

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER HEADTEACHER'S NEWS



We are currently in the period of Lent which lasts for 40 days from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. It is a time to remember what Jesus did for us, especially His sacrifice on the cross, and to get ready to celebrate His resurrection at Easter. Later this term we will be celebrating Easter during our two special Easter Concerts at St. John's Church. This year Ramadan started on the 18th February, Ramadan Mubarak to all of you who are observing the month of fasting.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ms. Thomas who has been appointed to the role of Teaching Assistant and will primarily be based in Diamond Class, working Monday to Thursday.

Thank you to all the parents who supported us in our celebration of World Book Day at St. John's School. We all thoroughly enjoyed our day, reading our favourite books, guessing what character everybody was and listening to stories being read throughout the day. Do take the time to look at our latest news section for a range of photographs that capture World Book Day at St. John's.

We are delighted to be participating in Neurodiversity Celebration Week at St. John's School that will take place on the week beginning the 16th March. Following an assembly on neurodiversity, I have asked the pupils to come up with an idea of how we can celebrate this special day. One pupil suggested that we should all dress up as Superheroes which is a superb idea to reflect the strengths and talents of all our neurodivergent pupils across our school. This Superheroes Day will take place on Friday the 20th March. The term 'neurodiversity' describes the natural variation in the way all human brains are structured and work. We are very proud of all the neurodivergent pupils in every class throughout St. John's who have indeed enriched our school community. Neurodiversity Celebration Week was founded in 2018 by Siena Castellon, who created the initiative as a teenager to challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences and to highlight the many strengths and talents of neurodivergent individuals.

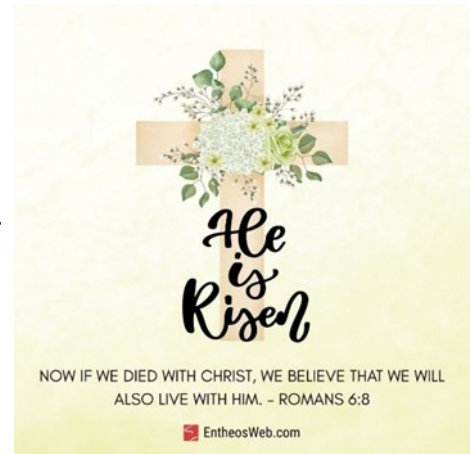
I am delighted to welcome Rock Steady back to our school on Friday the 13th March at 9am for a special concert led by them to show case what they offer the many pupils who are already participating in this exciting activity. If you are interested in finding out more about Rock Steady, do please come along as you are definitely guaranteed to enjoy this event and may well be very keen for your child to be part of this in the future. Our termly Rocksteady concert for all pupils who are currently participating in this activity, will take place on Monday 23rd March at 2.30pm.

Please do take the time to look at the calendar which outlines all the different activities that will be taking place in the last two weeks of this half-term which will lead us nicely into Easter.

Have an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Notley



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



CAN YOU HELP US TO KEEP ST JOHN'S CHURCH OPEN?

St John's church has cracks!

As these are in the porch area, if we don't get them fixed we will have to close the church building. The cost of the repair work is estimated to be at least £18,000 (plus VAT)

We know times are very difficult, but

any small financial help you can support us with will be really appreciated and help to ensure that our church buildings remain open for the community as well as our school.

If anyone is in a position to donate please do so **ON PARENTPAY** OR at:

Bank: Metro Bank plc:

Bank Account Name: PCC of St John and St Luke Clay Hill

Sort Code: 23-05-80 Account Number: 31851777 Ref: St John's (school)

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Mthr Mitzi and all at St John's and Clay Hill Parish



At
St John's Church
Strayfield Road
9:00am
Every 2nd Sunday of the Month

**Come
And See**



At
St Luke's Church
10:00am
Every **First Sunday** of the
Month

**Come
And See**

Dates List for Spring Term 2026

MARCH		
Monday 9	Imperial War Museum—Emerald Class	
Thursday 12	Mother’s Day Tea Party—Ruby Class	2.00pm
Friday 13	Rocksteady Concert for all parents and pupils whom are interested	8.55am
Monday 16	Pathways Assembly—parents are welcome to join	9.00am
Wednesday 18	Easter Concert in St. John’s Church for Ruby and Sapphire Class—parents are welcome to attend	2.15pm
Friday 20	Healthy Eating Workshop for all pupils / NO Celebration Assembly	
Friday 20	Neurodiversity Day—Dress up as a Superhero	
Friday 20	After School Clubs finish for the Spring Term 2026	
Monday 23	Easter Rocksteady Concert for parents of pupils who already attend this activity	2.30pm
Wednesday 25	Easter Concert in St. John’s Church for KS2—parents are welcome to attend	2.15pm
Friday 27	End of Spring Term—school closed at 1.00pm Ruby Class Collection time is 12.45pm Sapphire Class Collection time is 12.50pm Diamond Class Collection time is 12.55pm Emerald Class Collection time is 1.00pm	
APRIL		
Monday 13	Start of Summer Term	8.40am

Please remember that any of these dates may alter because of changing circumstances.
On INSET days the school is closed to pupils.

REMINDER PAYMENTS for	FULL PAYMENT DUE NOW
MANOR ADVENTURE June 2026	SCHOOL JOURNEY FOR YEAR 5 & YEAR 6
Deposit due 1:	£100.00 02/06/2025
Instalments 2:	£86.60 31/10/2025
Instalments 3:	£86.60 30/11/2025
Instalments 4:	£86.60 31/12/2025
Instalments 5:	£86.60 31/01/2026
Instalments 6:	£86.60 28/02/2026

After School Clubs & Breakfast Club Agenda

Monday

- 8.00am Breakfast Club
- 3.00-4.00pm Netball Club (KS2)
- 3.00-4.00pm Arts & Crafts (Recep, Sapphire Class)
- 3.00-4.00pm Jiu-Jitsu (KS2 & Year 2)

Tuesday

- 8.00am Breakfast Club
- 3.00-4.00pm Football Club (KS2)
- 3.00-4.00pm Yoga Club (Recep, Year 1, 2 & 3)

Wednesday

- 8.00am Breakfast Club
- During school Keyboard
- During school Recorder
- 3.00-4.00pm Football (Reception & Sapphire Class)
- 3.00-4.00pm Choir Club (KS2 & Year 2)
- 3.00-4.00pm Pathways (KS2 & Year 2)

Thursday

- 8.00am Breakfast Club
- 3.00-4.00pm Tennis Club (KS2)
- 3.00-4.00pm Activities Club (Recep, Sapphire Class)

Friday

- 8.00am Breakfast Club
- 8.00am Rugby Club (KS2)

Support Our School Through easyfundraising!

Did you know you can help raise money for St John's *without spending anything extra*? By signing up to **easyfundraising**, every time you shop online with your favourite retailers, a small donation is made to our school. It's completely free to use and takes just a couple of minutes to set up.

Please register using this link - just click sign up -

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=370813&invite=8wrl27&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=web-referral

There's no catch or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations.

These donations really do make a difference. The more people who join, the more we can support school projects, resources, and experiences for all our children.

So far, we have raised £680, a BIG thank you to our 22 supporters (staff and parents)!

NOTICES

INFORMATION

Attendance for the week

DIAMOND CLASS have the highest attendance this week and will be allowed to come into school in non-uniform on Monday 9 March in recognition for their achievement this week for the most attendance this week

This Week's Attendance

<u>Class</u>	<u>Week</u>
Ruby	96.5%
Sapphire	98.5%
Diamond	98.6%
Emerald	97.9%
Overall	97.9%



Spare School Uniform Shop

Nearly new school uniform shop run by a collaboration between St. John's School staff and parents. Any items required please send a text message to 07985 467 033, stating the item you require and size.

You will receive a confirmation text to collect the item and can make a payment on ParentPay under Item Name 'Donation to St. John's'

Absent Procedures

Please may we remind parents/carers of the following if your child is absent.

- Please telephone or email the school office on the morning your child is absent.
- On the return of your child's absence a letter with an explanation needs to be brought into school or you can email the school with the reasons.
- If your child is absent for more than 3 days then we do require medical evidence, otherwise this will be an unauthorised absence.

School Dinners

This is a reminder that Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 are all receiving & entitled to UIFSM (Universal Infant Free School Meals) & KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) are receiving free school meals as the Mayor of London has given schools some funds towards this.

Nursery do have to pay for school dinners at £3.74, so please ensure that your ParentPay school dinner account is in credit.

Breakfast Club

- Starts at 8.00am (please do not bring children any earlier, they will not be allowed in)
- Please ring the Breakfast Club bell
- If you require breakfast for your child, please ensure you are at school by 8.10am
- Breakfast Club account should always be in credit (either weekly, monthly or termly) £4.00 per day
- Any changes to the days your child is attending, please leave a message on the Breakfast Club line.
- If you would like to join Breakfast Club, please collect a form from the school office

School Uniform

This can be purchased from Smiths Schoolwear, 223 Baker Street, EN1 3LA.

Nursery Admissions

- Complete our supplementary forms, which can be found on the school website or collect them from the school office.
- Return the supplementary forms to the school office as soon as possible.
- Full time places available

RUBY CLASS We have had such a joyful and energetic time in school lately, with lots of exciting experiences and wonderful achievements to celebrate.

Trip to the Garden Centre

Our recent trip to the garden centre was a highlight for everyone. The children loved exploring the plants, spotting their favourites, and choosing seeds to bring back to school. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and we're all looking forward to planting and nurturing our new finds.

Reception's Brilliant Progress

A huge well done to our Reception children, every single one of whom has moved up a reading band. This is a fantastic accomplishment and a testament to their hard work, both in school and at home. We are incredibly proud of the determination and motivation for learning that the children show every day.

Mothers' Day Tea Party Preparation

We are very excited about our upcoming Mothers' Day Tea Party (next Thursday!). The children have been busy practising and preparing something special, and we can't wait to share this lovely celebration with you.

Sunshine & Seed Planting

The recent sunshine has brought a wonderful burst of energy to our days. With brighter weather ahead, we are eager to start planting our seeds and watching our garden grow. The children are already imagining what our outdoor space will look like in the weeks to come!

Miss Kelleher, Ms Dall'Aglio & Mrs Dall'Aglio mimi.kelleher@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

SAPPHIRE CLASS A big thank you to all parents and carers who attended our **Parents' Evenings**. It was lovely to celebrate their progress together. Your continued support at home is greatly appreciated and makes a real difference to the children's confidence and success.

English - In English we are continuing to develop the children's writing tools and skills. The class is currently preparing to produce a **fact sheet about wolves** focusing on organising information clearly and using interesting vocabulary. Writing in **Year 1 is progressing very well** with pupils building confidence in sentence writing spelling and presentation. **Year 2 pieces are truly impressive** showing great effort in extending sentences adding detail and applying their grammar skills.

Maths - In Maths the children are learning about **multiplication and division**. They are exploring different strategies to help them understand these concepts including **arrays rows equal groups and repeated addition**. These practical and visual methods help the children see how numbers work together and support their problem-solving skills. Please remember to support your child in completing their **MyMaths homework online** which helps reinforce what we are learning in class.

Science - In Science pupils continue to explore **living things and the natural world**. They are learning how to identify what makes something alive and how to **group and classify plants and animals**. Through observation and discussion, the children are developing curiosity about the environment around them and understanding the basic needs of living things such as **food water and shelter**.

RE - In RE we have been learning about the **story of Noah**. The children have been exploring the **moral messages and lessons from the story** including themes of **trust obedience and caring for the world and its creatures**. This has encouraged thoughtful discussions about how people can make good choices and show responsibility in their actions

Dear God,

Thank you for the joy our children bring each day. Please bless Sapphire class as they learn, grow and care for one another and your world.

Amen.

Ms Chebbi, Mrs Qayum & Mrs Hargate asma.chebbi@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

DIAMOND CLASS

Thank you to all the parents who attended Parents' Evening this week; it was a real pleasure to share the wonderful progress the children are making and to talk through the learning they have been enjoying in Diamond Class.

In Maths, we have continued our journey into measurement, beginning with mass and exploring how kilograms and grams are used in real-life contexts. The children are now moving on to volume and capacity, comparing and measuring using millilitres and litres. These concepts can be tricky at first, so regular practice of core number skills at home remains incredibly valuable in helping children feel confident and secure.

In English, the class has been working on informative writing linked to protecting Forty Hall, which has sparked thoughtful discussions about how we can care for our environment and look after the spaces that matter to our community.

In D&T, the children have been designing their own castles, thinking carefully about features such as battlements, towers and drawbridges. Over the next couple of weeks, we will begin constructing these models using recyclable materials; a separate message has been sent with details of what children will need to bring in.

As always, your support with Times Tables and MyMaths homework is greatly appreciated, as these tasks provide essential extra practice and help to strengthen the fundamental skills that underpin so much of their learning.

Miss Anderson & Ms Thomas lauren.anderson@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

EMERALD CLASS

We are well and truly on the accelerator at the moment; preparing for the debate competition, maths SATS preparation, English SATS preparation and a number of sporting fixtures and trips being played or organised for the next couple of weeks. Thank you, once again for all your support in the children's learning and also transporting them to the different venues, it is greatly appreciated.

In maths over the last couple of weeks our focus has been around area, perimeter and volume, with the children working their way through a range of questions and problem solving activities to deepen their understanding. In English our focus is on the classic Greek epic 'The Odyssey'. Everybody is enthralled with the trials and tribulations of Odysseus and his crew, and we have been producing some great pieces of writing based around this.

Our science topic is all about evolution and inheritance, this week's lesson focused on adaptations and natural selection and I was posed a number of challenging questions from the inquisitive minds of Emerald, PERFECT!! During our geography lessons we are looking at Different biomes with a particular focus on deserts. We looked at the main deserts around the world and a number of children were surprised that Antarctica is classed as a desert.

Please remember that on Monday we are off on our trip to The Imperial War Museum. Please meet me at Gordon Hill station at 9:15am on Monday morning. We will return at approximately 3:20pm subject to everything running smoothly on the TFL network.

Have a great weekend and hopefully the sun will continue to shine.

Mr Law & Mr Pople joe.law@stjohnsprimarysch.org.uk

Helpful Websites

Internet Matters - Advice for children
 Childnet - What is cyberbullying?
 BBC Own It - Dealing with unkind messages

Online Safety Tip 5: Cyberbullying

Children spend a lot of time online—playing games, chatting with friends, and sharing messages. Most online interactions are positive, but sometimes children may come across unkind behaviour. Cyberbullying is when someone repeatedly sends unkind, hurtful, or upsetting messages online. Helping children recognise and report cyberbullying keeps them safe and supported.

Cyberbullying can:

- Happen at any time, even when children are at home
- Spread quickly through group chats, games, and social media
- Make children feel worried, embarrassed, or alone
- Be harder to spot because it happens on screens
- Continue even after a device is turned off

Children need clear guidance, so they know what to do if they or a friend experience unkind behaviour online.

What to Look For

Warning Sign	What It Might Mean	Tip
Upset over using a device	Children may have received an upsetting message	Encourage them to talk about what happened
Avoiding certain games/apps	Something may be bothering them online	Check privacy settings and friends list together
Deleting messages or hiding screens	They may be trying to cope alone	Reassure them that they won't be in trouble for telling you
Friendship changes or arguments	Online disagreements may be escalating	Help them to talk about it and encourage a break

Safe online rules for children

- Tell a trusted adult straight away if someone is unkind online
- Don't reply to unkind messages—take a screenshot and report it
- Use block and report tools in games and apps
- Be kind in messages, comments, and group chats
- Remember: if it wouldn't be kind to say in person, don't say it online

Building Healthy Online Habits

- Keep open conversations about how online interactions make children feel
- Encourage children to take breaks when chats become heated
- Remind them that blocking someone is a safe and sensible choice
- Model positive online behaviour as adults
- Reinforce that everyone deserves to feel safe and respected online