



St. John's RC Primary School

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue: 3 Friday 26th September 2025

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been another fantastic week here at St. John's. I have had the pleasure of spending more time in classes and I've been particularly proud of the way our pupils have shown resilience and enthusiasm in their learning. Whether it's in the classroom, on the sports field, or during creative activities, their energy and determination are truly inspiring. We have had another great week of sporting events, with Hot Shots basketball taster sessions, which the children really enjoyed. We now have a basketball club on a Thursday lunch time led by the Hot Shots team. We also took part in a Key Stage 2 cross country competition where the Year 3/4 Girls team came in an amazing 3rd place overall. A special mention and HUGE congratulations to Gracie who came 1st in the Year 3/4 girls' race, Jakub who came in 4th for the Year 3/4 boys and Ruva who placed 3rd for the Year 5/6 girls. Well done to everybody who participated, you all did fantastically.

In celebration of European languages day, we had groups of children, who speak another language, lead us in a decade of the rosary in assembly today. It was a really special way to pray together and share the wonderful diversity we have in our school. We ended the week with a lovely coffee morning, in aid of MacMillan, led by our school council team. It was wonderful to welcome parents/carers and extended members of the community to this. Thank-you all for supporting such a great cause and to our staff and school council team for organising it.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs McGeehan



This week, in our Gospel assembly, we listened to the story of the Dishonest Manager- teaching us about stewardship and using what God gave us to help one another.

Dear God, Thank you for all the good things you have given me. Thank you for my family, my home, and my toys. Help me to be a good steward of all these gifts. Teach me to use my time to help others. Teach me to use my talents to do good things.

Teach me to share my money with those who are in need. Help me to always remember that everything I have is a gift from you.

Amen ❤️

Staffing News

Baby on the way! I'm pleased to share some lovely news with you. Miss Bingham, our Assistant Head and Year 4 teacher, is expecting a baby. This is a hugely exciting time for her and her family and I know the whole school community will join us in sending warm wishes and congratulations to Miss Bingham and her family. Miss Bingham will continue her role until Christmas, after which Miss Burton, who Year 4 will be working with over the next term, will be covering the Year 4 class with Mrs Sykes. Plans are already in place for ensuring the transition is as smooth as possible. We can't wait to meet your new arrival and wish you all the best.



SEN Coffee Afternoon

On Tuesday 30th September, Mrs Butcher, our SENDCo, will be hosting our SEN coffee afternoon, where Mrs McGeehan and Mrs Wickens will also be present. A meeting like this is a chance to be a support network and talk to each other about shared issues. If you have any concerns about your children and think it would be helpful to meet other parents in this way, please feel free to attend. These sessions will be very informal and an opportunity to connect and communicate. We will be hosting more of these throughout the year, each with a different theme. It is open to all parents and not just those who have children on the SEND register. We look forward to meeting you and sharing a warm drink and a biscuit or two.

Parent Open Afternoon

On Wednesday 22nd October, the school gates will open at the slightly earlier time of 3:05pm. Parents/Carers are invited to come into their child's class to view some of the work they have been doing this term. We look forward to welcoming you.

Attendance

Year	Present R/C: Marks (%)
Reception	98.95%
Year 1	97.93%
Year 2	99.31%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	95.49%
Year 5	98.13%
Year 6	98%

Our whole school attendance for the week is: 97.9%. This is fantastic and meets our goal for a second week running! Thank-you for all of your support in ensuring children are at school and on time each day.

♥ ★ The class with the highest attendance, at 99%, this week is Year 2 ♥ ★

Attendance Matters



(Over one academic year)

Wraparound Update

We're pleased to let you know that, thanks to an increase in staffing, we are now able to offer greater flexibility with collection times for our after-school club, as was previously. This means we can continue to meet all safeguarding and supervision ratio requirements while better accommodating the needs of our families.

These changes will come into effect from Thursday 25th September. When booking, you will still book for a 'short' or 'longer' slot as follows:

3:30pm-4:30pm – collection any time in this hour £6.00

4:30pm-5:00pm- collection after 4:30pm £9.00

If your child attends a club and then goes to after school club from 4:30pm- 5:00pm this will be charged at £3.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience, feedback and support during recent adjustments. Your understanding has been greatly appreciated as we worked to improve the service.

Breakfast club routine will remain the same and as always, if you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Oracy Question of the week

How would the world be different if people walked or cycled instead of cars for one whole day?



Catholic Life



This term's values are:

Autumn 1: Eloquent and Truthful

Catholic schools help their pupils grow by developing an eloquent language which they can use to understand and articulate their emotions, beliefs, and questions, encouraged by the example of their teachers to be truthful in the way they represent themselves and speak about the world.

Please see our new website page for more information on the Jesuit values and how we are encompassing these as a school.

Chaplaincy Team

This week the chaplaincy team met and wrote the prayer for our newsletter based on last week's Gospel reading. We also wrote invitations to our local care homes ahead of our MacMillan coffee morning and discussed an upcoming project for the 'Mary Garden' at the front of the school. Further details of this will follow in the next few weeks.



Certificates and Celebrations



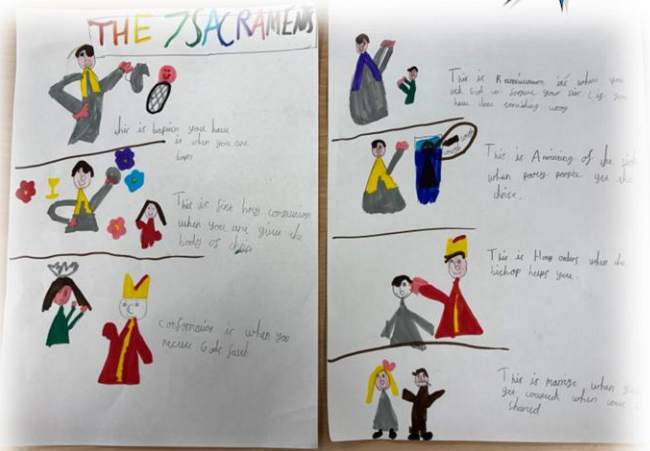
This week's awards go to

EYFS Nursery Reception	Coming soon! Coming soon!
Year 1	Jovan
Year 2	Albie
Year 3	Kiri
Year 4	Joe
Year 5	Comfort
Year 6	Amanda
Headteachers Award	Reception
Attendance Award	Year 2
Wrap Around Care Star of the week	Sean

St. John's in Pictures



This week in year 3 we have been learning about the 6 sacraments! We learnt about what they mean and how they help us become closer to God.



Year 6 have been given the opportunity to buddy up with some of our youngest children to support them throughout the year. This week, we met our buddies for the first time!

This week in Year 1, we challenged ourselves guided by our Prayer and Liturgy session to be *extraordinarily kind*. We put this into practice during PE, where we showed kindness and teamwork through some excellent team-building games with our classmates.



Year 4 have been looking out for the Common Good of our school by selflessly litter picking the schools grounds so everyone can benefit from it! Amazing work Year 4!



Early Years have been enjoying their new Tuk Tuk and have shown amazing teamwork



Year 2 were super stars in P.E this week! We showed amazing team work using our listening ears and clear speaking to give instructions to our peers. Some of the games were tricky so we showed fantastic perseverance throughout 😊



Sports News

St. John's Cross Country Success

After our exciting interhouse cross-country competition at school, the top four runners from each KS2 year group (both boys and girls) proudly went on to represent St John's at the Banbury area interschool competition, hosted by Wykham Park Academy.

Seventeen schools from across the area took part, with the event supported brilliantly by the young sports leaders from Wykham Park Academy. The sporting value for this event was Determination—and every one of our runners truly demonstrated this, giving their very best from start to finish.

We are especially proud of our Year 3/4 girls' team, who secured a fantastic 3rd place overall, and our Year 3/4 boys' team, who achieved an impressive 4th place.

A huge thank you goes to Miss Copp, Mrs Barton and Mr Stevenson for their support, and especially to the parents who helped make the day possible without you, events like these simply wouldn't happen.

Well done to all our runners, you represented St. John's wonderfully, and we are very proud of you!



AMAZING!

Important dates

Key Dates	
September	
Friday 26 th	MacMillan Coffee Morning 10am-11.30
Tuesday 30 th	Sen Parent Coffee and Chat 14:30 PTFA AGM 14:30
October	
Wednesday 1 st	Harvest Donation Day-Details to follow
Monday 6 th	Mrs Alvilez-Year 5 Class Assembly Unique week-details to follow Year 4 Class Mass at St. John's Church
Friday 10 th	Wear something yellow in aid of Young Minds
Monday 13 th	Opera Workshop in school
Tuesday 14 th	Opera Workshop in school Parent's Evening 15:30-17:30
Wednesday 15 th	Parent's Evening 15:30-17:30
Thursday 16 th	PFMAC Concert-Oxford City Hall Whole School Harvest Mass at School 10:30 Rugby Event Banbury Rugby Club
Friday 17 th	Year 2 Royal Banquet
Monday 20 th	Kilvrough Manor Meeting 15:30
Tuesday 21 st	Nursery and Reception New Parents Open Morning 10:00
Wednesday 22 nd	Parent Open Afternoon 3.05
Thursday 23 rd	End Of Term
Friday 24th	Inset Day-School Closed
November	
Monday 3 rd	New Term Year 3 Mass at Church Year 5 Bikeability until Thursday 6 th Year 6 Confirmation Meeting 15:30
Thursday 6 th	KS2 Football Event at BGN
Monday 10 th	Year 3 Class Assembly-All welcome 09.15
Thursday 13 th	Whole School Mass at St. Johns
Tuesday 18 th	Nursery and Reception New Parents Opening Morning 10:00
Thursday 20 th	Year 1 Multi-Skills at BGN
Tuesday 25 th	NCHMP Reception and Year 6
December	
Monday 8 th	Year 6 Kilvrough Trip until Friday 12 th
Tuesday 9 th	KS1 Christmas Production 17:00
Wednesday 10 th	EYFS Christmas Production 09:30
Monday 15 th	KS2 Carol Concert St John's Church
Friday 19th	End of Term-school closes at 13.00