



# St John's CE Primary School Newsletter

## 19 September 2025

*All different, all equal, all learning together in God's world.*

### **Prayer**

Jesus, you are good and wise  
I will praise you when I rise.  
Jesus, hear this prayer I send  
Bless my family and my friends.  
Jesus, help my eyes to see  
All the good you send to me.  
Jesus, help my ears to hear  
Calls for help from far and near.  
Jesus, help my feet to go  
In the way that You will show.  
Jesus, help my hands to do  
All things loving, kind, and true.

Jesus, guard me through this day

In all I do and all I say.

**Amen.**

## Message from Mrs Pullan



A very warm welcome back to the start of the new school year at St John's! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break, even if it may seem a little distant now!

It has been a pleasure to see the children return full of energy, smiles, and ready to learn. The school is already buzzing with positivity, and our classrooms are alive with curiosity and creativity.

A special welcome to all our new families, especially those joining us in Reception and across other year groups — we are delighted to have you as part of our St John's community. We know that starting at a new school can be both exciting and a little nerve-wracking, and we're here to ensure your children feel safe, happy, and ready to thrive.

We have lots to look forward to this term — from exciting topics and school trips to new clubs and special events. We will continue to keep you informed via our regular newsletters, ParentMail, and class updates.

As always, our school vision and values of compassion, forgiveness, tolerance and trust will be at the heart of everything we do, and we're looking forward to another year of growth and achievement together.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

*Mrs Pullan*

## Class activities



### **A big welcome to Reception class!**

Reception class (the Squirrels) have settled wonderfully into their new routine at St. John's School. They have quickly learned where things are around the classroom, showing curiosity and independence as they explore their environment. The children have also demonstrated kindness and helpfulness towards their friends, creating a warm and supportive atmosphere in the classroom.

In their learning, the Squirrels have been reflecting on what it means to be part of a class family, exploring ideas of belonging and community through the stories of *Have you filled my bucket today?* *Only one you* and the *The Colour Monster*.

We have had some great discussions about our emotions. It's been heart-warming to see how the Squirrel class has embraced their new school with courage and enthusiasm.

We are so proud of how brave and resilient they have been, making St. John's School feel like home already!









### **Year 5 Trip to Knole House – A Step Back into Tudor Times!**

Year 5 had a fantastic time stepping back in history during their visit to Knole House yesterday, where they immersed themselves in the fascinating world of Tudor life. The day included hands-on experiences with real and replica Tudor objects, with a surprising favourite being an early carpet cleaning device – a curious and much-discussed item!

The tour of the grand house itself offered a chance to admire historic portraits and learn about the strict etiquette of Tudor banquets, feasting customs, and courtly behaviour. The more important you were the closer you sat to the top table and the less important you were the further away. Interestingly, once Henry VIII stopped eating everyone had to stop! Can you imagine not being able to complete your meal?

After lunch, we enjoyed trying Tudor calligraphy, carefully using inkpots to write our signatures in elegant script. A messy job! A definite highlight was dressing up as Tudors from all walks of life, from lords and ladies to servants, brewers, and more – bringing the past to life.

The children learnt about the importance of showing their wealth and status in the use of fabrics and colour. The bigger the ruff worn the more important one was. You will be able to see us dressed up in costume in these photos. You may wonder why none of us are smiling. It is not because we are miserable but rather to be like the Tudors, who did not smile because their teeth were so rotten!

The Knole House team were so impressed with the children's behaviour and commented on how engaged they were and how beautifully they listened. The Year 5 Fox team were super proud – excellent St John's ambassadors.

Thank you to the parents, volunteer and staff who accompanied us.



### **Year 5 SCARF Workshop: Wellbeing in the Online World**

At the end of last term, Year 5 took part in an engaging and thought-provoking SCARF workshop focused on online wellbeing and safety. The session explored key topics such as group chats, how to recognise when someone is acting as an attacker, target, bystander, or upstander, and the importance of speaking up against unkind or unsafe behaviour online. Pupils explored the challenges they may face in digital spaces and were introduced to a practical "online safety toolkit" which included powerful metaphors like the Rope of Reassurance, Caring Compass, and Stepping Stones for Small Steps—each promoting togetherness, empathy, and confident decision-making. The workshop encouraged critical thinking about risks, fake news, and online influence. We hope these lessons will empower pupils to be responsible, thoughtful digital citizens, especially when chatting online at home, and to always act as upstanders who help create a safer, kinder online world.

## Notices



### Can you help?

Part of our Reception outdoor area is in need of a little TLC! The much-loved wooden seat/plant area that has served many snack breaks, story times, and a roundabout for the bikes is sadly on its last legs (quite literally — it is starting to rot!).

We would love to replace it with something more sturdy, safe, and natural — and we're on the lookout for **wooden sleepers** to create new, child-friendly seating.

If you have any **spare sleepers**, or know someone who might, we would be so grateful for donations. Recycled sleepers in good condition would be perfect — we're not fussy as long as they are safe and splinter-free! **If you are able to help, please drop an email into the office.**

Let's give our little ones a lovely new place to sit, chat, and imagine. Thank you, as always, for your support in helping make our outdoor space magical.

### Polite notice

Due to an increased number of concerns and complaints about the number of dogs being brought to school and causing distress to the children, **we are no longer permitting dogs on school site/grounds at any time.**

While we understand that many dogs are well-behaved, their presence on school grounds can be unpredictable. Several children and parents have reported feeling frightened or wary of the increased number of dogs, and we must prioritise the wellbeing and safety of all our pupils and members of our school community.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in leaving dogs at home.

Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping our school a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.



## Special Mentions



Year 1

**Livy**, for settling in so well to Rabbits class. It is as if you've always been a part of the St John's family.

#### **Year 2**

**Luna**, for always helping Miss Williams tidy up and helping others when they need it.

#### **Year 3**

**Max**, for being very helpful and kind to your class mates and new teachers.

#### **Year 4**

**Liv F**, for a fantastic start to year 4. Even when you felt nervous you have tried your best and have had lots of positive achievements

#### **Year 5**

**Ruby**, for your thoughtful verbal and written response to the 'hidden' meaning of the Good Samaritan story. Neatly presented too! Thank you.

#### **Year 6**

**Candle**, for always trying hard and contributing well in class.

## Diary Dates



Please check Parentmail/school website calendar<sup>1</sup> for full details.

Please note that for some future events, details may not have been sent out yet and are to follow.

#### **September**

22.09.25—14.45 Reception Meet the Teacher

26.09.25—15.15 Film Night (yrs 1-6)

#### **October**

01.10.25—Harvest

06.10.25—Flu vaccinations (*parental consent required*)

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.stjohnssevenoaks.co.uk/calendar/?calid=2&pid=9&viewid=3>

We kindly ask parents/carers to visit: <https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/> and select Seasonal Flu to complete the consent form. The schools unique code is: **KT118606**

07.10.25—Year 4 Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve trip

07.10.25—Year 3 Stone Age Day

08.10.25—15.15 Year 5 PGL meeting

09.10.25—Individual and sibling photos

10.10.25—Year R & 6 Fairy Cake Friday

13.10.25—09.15 2026 Open Morning

15.10.25—Black History Day

16.10.25—Year 3 Knole House trip

17.10.25—14.30 Sharing Afternoon

17.10.25—Last day of term 1

27.10.25—**INSET Day**

28.10.25—First day of term 2

28.10.25—Year 4 swimming starts

## **November**

04.11.25—15.30 Parent Consultations

05.11.25—15.30 Parent Consultations

07.11.25—Year 1 Fairy Cake Friday

12.11.25—09.15 2026 Open Morning

14.11.25—Own Clothes Day

14.11.25—09.15 Year 6 Class Assembly

20.11.25—TEDs Day

24.11.25—09.15 2026 Open Morning

28.11.25—Own Clothes Day

28.11.25—Bligh's Meadow Carol Singing Choir & Year 6

29.11.25—Christmas Fair

## **December**

04.12.25—09.15 Year 5 Class Assembly

17.12.25—18.00 Carol Concert

18.12.25—**13.30 Early finish**

