



# 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: 29  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

It's been yet another busy week at St. John's! At the beginning of the week, 41 children across Key Stage 2 went to BGN to take part in a Quadkids event where they took part in a range of athletic activities including throwing, sprinting, jumping and running. Fantastic teamwork and team spirit were displayed! An extra special mention to Jakub, Jackson, Gracie and Ted for being individual winners – absolutely brilliant! We ended the week with a whole school May procession orchestrated by the wonderful Mrs Trivett. The children sang beautifully, and we all took a moment together to say a decade of the rosary.

Thank you for your support in the new drop and dash arrangements, so far this week it has worked brilliantly! We hope you have a lovely half term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 8:40am.

## Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Michael

Reception: Amare, Oliver, Ella

Year 1: Ava, Litta, Nora

Year 2: Leelan, Reina, the Whole Class

Year 3: Jakub, Helena, Aalayah

Year 4: Haybel, Jack, the whole class

Year 5: Amelia, Sharon, Esther

Year 6: Musa, Emilia, Jacob P



### Stewards of God's Creation!

Earlier this week, 7 wonderful children came to see me to tell me that during their lunchtime, they had selflessly took it upon themselves to litter pick the school field. They were VERY proud of themselves and have demonstrated such care for our school environment. Thank you so much to Musa, Freyja, Agnes, Margaret, Nicolas, Ava and Karlee for being stewards of God's creation 😊



### House Points

Earth: 618 (8615)

Fire: 750 (8942)

Water: 659 (8612)

Air: 772 (8646)

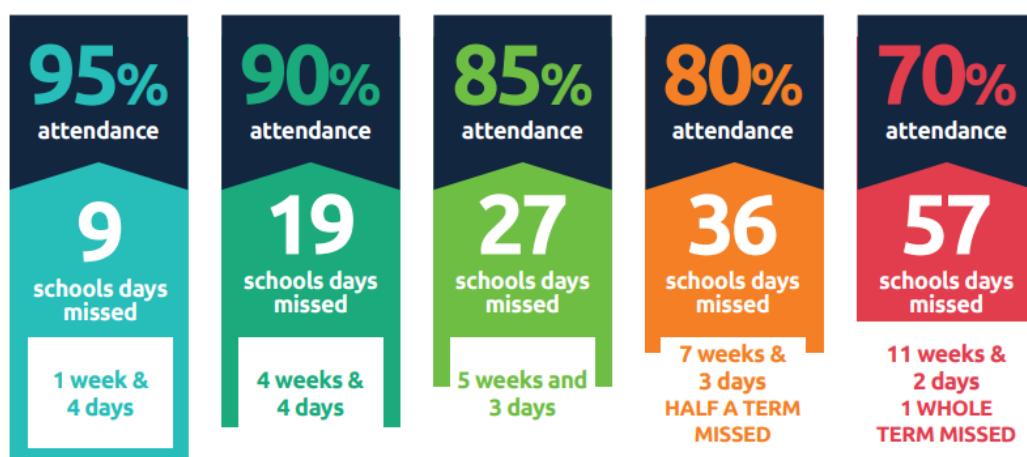
# Attendance

Attendance to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	96.1%	Year One	95.3%
Year Two	93.3%	Year Three	94.2%
Year Four	97.5%	Year Five	94.6%
Year Six	98%	Whole School	96.1%

Good attendance and punctuality play a vital role in your child's education. Every day in school counts – it helps children to build friendships, develop routines, and make consistent progress in their learning.

We do, of course, understand that children may sometimes be unwell, and their health and wellbeing must always come first. When your child is ill, we fully support your decision to keep them at home to rest and recover. All we ask is that you let the school office know as early as possible on the day of their absence.



and every minute counts...



# 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 we celebrate:

Olivier – 19<sup>th</sup> May

Shean – 20<sup>th</sup> May

Inayah – 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Matthew – 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Jack – 26<sup>th</sup> May

Rebeka – 27<sup>th</sup> May

Miraya – 27<sup>th</sup> May

Uzondu – 30<sup>th</sup> May

Jacob – 31<sup>st</sup> May

Ryan – 31<sup>st</sup> 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 (Miss A Bingham) directly:

[familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk)


# Early Years Class News


Early Years have been enjoying our outdoor area, and it is lovely to see how much the Nursery are motivated by playing with and alongside Reception. We have noticed so many of the Nursery children really engaging in mark making and showing great dexterity and fine motor skills as they copy what the older children are doing. It is also fantastic to see how they are developing great role play games together and just really enjoying each others company!



# Year One Class News

We've gathered lots of fascinating facts to create our very own mole fact files, and we've loved discovering more about these mysterious underground animals.


We've also gone *phonics crazy* in preparation for our upcoming Phonics Screening Check. From playing phonics games to spotting digraphs in sentences and speedily reviewing our sounds — we've been working hard and having lots of fun along the way! 

In Maths, we've wrapped up our topic on multiples of 2, 5 and 10. We've learnt so many different ways to count this year and put our skills to the test with a game of "Guess the Number", using our knowledge of multiples to give clever clues! 



# Year Two Class News

  PENTECOST  

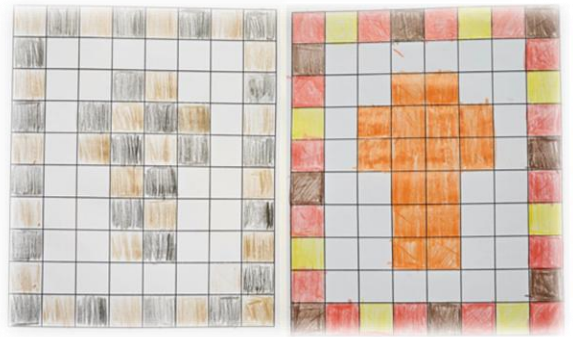
We have been busy starting our Pentecost unit in R.E this week  We have listened to the story of Pentecost carefully and then used drama to showcase it in small groups. We thought carefully about what was happening and how the disciples would have felt at the time. We then retold it beautifully and thought deeply about what things the Holy Spirit can help us with today. To brighten up our classroom, the children also created some stunning pieces of artwork, and we have displayed them very proudly on our board.

This half term has been an incredibly busy one and the children have continued to work their very best - I am so very proud of them!



## Year Three Class News

What a brilliant end to the half term! This week, our History learning has taken us deeper into the world of the Roman Empire. The class has been full of fascinating questions and insights, and we even brought our topic into Art by designing our own Roman mosaics - there are definitely some budding artists among us! In PE, we wrapped up our rounders unit with some lively final games, and it's been wonderful to see how much the children's teamwork and sporting confidence have grown over the past few weeks. Finally, a special congratulations to the Year 3 pupils who represented the school at the Quad Kids athletics event, and wishing everyone a joyful and restful half term break.



## Year Four Class News



On Friday, Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic Times Tables Rockstars Afternoon! The children came dressed as brilliant rockstars and looked amazing – thank you for all the effort that went into their costumes. We spent the afternoon playing a variety of fun games and activities, all designed to boost our times tables knowledge in preparation for the Multiplication Check after half term. There were lots of laughs, friendly battles, and great teamwork on display! Please do continue to support your child by using [timestables.co.uk](http://timestables.co.uk) over the half term break to keep practising. Every little bit of practice helps! Well done, Year 4 – you rock! 🙌

## Year Five Class News

This week Year 5, said goodbye to Miss Taylor, who has spent the last six weeks with us on placement from Oxford Brookes University as part of her teacher training. She quickly became a valued member of our school, and we're grateful for her hard work and enthusiasm. We marked the end of her placement with a celebration in the woods, enjoying ice lollies and sweets together. Our partnership with Brookes not only supports trainee teachers like Miss Taylor but also benefits the school, as we receive a small financial contribution for each placement. These funds help us enhance teaching and learning for all. We wish Miss Taylor every success in her future career—she'll make a fantastic teacher!



## Year Six Class News

Year 6 have had a lovely week, enjoying their first days free from the pressure of SATs! They've jumped straight into their new English topic, exploring the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar and writing vivid setting descriptions of the mysterious Camp Green Lake. In science, they've been learning all about the nine bodily systems and how each one plays a vital role in keeping us healthy. Over in art, the children let their creativity shine as they designed and painted stunning abstract landscapes using watercolours.



# Key Dates

## Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Half Term

<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>School begins – School opens at 8:45am</b>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Fr Hudson's Mass, Oxford (GIFT)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 & 6 Dynamo Cricket at Banbury Cricket Club
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Whole School Pilgrims of Hope Retreat Day</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	National Writing Day
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 class assembly – all invited 9:05am  Whole School Sports Day – times TBC
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Multi-skills at BGN
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Cricket Festival, The Grange
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Year 3 First Holy Communion, 10.00am, at St John the Evangelist Church</b>
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June – Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 transition week at BGN
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 4 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Whole School Transition morning – meet the teacher!
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Play 9:30am and 5:30pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Year 6 Leavers' Mass and farewell at school (10:30am) – all invited</b>
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>School finishes for summer 1:30pm</b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET Day for staff – school closed
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET Day for staff – school closed

We know that family life can sometimes be a bit of a juggling act – and we want you to know that you're not alone. Whether you're finding things a little tricky at home, need help getting into a good morning routine, or just want someone to chat to, we're here for you.

Our aim is to support not just the children, but the whole family. Sometimes a small bit of support or advice can make a big difference – and we're always happy to help where we can.

If there's anything you're worried about or if you think your family could use a little extra support, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're a listening ear, not here to judge – just to help.

Feel free to speak to Mrs Sykes or contact her via the email: [familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk)

Let's work together to make sure you and your child feel supported and happy.