children shared their favourite Rosen poems and explored what makes his writing so engaging and entertaining.

Inspired by this year's theme, "Funny Food," every class created their own imaginative poetry. The corridors quickly filled with wonderful ideas, from giggling grapes to mischievous mashed potatoes! The day rounded off with a special assembly in which the winners of the recent poetry competition were announced. The judges agreed it was a challenge to decide a winner, with so many brilliant and creative entries submitted. We would like to thank all the children who took part in the competition for sharing their creativity. We hope that they will be using their prizes (a special notebook and pen) to collect more ideas for future creative pieces just as Rosen suggested.

The celebrations continued on Friday, when the whole school gathered for a poetry sharing assembly. Children from each class performed, read aloud, and proudly displayed their poems and artwork created the day before. Their confidence and enthusiasm shone through, making it a truly memorable event.

It was a wonderful two days celebrating creativity, poetry, and the inspirational work of Michael Rosen.

We are thrilled that Michael Rosen sent us a Tweet saying 'Hello all at St John's Primary!'

Thursday 11th December

'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper day happens to fall on the same day as St John's Christmas lunch day this year. More information will follow closer to the time regarding this date.



Upcoming events:

29th November	Choir at Wellington Lights switch on
4th December	Christmas Disco
8th December	Choir at Wells Cathedral
8th & 9th December	Y1 & Y2 Nativity
11th December	Christmas Lunch
11th December	Wear a Christmas Jumper £1
17th December	9.15 iRock Concert-parents of participating children only
18th December	1.30 Christmas Service in Church
19th December	Last day of Autumn Term-finish at 2pm. No after school club.
5th January	First day of Spring Term
16th-20th February	Half Term
26th March 1.30	Easter Service in Church
2nd April	Last day of Spring Term
20th April	First day of Summer Term
25th-29th May	Half Term
9th June	Sports 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 academic year are on the school website under the News and Events tab.

Friends of St John's Christmas Disco

Disco

The Christmas disco will be on Thursday 4th December.

The cost of the disco is £ 2 per child and times for the disco are as follows.

KS1: 3.15pm to 4.15pm, Yr 3 & Yr 4: 4.30pm – 5.30pm, Yr 5 & Y6: 5.45pm – 7.00pm

Bookings and payments must be made on Scopay by 4.00pm on Wednesday 3rd December. There will be no admission without booking. Bookings will be available on Scopay on Monday 24th November.

Thank you for your support,.

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM

29th November to 23rd December



It's all aboard the postal train as we deliver letters to Father Christmas!

Can you find all the letters hidden around the museum, so that we can send them on their way?

*See the museum transformed for the festive period and post your own letter to Father Christmas in our Christmas post box.**



**Father Christmas
c/o Tiverton Museum
of Mid Devon Life**

*Part of normal admission.

VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS!

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 4 - 6pm

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 10.30am - 1.30pm

Explore the museum and make a festive decoration as part of your ticket.

Children £8.50 Normal adult admission applies.

Booking essential.



**TIVERTON
MUSEUM**
of Mid Devon Life

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00-4:00
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