# ST JOHN'S A PRIORY ACADEMY

# Newsletter

### Issue 31—September 2025



Respect <u>Kindness</u> Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

#### **Key Dates**

Wednesday 17th September

Y6 Meet the teacher—3.45pm

**Thursday 18th September** 

Y5 Meet the teacher—3.45pm

22nd—26th September

Fairtrade stall on KS2 playground after school.

**Monday 22nd September 4pm** 

**Y6 Residential Information Session** 

Wednesday 24th September

EYFS phonics information meeting—4.45pm

Friday 26th September—10am

Macmillan Coffee Morning-all welcome

**Monday 6th October** 

Individual school photos

Friday 17th October

**Harvest assembly** 

6th—10th October

**Scholastic Book Fair** 

Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th October

**Parents evenings** 

Tuesday 14th October

**Y5 Benin History Workshop** 

Friday 25th October

Y5 Class Assembly—9.15am END OF TERM

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**Contact us: -** 01522 530954

**Email:** stjohnsenquiries@prioryacademies.co.uk

Website:

http://www.stjohnsprimaryacademy.co.uk/

Dear St John's families,

It is lovely to be able to write to you and welcome you to the start of a new academic year! It has been wonderful to welcome the children back into their new classes and also to see how well our new cohort of Reception children have settled into their classrooms with their teachers. We are thrilled to have them, and you, as part of our St John's family.

My newsletters aim to share all the amazing things that happen at St John's and keep you up to date with news and upcoming events. I get the privilege of spending every day with your fantastic children so to share glimpses of what the staff and I get to see is always a real pleasure and strengthens the partnership between home and school.

Our value of the term is 'kindness' and will be a focus for us in our assemblies and learning throughout the term.

There's a lot coming up so please check the key dates and the other information in here for what we have happening over the next term, including meet the new teacher sessions, and residential and phonics information sessions.

As always, we have an open door policy for communication. If you have any worries or concerns, then please in the first instance, speak to your child's class teacher or the key stage lead. A member of the senior leadership team will always be available on the gates in the morning and I'm on the KS2 playground as much as possible at the end of the day as well.

Let's look forward to an exciting first term!

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher



Championing children; making a difference

# Attendance and Safeguarding





-	
RJR	100%
RAS	100%
1T	100%
1HC	95.1%
2ST	91.5%
2F	96.1%
30S	97.4%
3B	97.8%
4T	92.9%
4D	96.8%
5N	97.7%
5M	100%
6B	100%
6C	100%

# Attendance for the week:



# Attendance for the year to date:



Wow what an amazing start to the year with all this green! Some fantastic attendance!!

#### **Attendance Updates**

A letter has been sent out reminding you of the attendance policy and processes we follow as part of the Priory Federation of Academies Trust.

Please note that any leave of absence needs to be requested on the form that can be found <u>here</u>. Term time holidays will not be authorised.

We are following the new DfE national framework which sets out guidance for issuing fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absences.

The threshold is 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. The fixed penalty notice will be £80 per child, per parent if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid within 28 days.

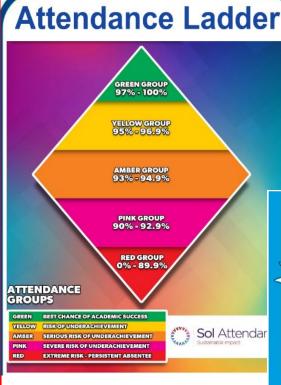
If another period of unauthorised absence follows and the threshold is met again with a 3 year period, the fixed penalty notice is £160 per child, per parent if paid within 28 days.

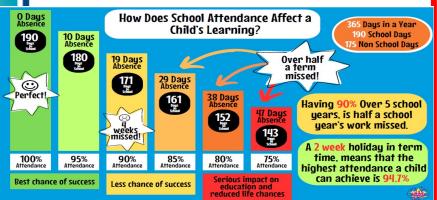
If the threshold is met for a third time within a 3 year period then other action such as prosecution or other legal interventions may be taken by the local authority.

Mrs Milnes, our new school family support worker, is the school attendance lead and can support with any attendance queries.

Our 100 club is back up and running for this term—this resets at the start of every new term to allow more possibilities for pupils to be rewarded.

Our class attendance challenge is also underway for this term. At the end of the big term, the class who has topped the weekly attendance chart the most times will be rewarded with a treat!





## **Curriculum and Learning**



#### **Fairtrade Fortnight**

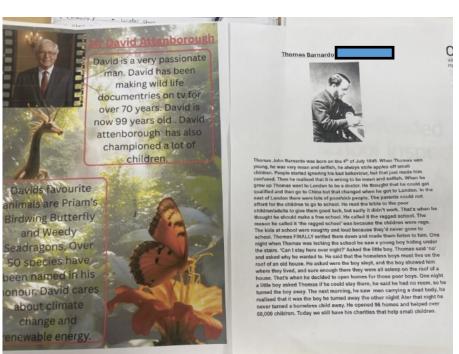
We are proud to be participating in fairtrade fortnight this year raising awareness on the importance of fairtrade and supporting our pupils to become global citizens. Fairtrade is about ensuring that farmers in developing countries get a fair price for their crops. Supporting fairtrade also means that these farmers receive training and support on sustainable growing methods as well as financial support and advice to be able to support their families. It is important that our children are aware that



sometimes things are unfair and to educate them on what we can do to make things more fair. To coincide with fairtrade fortnight, we will be running our own stall at St John's selling all kinds of fairtrade treats. Not only are they delicious but by purchasing, we will be supporting farmers and their families. The stall will be on the KS2 playground at the end of the day between 22nd—27th September. It will be cash only and please bring change if possible. I can't promise how long the products will last—there are some rather delicious looking cookies, flapjacks and chocolate bars for sale!

#### Value of the term—Kindness

Our assemblies this week have focused on our value of the term 'kindness.' We all thought about what comes into our minds when we think about kindness and we also learnt that kindness spreads. We also looked at our new house champions and thought about what they have done in their lives to show kindness. I've had some great posters brought to me with even more research that some children have done about their house champions. We will be looking out for acts of kindness amongst our pupils and who can achieve some house points linked to our value of 'kindness.'



# Mrs Jefferson recommends.... EYFS/KS1



KS2



# **Learning in Class**



#### **EYFS**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of the new Reception children and their families to St. John's Primary Academy. The children have been exploring their new classroom and all of the Early Years area. It has been a delight to start to get to know them.

Our topic this half term is 'Marvellous Me'. We are going to be thinking about our bodies, our senses, our families and how we can look after our teeth. This week our learning will focus on a book called 'Our Class is a Family'. We will also be completing our Little Wandle Rhyme Time and thinking about lots of different Nursery Rhymes. The children have started the Mastering Number scheme and have been introduced to subitising with their 'fast eyes' and using their 'fast fingers' to demonstrate the different numbers.



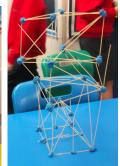






Year 2



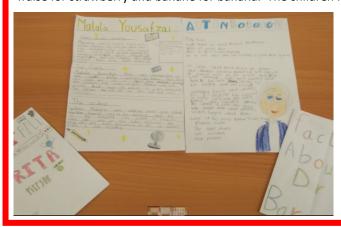


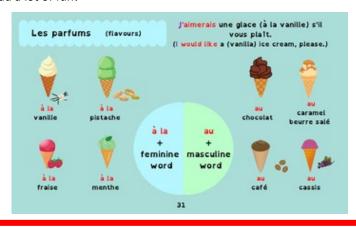
The first year 2 team challenge of the year involved the children in their teams, trying to build the tallest tower using spaghetti and playdough! It was all very exciting and lots of careful thinking went into the challenge. Some opted for tall and thin whilst others made a wider base in the hope it would be stronger. The year 2s soon discovered that the spaghetti was very delicate and there were lots of giggles as structured didn't always go to plan. The end result was very close in both classes! It was so lovely to see the team work, support, resilience and perseverance in their houses, well done everyone.

#### Year 4

Year 4 have settled really well into their new classes and are excited for the year ahead. One of the first things they found out was which house they were chosen to be part of. The children learnt many facts about all four of the house champions - Barnardo, Pierson, Yousafzai and Attenborough. The children then produced their own fact file about their chosen house champion. As you can see they did a fantastic job!

On Monday the children started their new French topic Les glaces - all about ice cream! They listened to how to say the flavours in French and then repeated the words out loud. They learnt how to say 5 different flavours in French including fraise for strawberry and banane for banana. The children had a lot of fun!





# **In Other News**



#### **New Staff Members**

We have some new staff members who have joined our team from September. Miss Fletcher and Miss Mabbott have both joined us as teaching assistants. Mx Sparks has joined our MSA team and Mrs Milnes has joined us as family support worker, a role new for St John's. Mrs Milnes will be taking the lead on supporting families in a variety of ways and will also be our new Attendance lead. It's lovely to welcome some new staff members to the team and I'm sure you will get to know them as time goes on.



#### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

This year, we will be supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by hosting a coffee morning at St John's on Friday 26th September at 10am. We'd love to welcome you to the hall for a cuppa and some cake and raise money for a very worthy cause at the same time. To support with our coffee morning, we'd welcome any donations of cakes / traybakes which can be brought to the school office either the day before or by 9am on the Friday. Please can we ask, as a nut free school, that any donated items



don't contain nuts. A list of allergens / ingredients to display next to the cakes would also be really useful. We also have set the staff an exciting bake off challenge with the chance of earning some precious house points for their teams! Please spread the word and let wider members of the community know. It would be lovely to see as many people as possible! Please note that our pupils will be in their lessons at this time so won't be able to attend the coffee morning.

#### **Head Bumps!**

Over the Summer, we have moved to a new IT system and a new management information system. The change means we now no longer have the facilities to send texts, only emails. With this in mind, if your child bumps their head in school, you will no longer receive a text message. For serious bumps, we will give you a phone call. For mild bumps, we will closely supervise and the children will come home with an accident form as they do



#### Online Safety—Parent Information

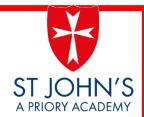
if they have any other injury.

We know that online safety and use of mobile phones can be a worry as children start to get older. The local authority sent a handy poster regarding Whatsapp which we thought we would share for your information.



# Location Sharing WhataApp gives you the ability to share you or device's location with other users This can be turned off in cettings Oharing Personal Information Ensure you remind your children shats they shouldn't share private information including - namea, phone numbers, links to other social media accounts or their school of the popule's personal information I links to join private group chats - other popule's personal information I links to join private group chats - photos of themselves including indecent images Further information Links to give protocol they don't know that will give that person the ability to chat with them. You can't always control if you're added to a group chat; but remind children that they can always leave whencever they want to or block unwanted contact You can report problematic contact to WhatsApp. You can also block a user to stop all contact WhatsApp. You can also block a user to stop all contact WhatsApp. You can also block a user to stop all contact WhatsApp. You can also block in group chat is described to a different with the properties to be added or create group chat with proper to be added or create group chat with proper to be added or create group chat with proper to be added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with properties of the added or create group chat with thou. You can report problematic content to WhatsApp. You can also block a user to stop all contact The properties of the added to a group chat with the group chat with the group chat without can't group chat with group chat group chat

# In the Community





Bracebridge Heath Community Library





# HEALTH AND HARMONY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

**SUN SEPT 28TH 2025** 

2.00PM - SERVICE OF HARMONY (CHURCH COMMUNITY GARDEN)

2.30PM-4.30PM - CONNECT, CHAT AND ENJOY REFRESHMENTS

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, BRACEBRIDGE HEATH, LN4 2LD

CHURCHES AND COMMUNITIES FROM BRACEBRIDGE HEATH, WADDINGTON, NAVENBY, NORTH HYKEHAM, THORPE ON THE HILL AND NEARBY PARISHES ARE INVITED TO CONNECT, SHARE AND HEAR FROM THE MANY ORGANISATIONS WE WORK WITH.

JOIN US FOR ALL OR PART OF THE AFTERNOON TO MEET THE BISHOP OF GRANTHAM, JAMES PRENTICE (COMMUNITY CONNECTOR) AND LOCAL GROUP REPRESENTATIVES.