



# St. John's RC Primary School

Love one another, as I have loved you

Newsletter: Issue: 16 Friday 23rd January 2026

## Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been full of positive learning experiences across the school. I've had the pleasure of joining several English lessons, and it has been an absolute joy to see our pupils so engaged and enthusiastic. I was particularly impressed with the work on Charlotte's Web, the children's understanding, creativity, and thoughtful responses truly stood out. It's wonderful to see such a love of reading and writing flourishing across the school.

Well done to all the pupils and staff for making English lessons so inspiring!

Year 2 and Year 5 took part in valuable Speak Out, Stay Safe workshops, helping them to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe. Our Year 3 pupils represented the school brilliantly at an athletics event, showing great teamwork and determination. Meanwhile, our Eco Warriors have been busy working on their project as part of our Big Bird Watch initiative, supporting local wildlife and reminding us all of the importance of caring for our environment.

We have some exciting events coming up over the next few weeks, and we would love for you to be involved!

- Parent Open Afternoon – Learning Showcase: Come and see the amazing learning happening in your child's classroom and celebrate their achievements.
- NSPCC Number Day: We will be joining schools across the country to raise awareness for the NSPCC, with fun activities focused on numbers and maths.
- Maths Parent Meeting: A great opportunity to find out more about how we teach maths and how you can support your child at home.

Please see below for more details about dates and times. We look forward to welcoming you to these events and sharing the exciting learning taking place in our school.

Well done to everyone for another excellent week. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs McGeehan

## Prayer

In our Gospel Assembly this week, we spoke about seeing clearly, knowing the right choices to make and doing so with humility.

Loving God, We ask for hearts shaped by humility, that we may recognise how much we still have to learn and remain open to wisdom wherever it is found.

Help us to see clearly, to look beyond our own assumptions and distractions, and to notice the needs, gifts, and struggles of others. Give us the courage to reflect honestly on ourselves before we seek to guide or correct those around us.

May our words be thoughtful, our actions be kind, and our leadership be grounded in service rather than pride.

Grant us clarity in decision-making, patience in challenge, and compassion in all that we do.

## Maths Workshop

Parents and carers are invited to attend our Maths Information Meeting on Wednesday 28th January at 2:30pm in the school hall. This session is for families from Reception to Year 6 and will provide an overview of what maths looks like at St John's, including our mastery approach to teaching. The meeting will begin with a short presentation by Miss Callan, followed by year group displays showcasing how maths is taught across the school. This is a great opportunity to gain a better understanding of our maths curriculum and how you can support your child's learning at home. If you are planning to attend, please react to the message on Parent Hub so we can prepare accordingly.

## Parent Open afternoon

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to join us for our Showcase of Learning on Wednesday 11th February. The children have worked incredibly hard and are very excited to share their learning with you. Each child has created a double-page spread that they are proud to show, and they will also be reciting a poem for their visitors. We hope you enjoy seeing the progress they have made and celebrating their achievements with us. To allow time for the showcase, the school gates will open earlier than usual at 3:00pm. We look forward to welcoming you into school.

## NSPCC Number Day

On Friday 6th February, we will be celebrating NSPCC Number Day in school. Children are invited to take part in Dress Up for Digits by wearing an item of clothing with a number on it and bringing in a £1 donation to support the NSPCC. This could be a sports top, cap, onesie, or something more creative like a homemade T-shirt, dice or calculator - please see parent hub for inspiration! Throughout the day, children will enjoy a range of fun, number-themed activities in class, using their maths skills in exciting and creative ways. Thank you for your continued support in helping us raise money for this important cause.

# Attendance

It's great to see our whole-school attendance rise to **96%** this week—an I am delighted to share that this week we reached our whole-school attendance target of **96%**. Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping children attend school regularly and on time—it really does make a difference.

Congratulations goes to Year 5, our winning class this week, who achieved an incredible 100% attendance. Well done to everyone involved—let's keep up the fantastic effort!



Exciting news! The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Tuesday 10th February. A range of books will be available to buy, with titles including 'Dog Man' and 'Bunny vs Monkey!' Prices will range from £3–£10, and we will need to accept cash payments only. The more books that are sold, the more free book rewards we could receive for our school library - so every purchase helps support reading across the school!

## Certificates and Celebrations This week's awards go to

EYFS Nursery Reception	Elyna Michael T
Year 1	Amare
Year 2	Ava
Year 3	Freyja
Year 4	Elizabeth
Year 5	Jesse
Year 6	Esther
Headteachers Award	Year 3
Attendance Award	Year 5
Wrap Around Care	Flo



# Catholic Life



This term's values are:

Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

What does this mean?

We will help our pupils to grow by leading pupils to be curious about the universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning, and by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church and the wider community.

This week, our Chaplaincy team have continued to work hard to ensure pupil voice plays a central role in shaping our Religious Education provision and wider school life. Through questionnaires designed by the Chaplains, pupils were invited to reflect on RE lessons, our Catholic ethos and collective worship, helping us to understand what is working well and where we can improve. Feedback highlighted a desire to learn about a wider range of faiths and to express learning through a greater variety of creative mediums. We are pleased to share that planning is already underway for our Multi-Faith Fortnight in the Summer Term, with Chaplains contributing ideas gathered from their peers. The team have also expressed enthusiasm for leading whole-school assemblies, and we look forward to planning and preparing these together.



As part of our ongoing work on our school values of being Ready, Respectful and Safe, we have been placing a strong focus on listening carefully and following instructions.

These skills are essential for learning and help to create calm, purposeful classrooms where everyone can succeed.

It has been lovely to see pupils making positive choices, showing respect to adults and each other, and taking pride in being ready to learn. Thank you for your continued support at home in reinforcing these important messages.

Together, we can help our children develop the habits they need to thrive both in school and beyond.



# Oracy Question of the week

Would you rather be a teacher or an author?

Dates for your Diary	
January	
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Maths Parents Meeting 14:30
February	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Story telling workshop in school
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Oracy Day KS2 Cats Art workshops
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Years 5& 6 Athletic event
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 class assembly Children's mental health week until 13 <sup>th</sup>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Open Afternoon from 15:00
Friday 13 <sup>h</sup>	Cross Country Finals at Sibford School
Half Term Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Confirmation children at Church 09:30
March	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Yr 4 Class trip to Oxford
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 & 4 Easter Performance 09.30 Easter Craft and Bonnett Parade 14:30