ST JOHN'S A PRIORY ACADEMY

<u>Newsletter</u>

Issue 33—October 2025



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

Key Dates

Tuesday 25th November

Year 2—Moon Landing Workshop

Wednesday 26th November

Year 4—Volcanoes and Earthquake Workshop

Friday 28th November

Christmas Fayre 3.30-5.00pm

Thursday 4th December

Early Years Open Afternoon - Sept 2026

Friday 5th December

Year 1 Road Safety Workshop

Friday 5th December

FoS School Discos

Y1,2,3-3.30-4.30pm

Y4,5,6 - 4.45-5.45pm

Tuesday 9th December

Early Years—Nativity (afternoon)

Tuesday 9th December

Year 6 Trip—Holocaust Centre

Wednesday 10th December

KS1 Nativity (pm)

Thursday 11th December

KS1 Nativity (am)

Friday 12th December

Y6 Class Assembly —9.15am

Dear St John's families,

It's been a busy first couple of weeks back into the new term. This week has been Anti-Bullying week and we have used this week to continue to spread awareness of what bullying is, and how we can use our 'power for good' which is the theme for this year. You can see what we have been up to later in the newsletter.

It has been amazing to see the children wearing their spots and bright clothes today for Children in Need. Thank you so much for all of the sponsorship the children have received to take part in the Strictly Children in Need challenge! This will go to the fantastic charities which Children in Need support. We had a very fun assembly this afternoon where our amazing staff team took part in some fun challenges to try and earn valuable house points for their teams!

We have also marked remembrance in school over a series of events. Our school council took part in a special service at the International Bomber Command Centre. Some pupils from St John's also joined in with the service at St John's Church on Remembrance Sunday and on Tuesday, some of our pupils took a wreath to lay on behalf of all our school community at the memorial where they also participated in the two minute silence. Our children have a really good understanding and respect for why remembrance is important and I am always incredibly proud of the respect they show.

This week and continuing next week, we are holding SEN reviews. It has been great to share with families the progress children are making and their targets for the next couple of terms.

Contact us: - 01522 530954

Email: stjohnsenquiries@prioryacademies.co.uk

Website:

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

Thank you for all of your continued support. We look forward to some fantastic weeks coming up at St John's!

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher



Championing children; making a difference

Attendance and Safeguarding





RJR	99.4%
RAS	98.1%
1T	99%
1HC	97.3%
2ST	95.2%
2F	98.1%
30S	94.7%
3B	96.6%
4T	98.1%
4D	99%
5N	98.3%
5M	98.1%
6B	99.4%
6C	99.2%

Attendance for the week:



Attendance for the year to date:



Attendance Updates

We have spun our first 100 club wheel for Term 1 and are delighted that our first winners are:

Finley—RAS

Samuel—RJR

Josie-6B

Delilah-5M

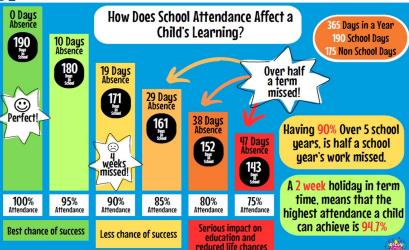
There were so many children on the wheel for 100% attendance in Term 1 which is amazing. The wheel has now been reset for Term 2 and anyone with 100% attendance in Term 2 will have the chance to be spun as our winners!

Illness and Holiday Absences

Please can we ask families when reporting absence for illness to give a clear reason for illness. We are having some voicemails and emails reporting absence which just says that a child is "unwell" We are expected to record a specific reason for absence so we need to know what the illness is e.g. tonsilitis, chicken pox, sickness etc. This will help ensure we are recording absences correctly in line with our attendance policy.

Please note that with any absences that are reported as illness but are attached to a requested holiday, we will conduct a home visit again to ensure that we are coding attendances correctly e.g. if a holiday has been requested for 4 days and a 5th day is reported as illness, a member of the attendance team will complete a home visit to be assured that the correct absence code is being used.





Anti-Bullying Week



This week at St John's, we have been taking part in Anti-Bullying week. On Monday, we wore odd socks to celebrate our differences. In our assemblies, we explored the definition of 'bullying' and that this is different to a falling out with friends. We used the acronym STOP to help us with the definition—Several Times on Purpose.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance defines bullying as:

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online.

The theme of Anti-Bullying this week is about using our "Power for Good." We explored what this means and how if we witness bullying behaviour, we should use our power for good to report this. We also shared some other strategies that we could do if we witness this behaviour.

On Monday, our children were able to mix with different year groups across the school to take part in a house challenge, designing posters to reflect the theme for this year and to share ideas of what to do if bullying behaviour is happening. I have the very difficult job of trying to choose some winners which I will share in our next newsletter but it was lovely to see children of different ages working together on this!

For parents / carers, there is a really useful information pack produced by the Anti-Bullying alliance which can be found here.







Early Years made some kindness hands. Every child made a hand in their house colours and decorated it with things that made them happy. There was lots of glitter and crafting during the afternoon! Well done Early Years.

Recommended Reads—Anti Bullying Week

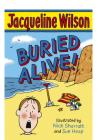












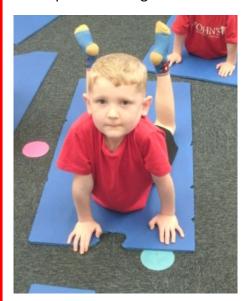


Learning in Class



Year 1

Year 1 have been really enjoying their PE sessions. In class PE, they have been learning different yoga poses. They have done snake pose, frog pose and deer pose. This helps develop their core muscles which is important for handwriting. In Coach Danny PE sessions, they have been playing games to develop our catching and concentration skills.







Year 5

This term, as part of their Design Technology learning, Year 5 are learning about structures – specifically bridges. In their lesson this week, they focussed on Truss Bridges and how a truss provides more reinforcement to a bridge structure. Using masking tape and spaghetti, they constructed triangular shapes to form the truss. Next week, once the bridges are complete, they will be testing their strength.







Children in Need

We have had an amazing day raising money for Children in Need and taking part in lots of activities, including our sponsored strictly dance. We will share photos in the next newsletter but there's still time to donate to our just-giving page here. Thank you so much!



Remembrance



Schools Service—International Bomber Command Centre

Last week, we took our School Council to the International Bomber Command Centre to take part in their schools' remembrance service. It was a lovely service with reflections shared. We were also able to read about some of the people who fought as part of Bomber Command. We then found their names on the memorial walls and put a poppy in the hole next to their name to show our respect. There are over 57,000 names on these walls. We also laid a wreath alongside other local schools to remember all of those who gave their lives in service for our country. I was so proud of the respect the children displayed and their enthusiasm in learning more about some of the people behind the names on the wall.



Remembrance Sunday—St John's Church

I was so proud of Tobey, Iris and Daisy for attending the Remembrance Sunday service at St John's church—sharing poems and prayers. They read beautifully and displayed our values of confidence and respect. There were many positive comments about how well they read and represented our school. It was lovely to take part in the service with other community groups and organisations from across the village.



In Other News



Theatre Trip—Annie!

Coach Danny, Mrs McMaster, Mrs Turner-Harrison and I all had a fantastic afternoon last Saturday taking some children to Lincoln Theatre Royal to see Annie! I am really passionate about musical theatre and performing arts and the impact it can have on children's confidence so it was amazing to see the children absolutely in awe of the performers on stage and the incredible job they did. It was also amazing to see ex-pupils from St John's in the cast, doing a phenomenal job! The children (and staff!) loved it so much that we want to plan many more opportunities like this in the future.



Pre-School Car Park

Pre-School have been in contact with school to ask if we can remind parents not to use their car park as it is only for use by parents with children at the nursery and pre-school. They are concerned about the number of cars trying to park in this small space and the dangers this is presenting. Please can we ask families to park considerately and with regard to others in the community. Thank you for your support with this.



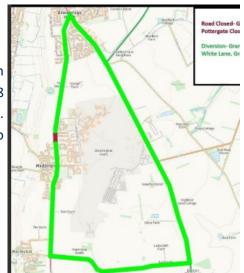
FoS Christmas Fayre



We are excited for our Christmas Fayre taking place in the school hall on Friday 28th November between 3.30-5.00pm. Our choir will be performing and there will be stalls and games as well as a raffle with some amazing prizes from local businesses. All money goes towards resources for school and I'd like to thank Friends of the School for their continued hard work in organizing events like these to support the school. We look forward to hopefully seeing many of you there and getting the festive spirit underway!

Roadworks

We have been made aware of significant roadworks being carried out on Grantham Road between Waddington and Bracebridge Heath for 8 weeks which may affect families travelling to school from January 2026. The diversion in place will take a lot longer to reach a destination so please consider this when leaving for school.



In the Community







