



**Respect   Kindness   Confidence   Tolerance   Self-Discipline**

**Key Dates**

**Tuesday 14th October**

Y5 Benin History Workshop

**Wednesday 15th October**

Year 3 Trip—River Witham

**Thursday 16th October**

Flu Jabs

**Friday 17th October**

Harvest Assembly—donations welcome

**Friday 25th October**

Y5 Class Assembly—9.15am

**END OF TERM**

**Monday 3rd November**

Back to school—start of Term 2

**Monday 3rd November**

Year 6—Online Safety Workshop

**Thursday 6th November**

School council to Bomber Command for Remembrance Service.

**Thursday 6th November**

Early Years 2026—Open Afternoon and Open Evening

**W.B. 10th November and 17th November**

SEN reviews

**Friday 21st November**

Children in Need

Dear St John's Families,

It was lovely to see so many of you this week at parents evenings. I hope you really enjoyed having discussions with the teachers about how your child has settled into their new year group as well as some targets for them to work on over the coming terms. Thank you so much to all of those who supported our book fair during these evenings. There were lots of books purchased and the amount we raised will go toward adding new titles to our library and classroom book areas.

This term is rushing by and we now only have two weeks left until half term. It really has been a great first term and our youngest pupils in early years have made the best possible start although I know they'll be looking forward to a rest in their week off.

Next week we have some exciting enrichment opportunities taking place with Year 5 taking part in a creative workshop by One Day Creative linked with their History learning about the Kingdom of Benin and Year 3 are visiting the River Witham to complete some practical geography fieldwork activities. I can't wait to hear all about it when they come back!

Finally, just a reminder that Friday 17th October is our Harvest assembly. We would welcome any donations of tinned goods, packets or cereals which can then be collected by Lincoln Community Larder.

Thank you for all your continued support.

*Mrs Emma Jefferson*

*Headteacher*

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***Championing children; making a difference***

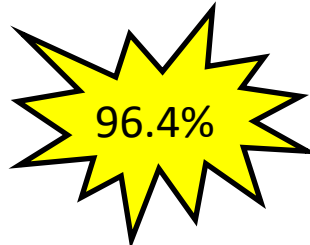
# Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



RJR	97.7%
RAS	100%
1T	96.1%
1HC	96.4%
2ST	96.7%
2F	96.4%
30S	93.3%
3B	96.6%
4T	97.7%
4D	99.2%
5N	96.7%
5M	94.6%
6B	93.2%
6C	95.9%

**Attendance for the week:**



**Attendance for the year to date:**



## Attendance Updates

Our class attendance challenge is well underway and Mrs Saunders class are currently in the lead but attendance has been wonderful across the school! We also have our 100 club running this term and our first winners will be selected on the first Monday back after half term. I wonder who our lucky winners will be!

As we start to move into the colder weather where coughs and sneeze are more likely, please refer to this handy guidance from the NHS. For colds, coughs, sneezes, headaches etc. children can still attend school and we're more than happy to administer any medicine if needed to help them feel well as well as lots of TLC!

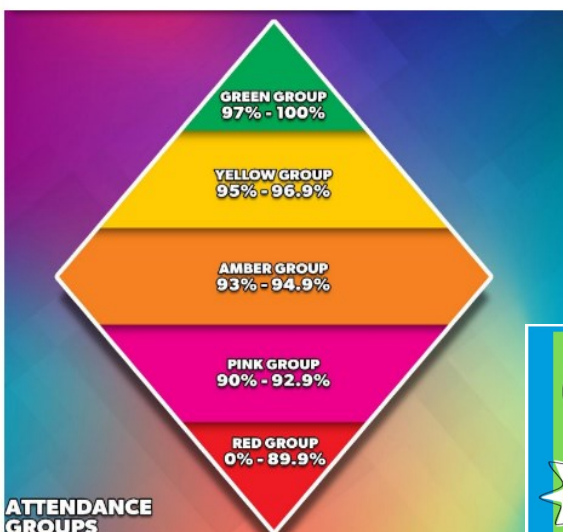
[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

## Safeguarding

We are noticing that we still have a lot of children and families waiting around on the KS2 playground at the end of the day. This is causing problems for our after school clubs being able to start promptly. Please can we ask that, once children have been collected, you leave the playground promptly and do not allow children to play on the field and trim trail. We have to lock the gates up prior to our after school clubs being able to start to ensure everyone is safe but this is being delayed. Thank you for your support with this.



## Attendance Ladder



### ATTENDANCE GROUPS

GREEN	BEST CHANCE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS
YELLOW	RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
AMBER	SERIOUS RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
PINK	SEVERE RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
RED	EXTREME RISK - PERSISTENT ABSENTEE



### How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?

365 Days in a Year  
190 School Days  
175 Non School Days

Over half a term missed!

0 Days Absence 190 High School Perfect!	10 Days Absence 180 High School	19 Days Absence 171 High School 4 weeks missed!	29 Days Absence 161 High School	38 Days Absence 152 High School	47 Days Absence 143 High School
100% Attendance	95% Attendance	90% Attendance	85% Attendance	80% Attendance	75% Attendance
Best chance of success	Less chance of success	Serious impact on education and reduced life chances			

Having 90% Over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed.

A 2 week holiday in term time, means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is 94.7%

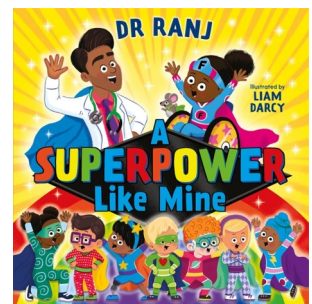
# Learning in Class



ST JOHN'S  
A PRIORY ACADEMY

## Early Years

In Early Years, their topic is Marvellous Me. They have been outside and made some Nature Friend Puppets with their own special Superpower connected to their book of the week 'A Superpower Like Mine'. The children decorated a wooden tool (very kindly donated by local company Colour Me Lincoln) as a character with a superpower. We encouraged the children to make up a name for their puppet and talk about their superpower. We also looked at the different natural materials that they could use to help create their character and linked it to Autumn and the effect of the changing seasons on the natural world around them.



## Year 3

Over the past few weeks, Year 3 have been diving into the wonderful world of the ukulele! Each lesson, they've learnt new chords and become experts at finger placement — helped by their colourful sticker guides on the fretboards. They have put our growing skills to the test by playing songs from artists like Taylor Swift and Bruno Mars, which really challenged them to switch between chords smoothly and keep in time with the music. The children have shown brilliant focus, teamwork, and enthusiasm. It's been fantastic to see so many budding musicians growing in confidence — we might just have a few future ukulele stars in the making! Mr Broadley, our ukulele teacher, is very impressed!



## Year 6

This term in year 6, the children have been learning all about Animals, Plants and Micro-organisms. They have looked at Carl Linnaeus and his Taxonomy chart to help them sort animals into vertebrates and invertebrates and then into further classes such as mammals, fish, birds and amphibians. To help with their understanding about micro-organisms, they have set up an experiment to see which conditions are the best for mould to grow. They have placed some bread into food bags and placed them in random places around the room such as on the windowsill, in the fridge, in cupboards and behind some trays. They are going to check the bread regularly until the end of term to see what happens to the bread and which condition is the best, or worst as the case may be!





## World Mental Health Day

This week in our assemblies, we looked at World Mental Health Day which is on the 10th October each year. We spoke about what mental health means and how it's about looking after our thoughts and feelings. In Early Years and KS1, we used the colour monster to help us with this. In KS2, we looked at the theme which this year focuses on when global news and events can feel overwhelming. We explored how often what we see in the media is a lot of bad news and this can have an impact on our mental health. I showed the children a resource called Be Happy News where, every week, a positive news leaflet is published and it includes stories of good news from all across the world. You can find copies of this here if it's something you would like to use at home as well — [Be Happy Resources](#)



## Black History Month

October is Black History Month and we will be reflecting on this in our assemblies and lessons at St John's. The theme this year is 'Standing firm in power and pride.' We will be celebrating some of the contributions that Black and Mixed Heritage people have made to society across the globe, both today and historically. Black History Month UK provides great opportunities to reflect on the key moments in history and today's society. It's important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our communities and to support the multiculturalism and diversity that shapes them.



## Recommended Reads for Black History Month



*Championing children; making a difference*

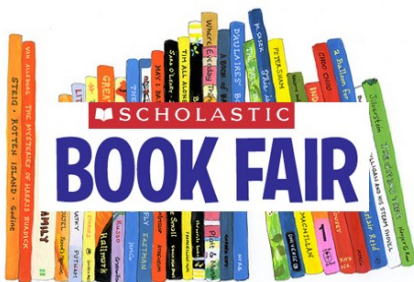
# In Other News



ST JOHN'S  
A PRIORY ACADEMY

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are really thrilled to share that we raised £301.45 for Macmillan Research. Thank you so much to all who came and bought cake. I must say a huge thank you to the staff team for their hard work in making the bakes. A special thank you as well to our parent Mrs Everton (@the\_brownie\_box\_lincoln) who made some delicious Macmillan themed brownies to be used as a prize for our staff house contest!



## Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you so much for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair. We have earned an incredible £456 to spend on new books for our library and classrooms. This means we can keep our selections up to date with fantastic new titles so thank you once again!

## Online Safety

### What parents need to know about **SNAPCHAT**

#### EXPOSING YOUR CHILD'S EXACT LOCATION

The 'Snap Map' lets you share your EXACT location in real-time through a map on the app. The user's location updates when the app has been opened on the device. There is a warning on the Snapchat website about uploading images and videos to 'Our Story', stating that "snaps you submit to 'Our Story' can still show up on the Map, no matter which location setting you choose." When uploading to 'Our Story', your child's image or video could appear in "Search results and Stories on or off Snapchat - today or in the future."

#### LENS EXPLORER

The 'Lens Studio' on Snapchat gives users the freedom to use their imagination to design their own filters for themselves and others to use. Snapchat states that the lenses users create "must comply with our Lens Studio Submission Guidelines and Community Guidelines and must be appropriate for Snapchatters ages 13+." The 'Lens Explorer' in the app now enables users to choose from thousands of these creations to alter their snaps. Anyone can create a lens for Snapchat, which gives opportunities for age-inappropriate content to be uploaded.

#### SCREENSHOTS & SAVED MESSAGES

While Snapchat's gimmick is that all photos, videos and text disappear eventually, users still have the capability to screen shot or record anything which has been sent to them. Users may sometimes forget that screenshotting is possible and send a compromising image or message to somebody who they think they trust. They may also accidentally send an image or message to somebody who they do not trust. Simply by pressing and holding a message, the user is able to save a message they have received, which can be screenshotted or used against them at a later date.

#### SNAPSTREAKS & ADDICTION

'Snap Streaks' are gained when snaps have been sent back and forth consecutively between friends. The longer that snaps are sent between users, the longer the streak becomes. Furthermore, Snapchat rewards users who have achieved high Snap Streaks, by gifting emojis, adding incentives for users to keep the streaks. Children invest time into making their streaks as long as possible, which can put an incredible amount of pressure on both themselves and their friendships.

#### SEXTING

Due to 'Snaps' disappearing, (users can even send a one-second photo or video), Snapchat has become the chosen platform for children and young people to send sexually explicit images or 'selfies.' Once a photo/video has been screenshotted, or recorded using another device or software, this can lead to further dangers, such as blackmail and cyberbullying. It is illegal to make, possess, download, store and share sexual images, photos and videos of a person under the age of 18. This also includes any sexual images, photos and videos that a child may have taken of themselves. However, if a young person is found creating or sharing images, the police can choose to record that a crime has been committed, but taking formal action isn't in the public interest.

#### SNAP ORIGINALS

Through 'Snap Originals', users can watch content which has been created by Snapchat on the app, including comedy shows, drama, news and more. Additionally, there are new lenses and filters available, inspired by the 'snap originals' shows. This is another feature to encourage addiction.



# In the Community



ST JOHN'S  
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Calling all  
**WITCHES AND WIZARDS!**

Fun activities with a Hallowe'en theme!

**FRIDAY 31ST  
OCTOBER  
10 TO 12**

Feel free to dress up!

Bracebridge Heath  
Community Library

This is a free event

## Chess and Board Games

Come along and join the fun! Come to learn, practice, play and enjoy. All ages welcome.

**Saturdays**  
27<sup>th</sup> September  
25<sup>th</sup> October  
22<sup>nd</sup> November

10am till 12 noon

Bracebridge Heath Community Library

**FREE EVENT**

Author events  
**DAVID WALLIAMS**

**NOTTINGHAM (SIGNING):**  
TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER, 11AM

**THE DRILL HALL, LINCOLN (TALK):**  
TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER AT 5PM

**PICCADILLY, LONDON (SIGNING):**  
SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER, 2PM

**BASINGSTOKE (SIGNING):**  
SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER, 11.30AM

## Spooky Half-Term Event with Piers Torday x Emma Carroll

**Wed. 29<sup>th</sup> October**  
5.30pm (5pm doors)

Waterstones Lincoln

Scan the QR code for more details and to book.