



# St. John's CE Primary School

## Autumn Term Newsletter



Greetings from St. John's...

### Diary Dates:

- Pupils rewards session: **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October.**
- School is closed on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** for staff training.
- St John's looks forward to welcoming pupils back on **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.**
- On **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November** the immunisation service is in school administering flu sprays.
- **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November:** class photos will be taken for the school calendar. Pupils to wear uniform for this day please.
- Children in Need day is **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November.** This will be a non-uniform day – all donations will be sent to Children in Need.
- Swimming gala: **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November** – details to follow.
- **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** is our Christmas Panto day. Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!
- On **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** we will be going to St. John's Church for our Christmas service. The Key Stage 1 service will be at 9:30am and Key Stage 2 will be at 11am. We'd love you to join us if you're free.
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** is Christmas dinner day – get in the festive mood and wear your Christmas jumper.
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** is the PTA school disco – details to follow.
- **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** is the last day of term.
- **School will reopen for pupils on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January. School will be closed on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January for staff training.**

### Attendance:

We continue to focus on attendance to get St. John's back to our target of 96%.

*The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 and key stage 4 have higher rates of attendance compared to those with the lowest attainment.*

*Nationally, at KS2, pupils not meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall attendance rate of 95.3%, compared to 96.5% among those meeting the expected standard. (DfE Working Together to Improve Attendance. May 2022).*

Sickness absence is monitored and fines may be issued for holidays taken during term time by the Education Welfare Team. All holiday requests will be referred to the Education Welfare Team as they cannot be recorded as authorised absence unless there are very exceptional circumstances.

**Our average attendance figure for this year so far is 95.9%**

### Statutory Assessments / SATs (Standard Assessment Tests):

- The Year 1 Phonics Screen will take place during the week of Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- Year 2 SATs will take place during May 2023.
- The Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check will take place over a three week period from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.
- The Year 6 SATs will take place on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

### School assessments:

- Assessment weeks for all year groups usually take place during the last 3 weeks of each term.



## A bit about what we've been up to...

### Wellbeing:

A huge thank you to the Action for Children Emotional Wellbeing Team who have been into school to work with our young people this half term. The sessions have focused on understanding our emotions and emotional wellbeing.



We have been working hard in school to create a 'wellbeing area' for pupils and staff. We're really pleased with our newly refurbished space which is used for Pastoral Support sessions, and for quiet working time for staff.



Competition time! Can you come up with a name for our new wellbeing room? Please give your entries to our wellbeing lead, Mrs Graham – there may be a prize for the best entry!

Action for Children provide some excellent resources to help you support your children with wellbeing: [SilverCloud. Making Space For Healthy Minds \(silvercloudhealth.com\)](http://silvercloudhealth.com)

### Bikeability:

Year 4 and Year 6 pupils have completed 'Bikeability' training this half term with Staffordshire's Cyclist Training team. Pupils really valued the training and said that they felt more confident on their bikes, and enjoyed going out onto the road.

Fancy a bike ride? Year 6 pupils said they were looking forward to putting their skills to the test and spending more time out on their bikes whilst at home.



### Fab Footy Results:

We've had lots of football going on this half term with three St. John's Football teams who have all wowed us with their fab footy skills. A huge thank you to Mr Redfern and parents who have supported the matches.





Year 5 were visited by 'Dennis to the Rescue'. They learnt all about recycling and the process our rubbish goes through after we put it in the bin. It was very exciting going into the classroom - inside a bin lorry! And everyone got to have a go at litter picking on the school grounds.



We're making greater use of our grounds during playtimes using the Crinkle Crag climbing frame and our new child led 'loose parts play' equipment.



Year 2 have been out and about collecting objects to explore composition.



As always, we've loved keeping in touch with Reverends Michael and Steve with their visits to school and our visits to church.



Keep up to date with our news and what's been going on with our school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnswetleyrocks>

**School Improvement:**

We have really worked hard to improve our school environment for pupils over the last year. In addition to our new wellbeing space, we've transformed our Reception and Nursery, created a new and improved intervention room and created a new library for our Key Stage 2 pupils.



## **Parent Teacher Association (PTA):**

St. John's PTA do a fabulous job supporting the school: arranging and supporting at school discos; helping to fund school trips; treating pupils to Christmas treats; rewarding pupils through funding the 'Dojo shop' and half termly rewards; providing refreshments at events; organising the school calendar; arranging the 'Cauliflower Christmas cards'; paying for new resources – the list goes on! Their support really makes a difference to our pupils. As pupils and parents move on, we're in danger of losing this invaluable support. If you'd like to be part of our PTA team, please get in touch. Details about the next PTA meeting will follow soon.

## **Finally, more examples of our pupils shining just as brightly out of school...**



We are blown away by the courage, effort and passion shown by St. John's pupils on a daily basis, and we especially love to hear about success out of school.

We are so proud of Oliver who not only organised himself to do a car boot sale, he donated every single penny of his proceeds to the Lupus Charity – he even managed to raise awareness of Lupus while he was there. What a star!

You can't beat snuggling down with a good book! A huge well done to Jaylen who has discovered the joy of reading and has been working hard at home building up those reading minutes – well done Jaylen.



Superstars Lucy and Travis have been working hard in the garden nurturing their allotment. This year they've grown their own broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, pumpkins, corn, cucumbers and tomatoes.



We love to share the success our pupils are having out of school, so if you have any news, please let us know: [headteacher@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk)

Wishing you all a fabulous half term. Take care and keep safe. We're looking forward to seeing you all on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

***SHINE like the star you are.***

**Very best wishes.**

**Mrs Stone and the St. John's team**