

Friday 7th November 2025

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope all families enjoyed a relaxing half term break and managed to spend some quality time with each other. Many children have spoken about observing fireworks over the last week and it is clear now that they have half an eye on Christmas, which is only 48 days away! Plans are afoot in school with a number of exciting events on the horizon - it is an exciting time of the school year.

My appreciation goes out to all of the children who have been participating in the Times Table Rockstars competition and also writing food related poems. A host of certificates have been given out to children in assembly today to congratulate winners and I'm hoping this will have supported their understanding of this really important area of mathematics.

Our attention will be moving towards Remembrance Day next week, where the children will be reminding themselves of the acts of service that so many brave people have demonstrated in the past and continue to show every day to make others lives better. Service is a value that is so important and we encourage this in school life. In particular, the school council have been hugely influential already this year trying to find ways to support our charity and also ensure that the children of the school have a positive experience. I have been impressed with the contributions of all members of the group from Year 1 right up to Year 6. They show such care and dedication to the community of St John's.

Kind Regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

Windsor - Othniel
Attenborough - Daniella
Mandela - Logan
McCartney - Leon
Simmonds - Flo
Hawking - Taniqua
Pankhurst - Xander
Rashford - Lily

Attendance

Punctuality

Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year
Arriving 15 minutes late every day adds up to 2 weeks absence a year
Arriving 30 minutes late every adds up to 19 days absence a year
Please can all families ensure the children arrive at school promptly.

Safeguarding/Well being:

The school council have recently shared their concerns that they are worried that some children in school are accessing video games and films that have an age rating beyond their years. They suggested as a group that their should be a reminder to all families to ensure that games being played on and films being watched are checked by parents and carers to ensure that the content is appropriate. It has also been discussed in an assembly as well, asking the children to keep themselves safe.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST GEORGE

Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week is 16–22 November 2025 and Somerset schools are encouraged to take part in the national campaign led by Brake, focusing this year on the theme “**Safe Vehicles Save Lives**”. With over 1,700 road deaths and 30,000 serious injuries annually in the UK, the initiative calls for collective action to make roads safer for all.

School Pick-Up Times

Data from the [THINK! campaign](#) highlights that child pedestrian casualties double between the ages of 9 and 11, with incidents most likely to occur during drop-off and pick-up times.

Parking Guidance: Keep Zig-Zags Clear

Parking near school entrances remains a persistent challenge. The Highway Code and Police UK guidance stress that yellow zig-zag lines must be kept clear to maintain visibility and safe crossing conditions for children. Parking on or opposite these markings, even briefly, can obstruct views and increase the risk of accidents. We remind parents and carers:

- Do not park on zig-zag lines or opposite them.
- Avoid blocking driveways or junctions.

Allow extra time and consider parking further away to reduce congestion.

Remembrance items on sale

We still have poppies and other items on sale in the school office to raise money for the British Legion. If you or your child would like any item please send money to school in a named envelope.

Fundraising for our charity of the year

Friday 14th November

The theme for Children In Need this year is “Challenge Yourself to 25” encouraging individuals to take on fun challenges based around the number 25, this could be reading 25 pages of a book, completing 25 acts of kindness or something more physical like walking, cycling or swimming 25metres.

On Friday 14th November, all children can attend school in non-uniform and should you wish, a donation can be made via your **Scopay** app which is located under **products** with the title of **Reminiscence Learning (Non-Uniform)**.

We are also asking if you have any **spare copper coins** could you send your child into school with them on Friday 14th November. This is because the children would like to make a giant 25 made of these copper coins which will then also go into the fundraising pot.

Thursday 11th December

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

Upcoming events:

10th November	Parent Consultations-not Attenborough
11th November	Parent Consultations-all classes
12th November	Parent Consultations-Attenborough only
14th November	Children in Need
4th December	Christmas Disco
11th December	Christmas Lunch
11th December	Wear a Christmas Jumper £1
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
15th July 9.30	Y6 Leaver’s Assembly in Church
17th July	Last day of Summer Day
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

Friends of St John’s Christmas Disco

The Christmas Disco will be held on Thursday 4th December-more details to follow.