

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER DATED FRIDAY 15th MAY 2026

Dear Families,

Over the last two weeks, it has been wonderful to see so much success in teaching and learning across the school. The children continue to demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience and pride in their learning, and we are incredibly proud of all they are achieving.

In particular, we would like to celebrate the fantastic efforts of our children with phonics and the Multiplication Tables Check. The dedication shown by both pupils and staff is having a very positive impact, and it is wonderful to see the growing confidence and progress being made. Thank you to all families for the continued support you provide at home — working together truly makes a difference to children's success.

As part of our ***Year of Reading***, we continue to celebrate and encourage the joy of books throughout the school. On this note, we are delighted to share the exciting news that our new Mr Smith Reading Cabin officially opened today. This wonderful space has been funded through the incredible charity work and support of Friends of St John's, and we are extremely grateful for their dedication and generosity. In addition, parents and children have given up their time to support the gardening and wild flowers surrounding the cabin which will look beautiful — we are so grateful. We are excited to broaden opportunities for children to read in a comfortable, welcoming environment and know this space will inspire many happy reading experiences for years to come. Thank you once again for helping to make this opportunity possible.



Many of the children over the past two weeks have also engaged in a wide range of cultural capital opportunities. These experiences provide valuable learning opportunities and help children develop a greater appreciation and understanding of the world around them. These enriching experiences simply could not happen without the commitment and dedication of our school team, who continually give their time, effort and energy — often going far beyond their job roles — to ensure success for every child. We are also incredibly appreciative of the volunteers who support our school and help make these opportunities possible.

Our Year 6 children completed their SATs statutory assessments this week, and we could not be prouder of the way they approached this important milestone. Throughout the week, they demonstrated resilience, determination, maturity and positivity, showing just how ready they are for the next stage of their education.

The children have worked incredibly hard over many years, supported by our dedicated staff and families, and they should all feel very proud of their efforts and achievements. SATs are an important part of school life, but as a Catholic school, we recognise that they are only one measure of a child's journey and success.

We firmly believe that every child is uniquely created by God, with their own individual gifts, talents and strengths. Whether through kindness, creativity, leadership, faith, sport, music, friendship or academic achievement, each child brings something special to our school community, and this is something we celebrate every day. Well done, Year 6 — you have represented yourselves and our school beautifully this week. Thank you also to the Governors of the school who supported the smooth invigilation throughout the week – you have been so supportive.

Finally, we are very much looking forward to celebrating Sports Day next week and hope that many families will be able to join us for what promises to be a fantastic occasion.

With every blessing,

Mrs O'Rourke

Headteacher

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 19th May – EYFS Trip to Trowbridge Library from 2pm – 2.45pm
Friday 22nd May - Sports Day
Sunday 24th May – Feast of Pentecost
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May – Half Term
Monday 1st June – First Day of Term 6
Tuesday 2nd June – UKS2 Steam Fair
Tuesday 9th June – Love Class Mass in School Hall at 9.05am – Parents Welcome
Wednesday 10th June – Knowledge Class Liturgy at 2pm
Thursday 11th June – Class and Year 6 School Photos
Thursday 11th June – OPAL Stay and Play 2.15pm – 3.15pm
Friday 12th June – EYFS Trip to Longleat
Tuesday 16th June – Joy Class Mass in School Hall at 9.05am – Parents Welcome
Tuesday 16th June – Mission Review Evening from 5.00pm – 6.30pm
Wednesday 17th June – Year 6 Leavers Mass at Clifton Cathedral
Friday 19th June – Reserve Sports Day
Tuesday 23rd June – Peace Class Mass in School Hall at 9.05am – Parents Welcome
Friday 26th June – Wacky Hair Day/Mufti Day
Saturday 27th June - St John the Baptist 150th Celebration – being celebrated at St Augustine's Catholic College – All Welcome
Sunday 28th June – Children's Mass in Church at 10.30am – All Welcome
Tuesday 30th June – Courage Class Liturgy at 9.05am – Parents Welcome
Friday 3rd July – Whole School Pilgrimage
Friday 10th July from 4.30pm – 7.30pm – The Friends Summer Fayre
Friday 17th July – End of Academic Year School Mass in Church
Tuesday 21st July – Year 6 Parents' Pilgrimage from 8.35am – 10am and Year 6 Leavers Assembly

New Absence Reporting Email Address

There is a new email address for reporting your child absent from school. This email address is:

absence@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

When leaving a message, please include the following information:

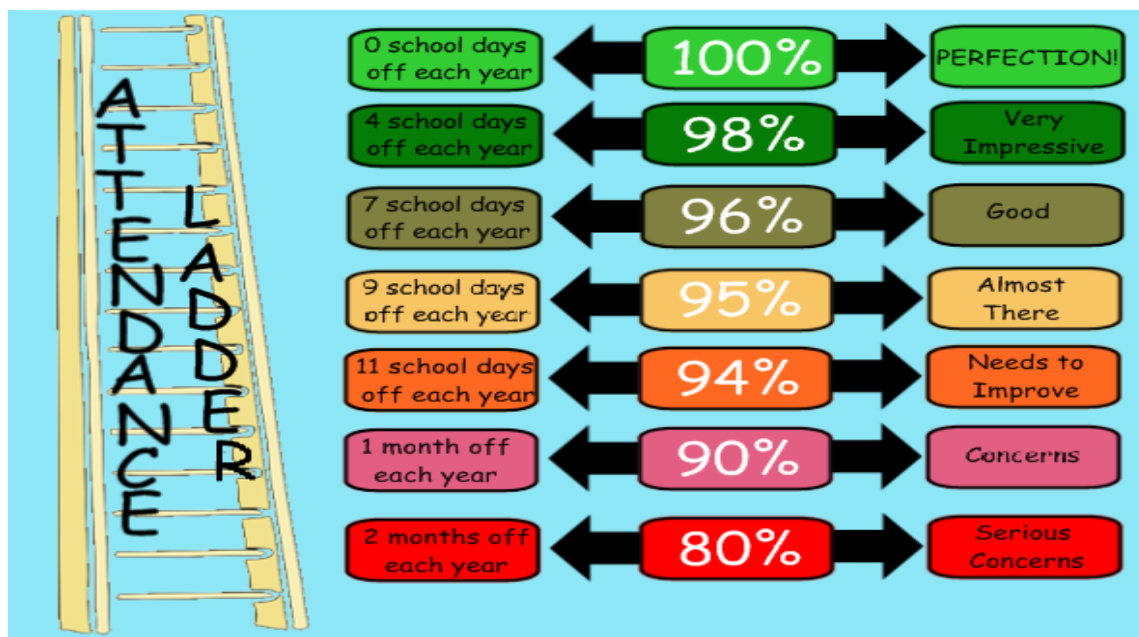
Child's Name

Class

Reason for Absence

If you are unable to email, you can still leave a message on the school answerphone.
A reminder that you need to report your child's absence every day.

Attendance Matters



We are encouraging every child to be an Attendance Hero!



Feast Day Mass

Well done to the whole school for your wonderful contribution during the Feast Day Mass for Ascension. The children read so beautifully and were a real credit to the school, showing confidence, reverence, and maturity throughout the celebration.

In addition, the Sunday Mass celebrated at St John the Baptist Church on Sunday 10th May was incredible. The readers spoke with such clarity and confidence, and their mature delivery made the service especially meaningful for everyone present. We are very proud of all the children who took part and represented the school so wonderfully. You are a shining example to us all of how you are living out your faith.

Volunteers to help with the Whole School Pilgrimage on Friday 3rd July 2026

Our Whole School Pilgrimage is taking place again this year on Friday 3rd July 2026. We are asking for volunteers to accompany pupils in all age groups by either walking to Bradford on Avon or travelling on the coach.

If you are free on this date and are willing to help, please email:

reception@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk with the following details:

- Name
- Contact email address and phone number
- Preference walking or travelling on the bus
- Confirming your availability between 9am – 3pm

Sunday Children's Mass

Once again this year we are delighted to be working in partnership with St John the Baptist parish and all children are warmly invited to join our celebration of Mass. Miss O'Mahony will be organising readers and singers. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Children's Masses:

Term 6 – 28th June 2026 - St John The Baptist Church 150th Anniversary Celebration Mass



Sports Day this year will take place on Friday 22nd May. Children are to arrive at school in their PE Kits wearing a T-Shirt representing the colour of their house:

Blue - St. Mother Teresa

Yellow - St. Don Bosco

Green - St. Francis of Assisi

Red - St. Carlo Acutis

If your child is unsure of their house, they should ask their teacher.

The timings will be as follows:

AM – KS2 (after registration – 12pm)

PM – EYFS and KS1 (1.15pm – 3pm)

Parents are warmly invited to stay for a picnic on the field. Of course, this is all weather dependent.

If you are taking any close-up photos, please ensure that they are of your own child **only**.

Policy on photography: you will understand the need to safeguard children by refraining from posting photographs/videos of other children on social media sites without the permission of their parents/guardians.

Please see the letter attached for more information.

Wednesday Word

Please find below the link to this week's copy of the **Wednesday Word** which can be copied and pasted into your browser.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

Year 5 Train Trip to Salisbury

On Thursday 7th May, Year 5 went on the train to Salisbury and visited the Cathedral, had lunch and played in the park! They learnt how to be safe on the train, platforms and what to do if they need any help. Thank you to the adult volunteers who supported us on the trip and to Platform for teaching the children train safety and providing such a valuable experience.



EYFS Visit to Trowbridge Museum

EYFS had a fantastic morning visiting Trowbridge Museum where we had the opportunity to learn about how Trowbridge has changed over the years. The children compared photographs from the past to now, looked at maps of Trowbridge and used binoculars to spot key buildings around the town. We were so impressed with the behaviour of the children and their enthusiasm when walking there and back...they certainly earned their lunch!



Tick Aware

UK Health Security Agency is encouraging people to 'be tick aware' this tick season.

Ticks can be active all year round, but they are most active in the months April to July.

As the warmer weather encourages more of us to be out and about enjoying the great outdoors, the UK Health Security Agency are encouraging we are 'tick aware'. This includes knowing where ticks are found, how to reduce the risk of being bitten and how to remove them safely and quickly as some tick bites can result in infections such as Lyme disease.

Find out more on the UK Health Security Agency's blog and referring to the attachment.

Year 5 Enjoy PhunkyFoods Workshop

Year 5 took part in an engaging workshop with [PhunkyFoods](#) learning about healthy lifestyles, nutrition and wellbeing through interactive activities.

The session supported pupils in developing teamwork, confidence and valuable life skills, while also enhancing their cultural capital through practical, real-world experiences. Links were also made to our Catholic values of stewardship, dignity and caring for God's gifts.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained important knowledge to support healthy choices in everyday life.



Inclusion and SEND Drop In Meetings for Parents

If parents have already spoken with their child's class teacher and would now find it useful to make an appointment with Mrs O'Mahony our inclusion lead please do contact Mrs Burden in the school office who will be able to offer a time and date for you to meet.



A brighter future for people with serious allergies

Year 5 & 6 Fruit Kebab Fundraiser – Friday 15th May

On Friday 15th May, our Year 5 and 6 children made and sold delicious fruit kebabs at break time to raise money for Anaphylaxis UK, a charity we will be working closely with. This is a cause that is particularly meaningful to us as we have several children within our school family who live with anaphylaxis.

The total amount of money raised was £150.00



Leaders in Faith Award

Congratulations to the following pupils who have earned this award:

Bronze Award:

Maia P

Rose B

Aria S

Silver Award:

Gabriela G

Mia S



Birthdays

During Celebration Assembly we celebrated all children who have had birthdays and presented them with a St. John's birthday pencil.

Pupils

Sofia B

Aurelia G

May D

Charlie N

Henry H

Douglas F

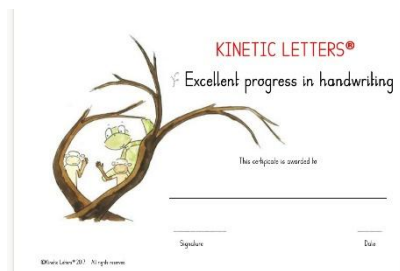
Adam L

Delilah W

Celine B-L



Celebrating Handwriting Progress - EYFS And KS1



We celebrate the progress of pupils in EYFS and KS1. Fluent handwriting is an essential skill that the children work to master.

The Following pupils have been awarded certificates for their excellent progress:

Wisdom Class: Max S

Understanding Class: Maria M

Counsel Class: Elliot P-F

Courage Class: Gautham B

Knowledge Class: Monty C



The following pupils have achieved these Doodle Streaks in Doodle Maths:

750 Days Margot F

100 Days Nancy D

Nelly F

Ivy P-F

50 Days Elliot P-F

Sophia D

Frankie R

In addition 4 children have been awarded with a 1,000 day streak trophy. Congratulations to

Nell G

Aaron K

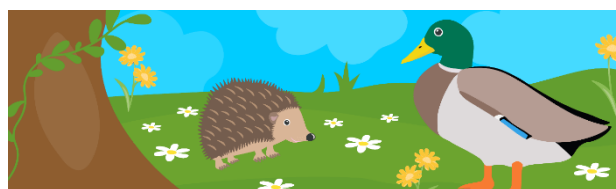
Kacper H

Kimpreet D

Here is the Top Doodling Class at St John's Catholic Primary School for:

Week Ending Friday 8th May – Courage Class (50% of pupils in the green zone)

Week Ending Friday 15th May – Year 2 (% of pupils in the green zone)



Pupils were invited to take part in the Doodle Maths Spring Challenge between 1st – 30th April.
The following pupils completed the Challenge and received a pin badge and certificate.

Margot F

Max L

Mia S

Nathania E

Nell G

Niamh D

Oskar G

Oskar H

Oskar K

Sebastian H

Simreet D

Sophia D

Sophie H

Stanley R

Tabitha A

Aaron K

Adam L

Alexander D

Alex S

Annabelle C

Daniel G

Elijah D

Elizabeth D

Elliott S

Evelyn L

Felicity W

Choppy W

May D

Joanna D C

Kacper H

Kimpreet D

Nancy D