

<u>Newsletter Spring Term</u> <u>Friday 28th February 2025</u>



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first week back after the half-term holidays has gone really well. It was pleasing to see so many children collecting Star of the Week Awards for improvements in handwriting this week - something we are all trying hard to focus on across school.

Some children attended a gymnastics event this week, representing our school very well. Well done to everyone who attended.

As you have been made aware previously, there is a huge push to improve attendance in all schools and we are not an exception. From next week, anyone who is off school for their third consecutive day will receive an unannounced home visit by school staff to see if we can support you and also to check on the welfare of all children. I will also be contacting individual families where attendance is poor to set a realistic target and offer support to ensure that by the end of the year your child is not classed as a 'Persistent Absentee.' This is a child who has an attendance of less than 90%, which is a lot of lost learning time. A reminder that your child should not be off school for minor reasons such as mild colds, which can be eased with paracetamol. OFSTED, at our latest inspection, also commented on the amount of time many of our children are having off - something we must improve. We obviously understand that children all become ill at some point but attendance should not be less than 90% unless it is an extreme circumstance. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

This week our whole school attendance was 93.8%. We are aiming for 96%! As always, class attendance figures can be found at the end of the newsletter each week.

Kind regards, Mr Blackburn.

Art Festival:

Thank you so much to everyone who bought art work before the holidays at our Art Festival. It was a super event and raised £330 for school funds.

<u>Parking:</u>

Please be mindful about parking at St John's. Unfortunately, this week, cars have been blocking driveways. This is not acceptable or safe. Please ensure you do not block driveways or park on zigzags around school. Thank you.

<u>Dates for your</u> diaries:

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

Comic Relief – Friday 21st March

COMING SOON! Mother's Day Shop – Date TBC

COMING SOON!

Easter Egg Raffle

– Date TBC

School Closes – Thursday 3rd April

School Reopens – Tuesday 22nd April

School Closes – Friday 23rd May

School Reopens – Monday 2nd June

School Closes – Friday 18th July



World Book Day:

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March 2025. As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we invite all pupils to come to school next Thursday dressed as a word. Next week we will be challenging all pupils to take part in our sponsored read event, Ready, Steady, Read! The aim is for pupils to read for as many minutes as they can across the week and to get sponsors from their friends and family. All money raised will be spent on developing the reading areas that we have in our classrooms to make them cosy, comfortable places where your children will enjoy reading. Your child came home with sponsor forms and reading logs earlier this week. Please read this for further details.

Dressing up is a great way to encourage children to enjoy reading. It's a creative way to express what they like about reading; it sparks imagination and makes reading sociable and fun. To encourage reading this World Book Day, St Johns have successfully received a donation of costumes from Parentkind and Rubies. These will be sold under the canopy on **Monday 3rd March**, at home time. All contributions to be made in cash. All cash collected will be made to the World Book Day Charity.



Comic Relief:

On Friday 21^{st} March, children are invited to wear something red/bright in support of the Comic Relief charity. Donations of £1 per person are welcomed for wearing something red/bright.

<u>St John's Reading Recommendation:</u>

Twist of Gold – By Michael Morpurgo

This book is full of adventure and it's about two children who had to escape their country. Can they escape their country or not?

By Sumayyah – Silver Class



St John's Stars



Haniya M
Ava
<mark>Haamid</mark>
Aliza
Blue Class
Aadam
Areesha
Maryam





Weekly Attendance

92%
94%
<mark>95%</mark>
94%
94%
93%
96%
94%