



St. John's CE Primary School

Autumn Term Newsletter December 2023



Greetings from St. John's.

Diary Dates:

- Inset days: Friday 24th May.
- School opens for the Spring Term on Monday 8th January.
- End of term reports: Thursday 21st December.

2023-2024 Statutory Assessments / SATs (Standard Assessment Tests):

- Year 1 / Year 2 Phonics Screen: Week commencing Monday 10 June 2024.
- Year 2 SATs: May / June 2024.
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check: the 2-week period from Monday 3 June 2024.
- Year 6 SATs: Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May 2024.

Internal School Assessments: Assessment weeks for all years take place during the second half of each half term.

Vision and Values

We have introduced a new weekly certificate as part of our Celebration Worship: 'Agents of Change' to recognise pupils who go out of their way to make a positive difference.



St. John's Church:

Thank you to those who were able to attend our Christmas Service at St. John's Church. Pupils amazed us with their fabulous singing and reading.

Clubs:

Choir, chess club, recorders, homework and drum club will continue after Christmas.

The **BeeActive Sports Club** (for the first half term) after Christmas '**Sports Explorers**' for Years 1 and 2 will take place on Mondays (3:30pm-4:15pm). [Please see the information on the school website.](#)

Please see the school website to sign up for after school clubs.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA):

A huge thank you to our PTA members who continue to support pupils and families in so many ways: disco nights, Mothers' and Fathers' Day gifts, Christmas cards, Christmas crafts, school calendars, raffles, Year 6 Leaver gifts, Easter and Christmas gifts, rewards days, Dojo prizes, funding our Text2Parents system, resourcing the library and making our school trips a little bit more affordable for families.



BEE ACTIVE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Book now for Spring Term Bee Active After School Clubs!

We are delighted to be able to offer your child the opportunity to participate in extra curricular after school clubs at St John's CE Primary School.

We welcome children of all abilities and guarantee that your child will have a blast in every session.

KS1
Sports Explorers

Mondays (15:30 - 16:15)
From: 08/01/24
To: 05/02/24

£3.50 per session
Maximum: 20 children

If you would like your child to participate in the above sessions, you can book now by visiting:
www.beeactive.co.uk or call us during office hours on **01782 205 915**
Places are strictly limited and will be secured on a first come, first served basis.

Children will need to be changed in to PE kits and should be collected from the main reception following the sessions. Please note that sessions will take place outdoors so clothing should be appropriate for the weather forecast on the day.

All of the Bee Active coaches are DBS checked, insured and first aid trained.

We value the importance of your child's health, our services will help to encourage your children to lead active and healthy lives.

Kind Regards,
The Bee Active Team

Visit: www.beeactive.co.uk Tel: 01782 205 915 Email: info@beeactive.co.uk Search: 'Bee Active'
The Hive: Trent House, Dunning Street, Tunstall, ST6 5AP

Attendance:

Please remember the importance of children being in school and the effect that absence can have on your child's attainment. We are aware of the increased cost of holidays during holiday time so making use of inset days is a great way to try and reduce the cost.

Absence due to illness: If your child is unwell, please refer to the following information for guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> If your child is going to be absent, please leave a message on our absence phone line before 9am (01782 550309).

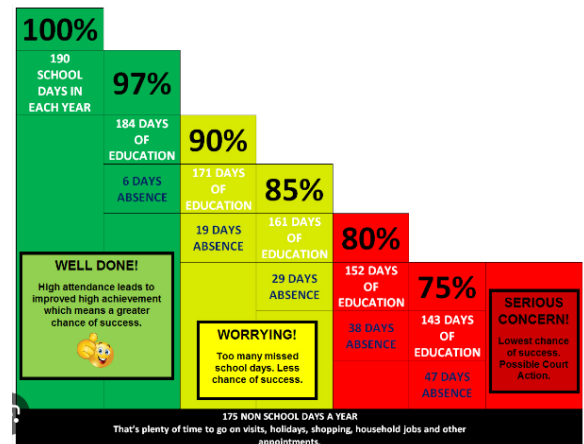
Please note that arriving late will affect your child's attendance.

Attendance is monitored weekly and we may be in touch if your child's attendance falls below 96% to see how we can support you. We work closely with the Education Welfare Team to ensure that children and families are supported in the best possible ways.

Gate times:

KS1: 8:35am – 8:50am

KS2: 8:45am – 9:00am



Reading at St. John's:

For those pupils who need some additional support with reading, we have additional phonics sessions, one to one reading, and have started the new 'EPATT' intervention in KS2 which focuses on mastering fluency in reading.

For more information about Reading at St. John's, click here.

Pastoral Support / ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant):

We continue to support the wellbeing and emotional health of pupils with Pastoral Support led by Mrs Simcock. Mrs Simcock has mental health qualifications and works with the SENDCo (Mrs Stone), and the Wellbeing Lead (Mrs Graham). We are delighted to also be able to offer ELSA support (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) from Miss Cooper who completed the training last year. ELSA offers support for: friendship, bereavement, anxiety, self-esteem, conflict managing feelings and social skills.

If you have any concerns about your child and would like them to receive some additional support, please contact us: ststone@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk

Parent Forum / Suggestions Box:

We held our second 'Parent Forum' meeting this week and had some great suggestions.

These will continue every half term if you would like to come along for a chat and a cuppa – dates to be confirmed.

There's a suggestion box in the school entrance also.



Autumn Term:

It's been another busy half term: sponsored events, cooking, construction, swimming galas, Sports Hall Athletics, music evening, the St. John's Choir attended the Entrust Music Festival at the Victoria Hall, the Christmas Tree Festival, geography projects, glow in the dark sport, odd socks for anti-bullying, visits back in time, mystery readers, learning about the planets, finished off with the most wonderful Nativity performances from our Early Years and Key Stage 1.

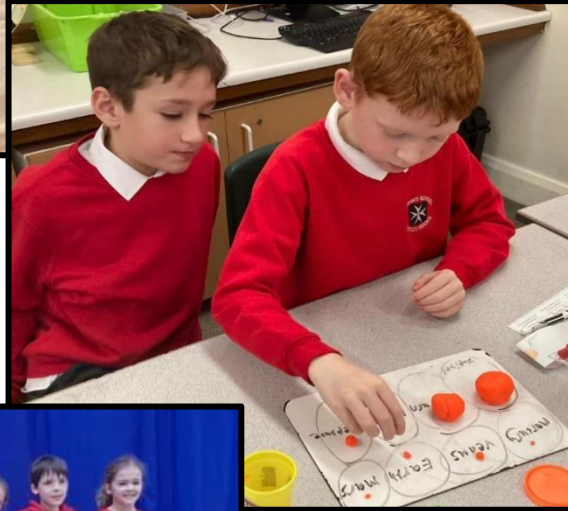


Leek Rotary Club Swimathon:

Twelve swimmers from St. John's gave up their Saturday afternoon to take part in the Leek Rotary Club Swimathon raising an amazing £838 and swimming a very impressive 508 lengths (7.9 miles).







Keep up to date with our news and what's been going on with our school Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnswetleyrocks>

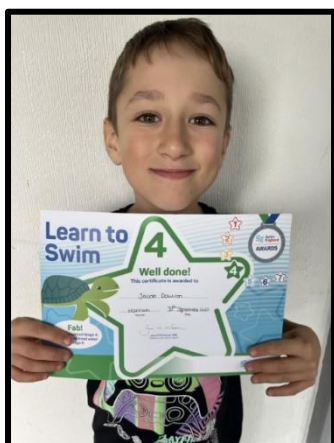
Pupils shining outside of school...

Well done and thank you to Luca in Year 3 who raised £100 in his 'Luca Loves!' charity appeal. This is the second year Luca has raised money for charity.

Success with Swimming:

After some tough competition in the Area Swimming Competition in Blackpool, Harry came away with a Silver in breaststroke for the Stoke Junior Sea Cadets.

Collectively, three other Junior Sea Cadets from different units, were presented with a Trophy for 1st place for overall winners in all categories – what a fantastic achievement.



Congratulations to Ellie who has worked hard to pass her Level 5 Swimming award – great job Ellie!

Well done to Jacob in Year 5 who has worked really hard to achieve his Stage 4 swimming certificate.



Stagecoach Star

Bella in Year 5 was one of a select few from her Stagecoach performing arts class to sing in the musical

'Dreamcoat Stars', alongside John Barrowman. She got to meet John and she said he was really nice, especially because he brought them all sweets!



Football Stars:

A huge well done to Jenson and his Sunday football team that won the Manchester Youth Super Premier League Christmas Cup last week. As a team they are unbeaten in the league and the Christmas Cup.

Blue Peter Badge:

Congratulations to Maisie who has received her green Blue Peter badge for her efforts with recycling - she checks that her family are recycling everything that can be recycled, she sorts outgrown clothes into bags for rags or donation to charity, and for her efforts with growing her own vegetables which resulted

in a bumper crop of cucumbers, carrots, onions, pumpkins, beetroot and tomatoes this year. She also donated the crops to her elderly neighbours – what a star!



Reading Star:

Ivy-Beau has loved reading 'Stone Age Boy' with her class so much she has asked her mum to buy it for her. Since it arrived, she has read it twice already!

Agents of Change:

Kyan and Charlie are shining examples of this half term's Worship focus 'compassion': they have given their own money to help struggling families this Christmas by making donations to the foodbank – absolute stars!



We would love to hear about the achievements and success of pupils outside of school, so if you have anything for our next edition, please get in touch:

headteacher@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk



We would like to wish you a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year. Look after each other and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 8th January

SHINE like the star you are.

Very best wishes. Mrs Stone and the St. John's team

