



St. John's RC Primary School

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue: 9 Friday 14th November 2025

Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and inspiring week here at St. John's, filled with learning, reflection, and community spirit. We're delighted to welcome Mr Bennett, a student from Oxford Brookes, who has joined our Year 3 class for his teaching placement. Please join us in making him feel welcome.

This week we marked Anti-Bullying Week, reminding everyone that kindness, respect, and standing up for one another are values that define our school community. Pupils took part in a range of activities and discussions about how we can all play our part in making our school a safe and happy place for everyone.

I am so proud of our school choir for their fantastic performance at the Children Singing for Children concert. They sang beautifully and represented our school with confidence and joy. A big thank-you to Mrs Trivett for all her hard work in preparing them for the concert. What a wonderful way to share music and kindness in our community!

We also began Switch Off Fortnight, encouraging our pupils to think carefully about energy use and sustainability. The children have shown great enthusiasm for finding ways to save energy both in school and at home—and we are proud of their commitment to protecting our planet.

Our Remembrance Assembly was a truly special occasion, led by soldiers of Oxfordshire who helped our pupils understand the importance of remembrance and gratitude. Their presence brought real meaning to our reflections, and we thank them for their time and service.

In the wider community, our school chaplains paid a thoughtful visit to Green Pastures Nursing Home, sharing moments of reflection and joy with residents. It was heart-warming to see the positive impact our school continues to have beyond the classroom.

We were also treated to a wonderful Year 3 Class Assembly, full of confidence, creativity, and teamwork. They taught us all about St. Luke and produced some beautiful artwork. Well done to all the pupils and staff involved.

Finally, this week we carried out a lockdown drill as part of our ongoing commitment to pupil safety. The children responded calmly and sensibly, and we thank everyone for taking the exercise seriously.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together we ensure that St. John's remains a caring, reflective, and vibrant place to learn.

Warm regards,

Mrs McGeehan

Throughout this week we have been reflecting on Remembrance day.
Dear God, We thank You for the peace we enjoy today. We remember the brave men and women who gave their lives so that we might live in freedom and safety. Help us to learn from their courage and kindness. May we always work for peace in our world, in our school, and in our homes.
Bless all those who serve others today, and help us to be peacemakers in our own lives.
Amen.



Staffing News

GOOD LUCK!

I would like to share that our School Business Manager, Miss Houghton, will be leaving us at Christmas. Miss Houghton has been a much-valued member of our school community for many years and has made invaluable contributions to the life and success of our school. Her dedication, commitment, and hard work have supported both staff and families in so many ways, and she will be greatly missed by us all.

We are sure you will join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks for everything Miss Houghton has done for our school and in wishing her every happiness and success in the future. Miss Houghton will be taking on a similar role within another school in our PFMAC and we wish her every success in this exciting new opportunity.

The process of recruiting a new School Business Manager is already underway, and we will share further updates once an appointment has been made.

Attendance

I'm delighted to share that our whole school attendance this week is an impressive **97.88%** – a fantastic achievement that reflects everyone's commitment and teamwork.

Let's keep aiming high and see if we can reach even greater heights in the coming weeks!

Year 1 and Year 6 are our winning classes this week, both with 99% attendance.

Thank you once again for all you do to help your children make the most of every school day.

Year Group	Present R/C: Marks (%)
Reception	98.33%
Year 1	99.64%
Year 2	98.15%
Year 3	97.6%
Year 4	98%
Year 5	98.18%
Year 6	99%

Oracy Question of the week

If kindness was a superpower, how would you use it every day? What is the most important way to show



Reminders

☀️ Uniform Reminder ☀️

A little reminder about our school uniform — thank you for helping our children look so smart every day!

Please make sure that:

Hair is kept in natural colours (no bright or dyed hair, please).

Hair ties and accessories are in our school colours.

Earrings are small **studs only** – no hoops or dangly ones for safety reasons.

We really appreciate your support in keeping everyone looking neat, tidy and ready for learning!

Please note that our office staff may be on duty over lunchtimes. If you call the school during this time and are unable to reach someone directly, please leave a voicemail or send an email. We will respond to your message as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

👑 Certificates and Celebrations 🌟 This week's awards go to

EYFS Nursery Reception	Michael G Canon
Year 1	Ren
Year 2	Evana
Year 3	Agnes
Year 4	Olaf
Year 5	James M
Year 6	Jimmy
Headteachers Award	Year 1
Attendance Award	Year 1 & 6
Wrap Around Care	Syrus



Catholic Life



This term's values are:

Autumn 2: learned and wise.

Learned: learning how God wants us to live our lives

Whether we are young or old, we should never stop learning about what God wants of us. We learn many new things each day. By reading the Bible, listening to our teachers and listening to our hearts, we learn more of what God wants.

Wise: knowing how God wants us to live our lives and putting it into practice.

God is always with us and hoping that we will live our lives in the right way, following the teachings of Jesus.

Chaplaincy Team

This week the chaplaincy team visited Green Pastures nursing home to reflect on Remembrance and join the residents in observing the two-minute silence.

Afterwards, the children spent time reading with the residents, doing some colouring, and making poppies together. Everyone loved sharing stories and memories, it was a truly special experience for both the children and the residents.

Advent Stay and Pray

As we prepare to enter the season of Advent, we are delighted to invite our parents and carers to join us for a special time of reflection and prayer in school. During Advent, we will be holding a "Stay and Pray" group each Tuesday afternoon, where parents are warmly welcome to come into their child's class to share in a short time of Advent prayer and stillness together.

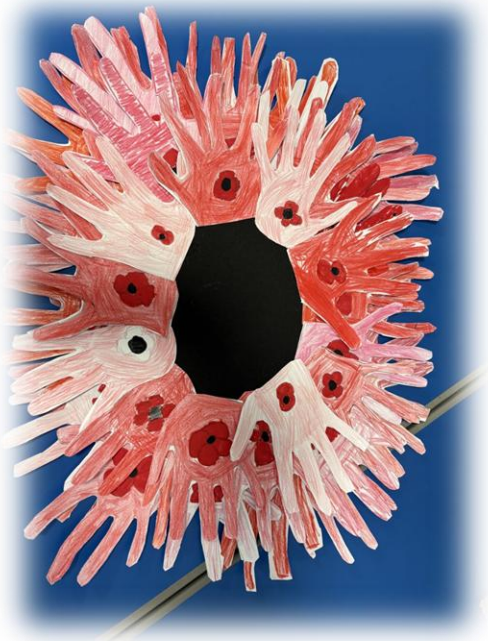
This is a wonderful opportunity to pause in the busyness of the season, spend a few quiet moments with your child, and prepare our hearts for the joy and hope of Christmas.

Parents and Carers are invited into their child's class on Tuesday 2nd, 9th and 16th December at 2:50pm for these sessions.

St. John's in Pictures

Remembrance Day 11.11.2025

This week in Year 1, we honoured Remembrance Day. We wrote prayers, drew some beautiful poppies, and created a class wreath.



Year 4 have been thinking about Remembrance and have created a beautiful wreath to mark the occasion. This week, our Chaplaincy Team will be visiting Green Pastures Nursing Home, where we will join the residents in observing the two-minute silence together. We thought it would be a lovely idea to lay our wreath at the care home as a sign of respect and remembrance.



We gathered together for a special assembly led by Henry from The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum. He spoke to us about Remembrance Day and the meaning behind this special time of year. We listened to 'In Flanders Field' read by some of our wonderful Year 6s and took some time to reflect together on the significance of the day. The children sat reverently and beautifully throughout.

This week in year 3 we have been exploring the medium of clay! We had lots of fun and made some fantastic pottery.

This week, Year 2 followed instructions to make their own Marmalade Sandwiches! I was impressed with their careful spreading of butter and marmalade and their careful cutting skills. The best bit was eating our final piece! We made sure we followed each step carefully so we can write our own set of fantastic instructions in our English next week! 😊



Congratulations to our lovely school choir who performed brilliantly at Children Singing for Children on Monday evening.



Please see the link for this week's Wednesday Word below.

paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4

Important dates

Key Dates	
November	
Tuesday 18 th	Nursery and Reception New Parents Opening Morning 10:00
Wednesday 19 th	Mary Poppins Trip
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
Thursday 11 th	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 15 th	KS2 Carol Concert St. John's Church
Wednesday 17 th	Christmas Craft Afternoon
Thursday 18 th	Whole School Advent Mass Christmas Dinner day
Friday 19 th	End of Term 13:00 finish