



St. John's RC Primary School

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teaching of Jesus

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue: 278

Friday 2nd May 2025

As I come to the end of my time at St John's, I want to take a moment to say a sincere and heartfelt thank you. It has been the greatest privilege to lead this wonderful school over the past two years. From the very beginning, I felt welcomed, supported, and part of a truly special community. St John's is more than just a school — it is a family bound together by faith, kindness, and a shared commitment to helping every child flourish.

To the staff: thank you for your dedication, your care, and your tireless efforts to make every day full of learning, joy, and love. You are the heart of this school.

To the governing body: thank you for your wisdom, support, and unwavering belief in the vision of St John's. Your guidance has been a great strength to me.

To the parents and carers: thank you for the trust you place in the school and for working with us in partnership every step of the way. Your encouragement has meant so much.

And to the children — the reason we are all here — thank you most of all. Your smiles, your questions, your kindness, and your faith have been an inspiration. I will miss you greatly, but I will carry you in my heart. As I say goodbye, I do so with immense gratitude for all we have shared. It has been an honour and a joy to serve the St John's community.

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Godswill

Reception: Kelo, Connor, Blake

Year 1: Elias, Miraya, Selene

Year 2: Evangeline, Margaret, Zoya

Year 3: Ethan, Joyeesha, Ugom

Year 4: Lyla, Ryan, Tukur

Year 5: Amanda, Chidindu, Amber

Year 6: Stelios, Olivier, Julianna



House Points

Earth: 428 (8075)

Fire: 360 (8120)

Water: 378 (8007)

Air: 320 (7831)

Attendance to 25th April 2025 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	97.3%	Year One	96%
Year Two	92.6%	Year Three	89%
Year Four	***100%***	Year Five	96.2%
Year Six	99%	Whole School	96%

“Come and have breakfast”

“In this week’s Gospel, the disciples are fishing when they see someone on the shore — it’s Jesus, but they don’t recognise Him at first. He tells them to cast their net on the other side of the boat, and suddenly it fills with fish! Then they realise: it’s Jesus! When they come to shore, He invites them to share a meal. This story reminds us that Jesus is always with us, even when we don’t notice Him at first. He cares for us and provides what we need — just like He did with the fish and the breakfast on the beach. Jesus invites us to spend time with Him and trust Him, even when things feel difficult or uncertain. Let’s try to remember this week that Jesus is always near, guiding us with love and ready to share a special moment with us — just like He did with His friends on the shore.



Birthdays



An important message about birthdays!!!

Children can come into school in non-uniform on their birthday. This is so wonderful as everybody within our school community who sees them will know that it is their special day. If their birthday falls on a weekend, on PE day or within a school holiday the child may come in non-uniform on the Friday before or the Monday afterwards.

This week, and during the holidays, we celebrate:



Inioluwa – 29th April

Nela – 29th April

TK – 2nd May

Jimmy – 4th May



Safeguarding

If you have concerns that a child may be in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or MASH on 0345 050 7666.

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child or family, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01295 263740 and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

Alternatively, you can email our DSL (Maureen Collier) directly:

familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk

Early Years Class News

This week Early Years have been making the most of the sunshine. We have some new resources enabling us to provide a really rich range of activities which the children have really appreciated. This weeks favourite activities have been using oranges and a range of spices to make drinks prompting the opening of some (very expensive) coffee shops, gutter run challenges where one container of water is provided which needs to be reused and whisking up bubbles in the water tray. We have so much planned for Continuous Provision for the rest of the summer term, please do have another look at the requests for donations- they really are valuable.



Year One Class News

This week in Year 1 we've been busy wrapping up our Place Value topic, focusing on numbers up to 100. The children have worked incredibly hard to understand these bigger numbers. This week, we made the most of the sunny weather by estimating on number lines outside and playing our favourite "Guess the Number" game. In RE, we have started our Easter unit and have been learning about what happened when the women visited the tomb. The children enjoyed acting out this part of the story – here's a snapshot of their fantastic performance!



Year Two Class News



🌊 COASTLINES 🌊

Year 2 have kick started their new topic off with some wonderful artwork which we have displayed proudly in our classroom. We have also spent some time exploring human and physical features of coastlines. We explored how caves, stacks and sea walls are formed and then explored why some coastlines have piers! 🤩. Our Writing units are linked to coastlines and we have spent this week describing underwater worlds!



Year Three Class News

It's been a glorious week and Year 3 have been making the most of the warm weather! In P.E., we are now fully familiar with the rules of rounders, and the children have enjoyed the challenge of a new sport. We have also learnt more about Easter through stories such as 'The Road to Emmaus' and 'Breakfast at the Shore', using these as a basis for outdoor drama activities and personal reflections. In Maths we have started our two-week unit on statistics, where the class has conducted their own research, displaying their results using pictograms and bar charts. The children have also enjoyed learning more about the Romans and how they built their empire.



Year Four Class News

This week Year 4 got stuck into cricket! The sun was shining as we honed our catching skills, before we moved onto some batting practice. We worked in pairs to try and beat the fielders, running between each 'wicket' to avoid being stumped out by the opposition. Next stop: Ashes glory!



Year Five Class News

Year 5 became young engineers as they explored the strength of different shapes using paper straws. Working in pairs, they built both triangles and squares to test which structure could hold its shape under pressure. While triangles were initially the most stable, the class discovered that squares with reinforced corners—just like those used in real buildings—proved to be even sturdier. Just like in Greek Architecture! From the Parthenon to temples across Greece, students saw how clever design and reinforced supports have stood the test of time. The activity also highlighted the importance of teamwork, as partners had to communicate clearly and problem-solve together to build their structures.



Year Six Class News

In PE this term, Year 6 have been focusing on athletics, with a particular emphasis on sprinting. Last week, they explored the differences between jogging and sprinting, discussing how to adjust their bodies for maximum power. Working in pairs, they practised long strides, proper arm movement from pocket to mouth, and a slight forward lean while running. This week, the students continued refining their sprint technique, starting with leading their own stretches and then participating in time trials to see how many lengths they could run in a set time. It was fantastic to see so many applying the techniques from the previous lesson to improve their performance.



Key Dates

Tuesday 22nd April	School begins – School opens at 8:45am
Wednesday 30 th April	Key Stage 1 All Stars Cricket Festival at BGN
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Wednesday 7 th May	EYFS class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Monday 12 th May – Thursday 15 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Thursday 15 th – Friday 16 th May	Year 4 residential to Youlbury
Monday 19 th May	Key Stage 2 Quadkids at BGN
Wednesday 21 st May	Year 5 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Friday 23rd May	School finishes for May half term 3:20pm
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May - Half Term	
Monday 2nd June	School begins – School opens at 8:45am
Monday 2 nd June – Friday 13 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
Thursday 5 th June	Year 5 & 6 Dynamo Cricket at Banbury Cricket Club
Monday 9 th June – Friday 13 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 11 th June	Whole School Pilgrims of Hope Retreat Day
Wednesday 18 th June	Year 2 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 25 th June	Year 3 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Thursday 26 th June	Year 3 Multi-skills at BGN
Saturday 28th June	Year 3 First Holy Communion, 10.00am, at St John the Evangelist Church
Monday 30 th June – Thursday 3 rd July	Year 6 transition week at BGN
Wednesday 2 nd July	Year 4 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 1 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Play
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass at school (10:30am)
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' assembly (9:05am)
Friday 18th July	School finishes for summer 1:30pm
Monday 21 st July	INSET Day for staff – school closed
Tuesday 22 nd July	INSET Day for staff – school closed