

Friday 1st May 2026

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St John's Church of England Primary School

Weekly News

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

Everybody at school would like to congratulate Mr Foster on his achievement of running the London Marathon. In what were challenging weather conditions, with the temperature high, Mr Foster dipped under 4 hours which is a fantastic achievement. In the process he has raised over £17,000 for Great Ormond Street Hospital which is a staggering amount. From speaking to him, he has been overwhelmed by the support of the community and sends his appreciation to all. The next question is which member of the St John's staff will be running it next year?

It is with frustration that I have to report that a scooter was taken from the bike shed this week. We are delighted that so many children are active and want to come to school on bikes and scooters and we don't want this to change. There is a suspicion that it was taken at the end of a day by a child that doesn't attend the school. Please can the community be vigilant at the start and end of the day - if there is anything suspicious going on around the bike sheds, then let a member of staff know. With scooters, we recommend that names are put onto them so we know who they belong to.

On Monday the children will be off school due to the May Day Bank Holiday. This festival dates back to Roman times to celebrate the arrival of Spring - the renewal of life after the winter. In terms of a Bank Holiday it was established back in 1978. Although the forecast isn't too promising, I'm hoping all families have an opportunity to spend some time together and enjoy a rest.

Kind regards

Olly Priestley - Headteacher

Certificate Winners:

- Windsor - Harper
- Attenborough - Sylus
- Mandela - Theodrick
- McCartney - Vincent
- Simmonds - Vivaan
- Hawking - Coco
- Pankhurst - Kuukua
- Rashford - Munya
- Medal - Mr Foster (6)

Attendance

While our unauthorised attendance is below the national average we still have a number of people taking their children out of school during term time for family holidays. Please remember that we can only authorise these absences in exceptional circumstances.

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>190 days for your child's education</small>	10 non school 180 Days of Education	17 days absence 171 Days of Education	23 days absence 161 Days of Education <small>A term missed</small>	28 days absence 152 Days of Education	33 days absence 143 Days of Education
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good <small>Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start</small>	Worrying <small>Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress</small>		Serious Concern <small>Not fair on your child. (Court action!)</small>		

Safeguarding/Wellbeing:

We have been talking to the children about the dangers of eating unknown vegetation or fruit that they see around the community. For example, we have discussed different mushrooms and berries. The general message is that they shouldn't be eating anything unless a trusted adult has confirmed the safety of the item they are consuming. Please can families support this through conversation, so that the children are not ill from eating something inappropriate.

Sharing joy and hope in the community

Weekly House Point Winner: ST ANDREW

Meal bookings

On Thursday 21st May 2026 we are providing a special menu with the aim of encouraging pupils who normally have a packed lunch from home to try the hot school meals we supply.

All the meals on this day are free of charge to all pupils. Pupils that normally would have a packed lunch from home will be offered a meal that consists of children's favourites,
· Chicken goujons, chips & tomato sauce followed by chocolate brownie or fruit.

Or

· Vegetable fingers, chips & tomato sauce followed by chocolate brownie or fruit

Your child has automatically been 'Opted In' for this special menu as option A (please see menu below) so if you are happy for your child to receive this meal no action required.

If you want to 'Opt Out' your child from receiving our special menu or want to change to different option, please log into 'School Meals' on your SCOPAY account. Click on 'Order Meals' and select Thursday 21st May 2026, which will display your options and then simply choose the option you would like your child to receive and confirm the choice.

Upcoming events:

4th May	Bank Holiday-school closed
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

3rd September	School closed for staff training
4th September	School closed for staff training
7th September	First day of Autumn Term

DYNAMOS CRICKET
SOMERSET CRICKET FOUNDATION

AGES 8-11
GIRLS ONLY!
FREE SESSION

DATE: FRIDAY 29TH MAY
TIME: 9AM-12 MIDDAY
VENUE: WELLINGTON CRICKET CLUB, TA21 8NE
USE CODE: RWXMB

DYNAMOS CRICKET
SOMERSET CRICKET FOUNDATION

AGES 8-11
GIRLS ONLY!
8 FREE SESSIONS

DATE: FRIDAY 25TH JUNE FOR 8 WEEKS
TIME: 6-7PM
VENUE: WELLINGTON CRICKET CLUB, TA21 8NE
USE CODE: 7MCSP

Bingo

£308 was raised at last month's bingo. Thank you to all who came to support the event, and also to the Friends of St John's for organising it.

Community Inclusion May Half Term Activity Calendar

Please follow the link below to find out more about the May Half Term activities [CIA May Half Term Calendar](#)

Is your child taking a test or exam?

MHST
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM
Supported by Young Somerset & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

Turn Exam stress into Exam success!

Thursday 30th April 2026
18:00-19:30

Free webinar for parents & Carers

Free Resources

Click below to register

WELLINGTON CARNIVAL

Carnival Prince & Princess / King and Queen Competition

Do you have what it takes to be crowned Carnival royalty?

Competition Criteria

Open to all primary school children in the area

Princes and Princesses aged 4 – 16. King & Queen aged 16 - 25

How to Enter

- Complete Application Form
- Deadline for entries: 1st June

Judging Event

Date: Saturday 13th June 2026 – 3pm

Venue: Kings Community Hub, Wellington.

All entrants are invited to attend the judging event, where the winners will be crowned.

Winners must be available to be in attendance for the Procession on Saturday 26th September 2026 at 7 p.m.

Come join the fun and shine as a Carnival Prince or Princess!

Application Forms can be collected at Homefayre (Buy and Save), Fore Street, Wellington.

