



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: 30
Friday 6th June 2025

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. It's been lovely to see the children return with such energy, enthusiasm, and plenty of smiles – our classrooms are already full of wonderful learning, laughter, and a real buzz of excitement as we head into the final half term of the year.

Our Year 4 children have been working hard in preparation for their upcoming multiplication times table checks. We are incredibly proud of their determination and the positive attitudes they've shown towards their learning – keep up the great work! Meanwhile, our Year 1 pupils are getting ready for their phonics screening checks next week. We know they will do their very best and show just how far they've come with their reading.

We're also very excited to be welcoming Dan and Emily from One Life Music next Wednesday, who will be leading a whole school retreat day. This year's theme is the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope. It promises to be a reflective, joyful and spiritually enriching day for our school community.

As we look ahead to the weekend, we are reminded that Sunday is Pentecost, a significant feast in the Church's calendar. Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, filling them with courage and inspiring them to go out and share the Good News. It marks the birthday of the Church and reminds us of the power of God's Spirit in our lives today. May we, like the disciples, be open to the Holy Spirit and continue to be witnesses of love, peace and unity in our school and beyond.

As always, thank you for your continued support.
Have a wonderful weekend!

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Kayla

Reception: Adeife, Tallulah, Zack

Year 1: Maya, Janvi, Marie-Bernadette

Year 2: Joseph, Charlotte, Jeron

Year 3: Evelyn, Joe, Hamilton

Year 4: JP, Ruby, William

Year 5: Sofia, Leo, Aibel

Year 6: Alex, Arianne, Holly

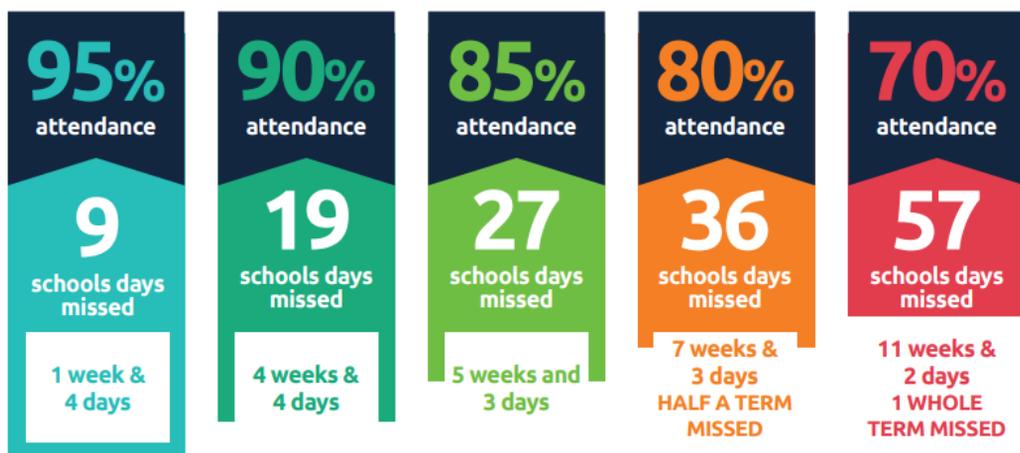
Attendance

Attendance to 16th May 2025 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	91.7%	Year One	96.7%
Year Two	96.3%	Year Three	90.7%
Year Four	98.7%	Year Five	90.6%
Year Six	98%	Whole School	95.1%

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:

Daraboth – 5th June

Rebecca – 7th June

Sharon – 7th June

James – 8th June



House Points

Earth: 290 (8905)

Fire: 311 (9253)

Water: 308 (8920)

Air: 317 (8963)

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

Early Years Class News

This week it was Early Years assembly, and the children showcased some of the learning they have been doing last term. We showed how well the beans we planted 3 weeks ago have grown without soil and we have now planted them into a pot to see if we can grow a beanstalk to reach the sky as Jack did. Reception have had great fun keeping a Bean Diary and have, with Nursery, become very observant about changes and details. We then performed a traditional Morris tune 'Shepherds Hey' and sang the story of The Gigantic Turnip. This term we are very excited about our themes of Maps and Minibeasts!



Year One Class News

In our first week back, we have been working our socks off in Year 1! We have jumped straight into our new topic of money, explored the story *I am Home, Mrs Mole*, and learnt all about the Pentecost in RE. Everyone has settled back into the routine of Year 1 so well—I am incredibly impressed!

This week, we're on phonics overdrive as we get ready for our Phonics Screening Test next week. Myself and the support staff have been blown away by how confident the children are with their sounds.

In science, we've been doing an amazing job imagining what life would be like without one of the five senses. The children have come up with some fantastic questions for our Deaf visitor, who will be coming in to see the class next week.



Year Two Class News

Year 2 have been busy learning about Animal Survival in Science. To end our unit, the children have designed, built and evaluated their own bug hotels and have done such a fantastic job! They have explained how their bug hotels are good for different minibeasts and provided lots of air and shelter in their microhabitats. Miss Barton and I were amazed at their fantastic teamwork and idea sharing!





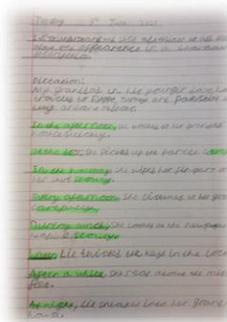
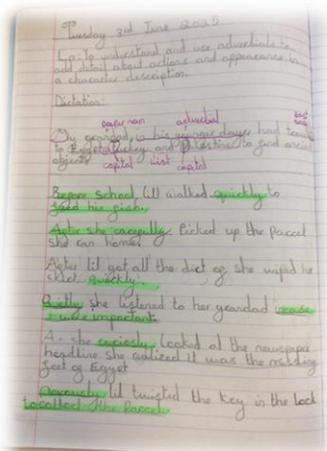
Year Three Class News

Year 3 have made a strong start to the final half term, showing focus and enthusiasm. In English, we've been writing about our class novel, *Julius Zebra*, using it to inspire character descriptions, exploring appearance and personality. We also incorporated the novel into our Art lessons, creating expressive line drawings of Julius, following guidance from the author himself. In Maths, we've started a new unit - shape and space - learning to identify angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, and 2D shapes.

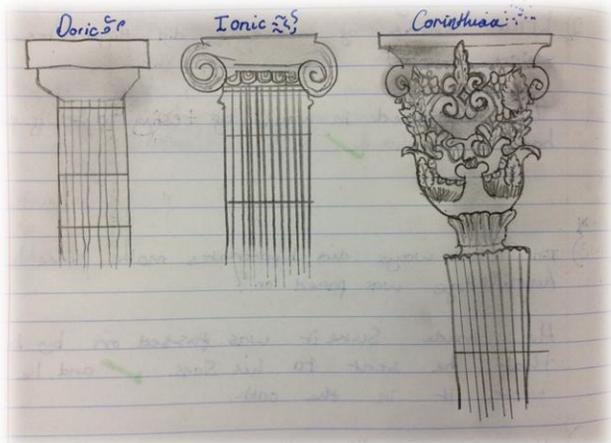


Year Four Class News

We have been so enjoying our new English text this week, 'Secrets of a Sun King', as we've been delving into the world of Ancient Egypt and going on a thrilling journey to break a deadly curse! We've been busy adding to our bank of amazing literacy skills, exploring the role of adverbials to add detail to our writing. We've discovered we can use an adverbial to give some extra description about when, where, how or why Lil's adventure with her friends unfolds.



Year Five Class News



Year 5 have been on a journey back in time to explore the legacy of Classical architecture. We discovered how ancient Greek buildings—many over 2,500 years old—have stood the test of time and still inspire modern architects. We learned about the three main types of Greek columns, known as the “orders”: Doric, Ionic (not *ironic* or *iconic*, as they were cheekily renamed a few times!), and Corinthian. We had a go at sketching them—some of the drawings were absolutely brilliant and showed real attention to detail!

Year Six Class News

This week Year 6 have enjoyed working with their friends and have used their recent maths learning to help them with some real-life maths problems. Using a recipe to create 6 cupcakes, they scaled the recipe up or down to create their chosen number of cupcakes. They then looked at the prices of ingredients in two different shops. Using their newly formed recipes, children had to work out how much of each ingredient they would need, how much it would cost to buy the required ingredients, and which shop was better value. It was brilliant to see the children working together to solve the problems and hear the excellent mathematical discussions they were having.



Key Dates

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May - Half Term

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
Tuesday 24 th June	National Writing Day
Wednesday 25 th June	Year 3 class assembly – all invited 9:05am Whole School Sports Day – times TBC
Thursday 26 th June	Year 3 Multi-skills at BGN
Friday 27 th June	Year 2 Cricket Festival, The Grange
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
Tuesday 1 st July	Year 1 – Year 5 Music Concert – all parents invited 2:00pm
Wednesday 2 nd July	Year 4 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Thursday 3 rd July	Whole School Transition morning – meet the teacher!
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 1 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Play 9:30am and 5:30pm
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass and farewell at school (10:30am) – all invited
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

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

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