



St John's CE Primary School Newsletter

2nd October 2026

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for our school community and for every child and adult who makes St John's such a special place.

Help us to be kind, welcoming and caring so that everyone knows that they belong.

Bless our learning and help us to be curious, courageous and excited by the opportunities ahead.

May our school continue to be a place where everyone feels valued, cared for and able to flourish.

Amen.

Message from Mrs Miles



It has been wonderful to see our school settle into the new academic year so positively. Walking around the school, there is a real sense of belonging in our new classes. Children are getting to know their new teachers, making new friendships and becoming familiar with their new routines and our classrooms are already buzzing with learning. There is so much exciting learning taking place across the school. From new topics and books to practical activities, discussions, investigations and creative work. It has been lovely to see children becoming immersed in their learning and showing such enthusiasm and curiosity.

One of the things that has particularly made me proud is the way our children have welcomed those who are new to St John's. They have been kind, helpful and inclusive, making sure that new children quickly feel part of our school family. One new parent recently told me that their child came home and said "people care for you at St John's." I really cannot think of better feedback than that. It captures so beautifully what we want St John's to be - a place where children feel safe, valued, known, cared for and inspired to learn.

There is also lots to look forward to over the coming weeks. The classes are fully immersed in their new topics, every year group has some exciting enrichment opportunities planned to bring learning to life. We believe that some of the most memorable learning happens when children can experience, explore and apply what they have been learning in the classroom and we are looking forward to sharing some of these opportunities with you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is a real privilege to see our children growing in confidence, developing their sense of belonging and embracing all that school has to offer.

Mrs Miles

Sports roundup



Rugby Festival 2026

On Monday 21st September, selected pupils from Years 5 and 6 proudly represented St John's at the annual Sevenoaks Rugby Club Tag Rugby Festival.

The team competed in matches against Ightham, Chevening, Weald, Shoreham, St Lawrence and St Katherine's. There were some fantastic performances throughout the tournament, with St John's securing wins against Shoreham and St Lawrence, as well as a well-earned draw against Ightham.

All of the pupils showed great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the afternoon and should be very proud of their efforts. It was a brilliant opportunity to represent the school, enjoy some competitive rugby and put their skills into practice.

Cross Country

On Friday 25th September, a select team of Year 5 and 6 pupils proudly represented St John's at the Sevenoaks Prep Thomas Trophy event.

The pupils took on a challenging 2.2km cross-country course, which took them through the school grounds and into the beautiful surroundings of Knole Park. Everyone showed fantastic determination and represented the school brilliantly.

A special mention goes to Megan, who put in a fantastic performance to finish 42nd in the Under 11 Girls' race.

Hockey Tournament

On Monday 28th September, a selection of pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 represented the school at the Sevenoaks Partnership Hockey Tournament.

The team played brilliantly throughout the tournament, competing against Crockham Hill, Chevening, Shoreham and Dunton Green. A particular highlight was a fantastic 6–0 victory

over Crockham Hill! After a great afternoon of hockey, teamwork and determination, the team finished an impressive third overall.





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Special mentions



RECEPTION

The whole class for settling in so beautifully.

YEAR 1

Finley - for thinking about our thoughtful question of the week and making a charitable donation of toy cars.

Whole Class - A fantastic day out in London! All children worked together, helping and caring towards each other. Great manners, and great team work!

YEAR 2

Annabel - for always working hard and asking for extra work.

Archie - for having a great first week with us, we have loved having you and your great sense of humour in our class.

YEAR 3

Frederica - for her amazing attitude and hard work this week.

Zephyr - for trying hard in all subjects this week and joining in whole class discussions.

Phoebe - for being super sensible and helping a friend during lunchtime.

Leo - for being focused and engaged during all lessons.

YEAR 4

Eva - for her positive attitude to learning in all subjects, she is showing she is keen to learn!

YEAR 5

Oscar - for showing his generosity of spirit in giving each class a jar of fun activities. What a wonderful idea and so thoughtful.

YEAR 6

Darcie - For having a great start to the year.

School activities



Year 1

In History we have been learning about our past and how to make a timeline. We are excited for the upcoming trip where we will visit The Vine to consolidate our learning about the Great storm of 1987.





Following learning about their Reception 'Under the Sea' topic, Year 1 visited London Aquarium. We saw sharks, jellyfish and sting-ray!





We have been busy designing and creating models in Year 1 this term. We write 'construction notices' to practise our writing skills and we have been developing our fine-motor skills as well as number formation.

Year 6 Colour Run

What a success our Colour Run was! It was wonderful to see so many children (and grown-ups!) getting stuck in, covered in colour and having lots of fun. A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising such a brilliant event and a special thank you to Tom Clarkson for setting up the course and making sure the whole thing ran so smoothly.

By the end there wasn't a clean T-shirt, shoe or face in sight! We may have even added a little more colour to the local area than originally planned because of the wind...

Thank you to everyone who took part, sponsored the children and helped make it such a memorable afternoon.

Fundraising



It has been lovely to see some of our children thinking about others and showing real enterprise, generosity and advocacy in recent weeks. Zephyr in Year 3 held a toy sale at home and kindly donated some of his earnings to his class so that they can buy new resources. Finley donated some of his own cars to the class after a discussion about advocacy and thinking about how we can make a difference to others. David was also busy making and selling his own greetings cards at the Colour Run, adding the money he raised to his sponsorship total.

These are wonderful examples of children not just thinking about themselves, but using their own ideas, resources and talents to benefit others. Well done, Zephyr, Finley and David – we are very proud of you!

Celebrating our children's success



Noah (year 4) had a jam packed summer of competitive football tournaments, coming runner up twice and winning two prestigious tournaments across Kent, Sussex and London with two teams - great work Noah!





Alexander (Year 3) completed his reading challenge at the local Library and passed his Martial Arts grading - great work Alexander!





Notices



A couple of weeks ago, I met with our school caterers armed with a list of questions and suggestions gathered directly from our children. It was fantastic to see how willing they were to listen, answer every question and importantly, make changes as a result of the children's feedback.

This week, we have welcomed a new self-service salad bar at lunchtime! The children can now choose from a range of fresh options, giving them greater independence and choice, while adding a little extra flavour and nutrition to their meal.

This is advocacy in action, our children using their voices, sharing their ideas and helping to create positive change in our school. We are incredibly proud of them for speaking up and making their voices heard!



Diary Dates



Please check Parentmail/[school website calendar](#) for full details.

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

October

01-10-26 - Year 5: Knole House Visit

02-10-26 - Reception: Meet the Teacher

06-10-26 - Open Morning

07-10-26 - Individual and sibling photographs

08-10-26 - Year 3: Visit to Knole House

08-10-26 - Year 6: The Lancaster Model (health questionnaire)

09-10-26 - Years R & 6: Fairy Cake Friday

12-10-26 - Year 4 River Trip

14-10-26 - Year 1 Trip to The Vine, Sevenoaks
15-10-26- Year 2 Trip to Kent Life
15-10-26 - Harvest Festival
16-10-26 - Own Clothes Day
16-10-26 - Year 6 Fundraising Event: School Disco
22-10-26 - Last Day of Term
23-10-26 - INSET Day

November

02-11-26 - First Day of Term
06-11-26 - PTA Donations Own Clothes Day
09-11-26 - Open Morning
10-11-26 - Parents Evening 15:30 to 18:30 - details to follow
12-11-26 - Parents Evening 15:30 to 18:30 - details to follow
13-11-26 - Year 1 Fairy Cake Friday
19-11-26 - Snow White Panto
27-11-26 - PTA Donations Own Clothes Day
28-11-26 - Christmas Fair

