



# St. John's CE Primary School

## Spring Newsletter February 2025



### Diary Dates:

[Click here for the school calendar](#)

School opens	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day. Pupils are invited to dress up as people who inspire them. <a href="#"><u>Please see the letter re WBD on the school website.</u></a>
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	The Scholastic Book Fair will be delivered and remain in school for a week. More details to follow.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Comic Relief / Red Nose Day.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothers' Day Celebration in school 9:15am-10:15am. An invitation to all the special ladies in our lives. More details to follow.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring Term disco. EY and KS1 3:15-4:15pm / KS2 4:30pm-5:30pm.
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at St. John's Church. KS1: 9:30am / KS2 11am.
School closes	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April

### 2024-2025 Statutory Assessments / SATs (Standard Assessment Tests):

- Year 1 / Year 2 (resit) Phonics Screen: Week commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.
- Year 2 Optional SATs: May 2025.
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check: the 2-week period from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2025.
- Year 6 SATs: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2025.

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

### St. John's Church / School Vision and Values:

Our focus for this half term has been our school value of 'Hope'. We have listened to and considered 'The Parable of the Mustard Seed' which has taught us that we can all do little things that make a big difference. From litter picking, helping tidy up at lunch time, looking after each other, taking part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, to making a donation to the food bank, hopefully we've all done something to give us hope.



Thank you as always to Reverend Michael and Reverend Steve who have led Collective Worship in school this half term and helped us to consider our school value of Hope.

Next half term, we will be focusing on our school value of 'Individuality'.

In 2023 we provided 2947 emergency food parcels to people in need from Leek and the surrounding villages.

**LEEK & DISTRICT  
FOODBANK  
HELPING  
LOCAL PEOPLE  
IN CRISIS.**



## After School Clubs for Spring term 2024-2025:



Spring 2 After School Clubs:	
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choir with Miss Parish (KS2)</li> <li>BeeActive Sports Club (Football Year 2 – Year 6). 3:30pm-4:15pm</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorder Club with Mr Oxborrow</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drum Club with Mr Oxborrow</li> <li>Mini-Mindfulness 3:30pm-4:30pm</li> </ul>

Places are limited! To secure your place...



### **Bee Active:**

Next half-term, our Bee Active after-school club on Mondays will have a focus on football.

Sign up available now: <https://beeactive.hivelink.co.uk/148/7799>

### **MiniMe Mindfulness:**

MiniMe Mindfulness teaches children life changing mindfulness and mindset techniques. This class will help your child to build confidence, recognise and understand emotions, reduce stress as well as having fun!

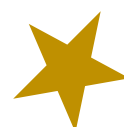
Click here to book a place: or to book a 2 session trial.



### **Music at St. John's:**

We finished the half term on a high with a musical treat from our musicians who play the drums, recorder, guitar and ukelele under the guidance of Mr Oxborrow.

It was a delight to see the progress they're making and what a fabulous gift to be able to give to someone – the gift of music.





## St. John's Sport



Thank you to Mr Redfern who is at the heart of all things sporting at St. John's. From organising events, selecting team members, coaching and refereeing, he always plays a part.

Our Y6 netball team finished on an absolute high in the CADSSA netball A league achieving a fantastic third place in the league.

A huge well done to our Year 5/6 netball team who played in the CADSSA B league tournament. Their fabulous team work and super skills paid off to finish in joint 1st place! An amazing performance.



A super performance in the swimming gala by the Yr 3/4 swimmers secured an overall third place – a great achievement! ★



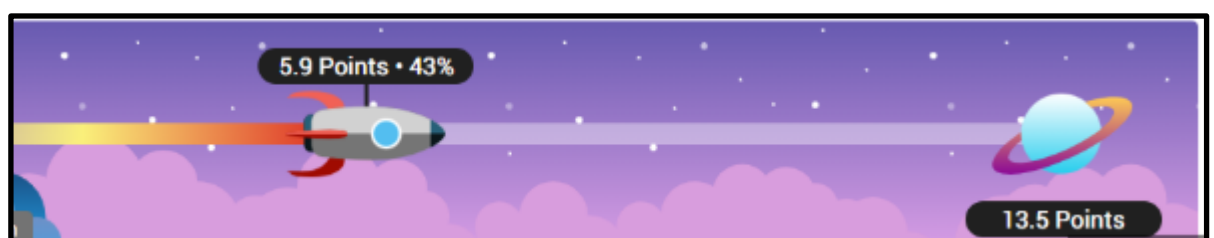
A huge thank you to Mrs Bickerton, Mrs Potts, Miss Richardson and Mr Redfern who have helped coaching and supporting the team this half term, and to St. John's families for your support and help with transport. ★

### Reading at St. John's:

Learning to read is hard work but **practice makes progress** so any occasions children have to read, share and listen to stories will really help them to improve their skills and make progress.

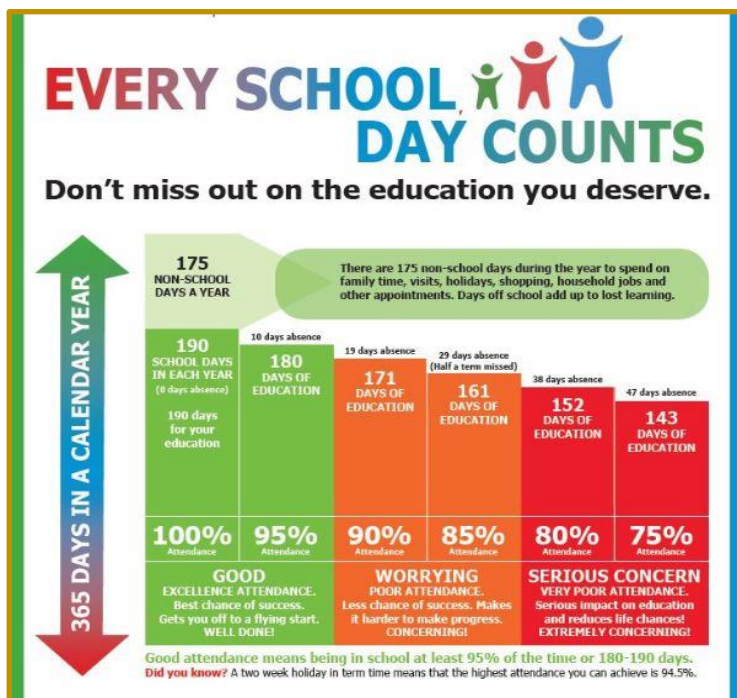
The **Accelerated Reader** programme is used in KS2 to monitor your child's reading. To ensure that your child makes progress, we set targets of between 20-30 minutes reading per day (to be completed at school and at home), and a quiz pass rate of 85% or above. Each book read gives your child points and adds to their reading engage time.

(Targets are adjusted to encourage reluctant readers).



## Attendance:

MINUTES LATE	IMPACT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 MINUTES A DAY =	3.4 days 98.4% attendance
10 MINUTES A DAY =	6.9 days 97.6% attendance
15 MINUTES A DAY =	10.3 days 94.6% attendance
20 MINUTES A DAY =	13.8 days 92.9% attendance
30 MINUTES A DAY =	20.7 days 89.2% attendance



**Absence due to illness:** If your child is unwell, please refer to the following 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 9:15am (01782 550309).

## Are you Eligible for Free School Meals?

Parents claiming some benefits can claim free school meals for any of their children who are registered at a Staffordshire school and who would normally be at school at lunch time. School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime and you can save yourself time and money.

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps their school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives.

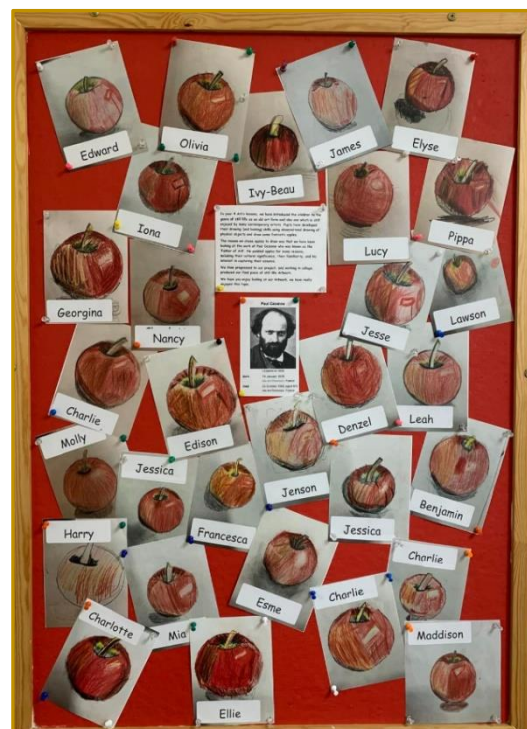
Click [here](#) to see if you are eligible.

## Curriculum Maps:

To see what children are learning each half term, please see our 'Year Group Curriculum Maps' on the 'Curriculum' section of the website.

## A taste of what we've been up to over this half term:

There has been some outstanding art produced this half term – studies of still life, experimenting with colour, water colours and city / landscapes using mixed media.



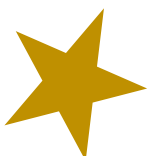
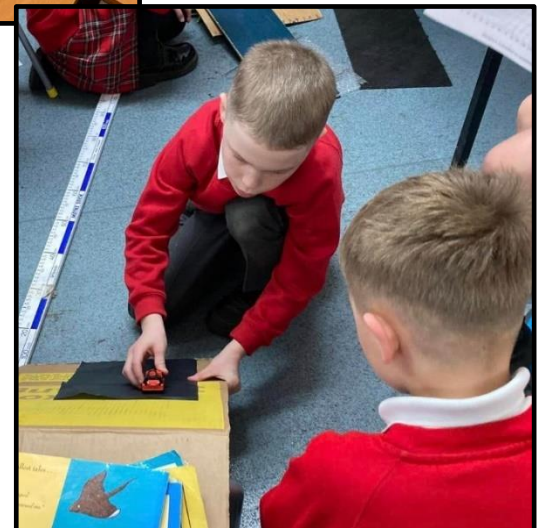


*DT lessons have resulted in some amazing creations including three course meals, healthy wraps and the most fabulous castles.*



*In science, pupils have spent time learning about scientific concepts by creating and investigating. From forces to rainforest, it's been a delight to see them learning through experience.*

*Pupils have learned about life in other countries; learned more about how to keep safe online on 'Safer Internet Day'; experimented with digital photography, photo editing and 3D modelling; and made bird feeders in Worship.*







*It's been a pleasure to see pupils sharing and enjoying stories, and we're looking forward to World Book Day on March 6<sup>th</sup> to see who pupils are inspired by.*





*We finished the half term with a 'Gladiator' themed, enrichment day led by our friends at Bee Active. Pupils showed great enthusiasm and team spirit, and had lots of fun trying something new!*



### **Charity Event:**

On Sunday 9th March, our Year 4 teacher, Mr Evans and his wife are hosting a crafts and pre-loved clothes market with around 20 stalls to see including tasty cakes and treats, clothes for all ages (adults / children / men / women), wreaths, decorations, jewellery and plenty more handmade goodies both new and used.

So, if you have a bit of time to spare and fancy contributing to a good cause, come on down for a browse.



Crafts & Clothes (pre loved)  
market

Werrington Village Hall, Ash Bank Road

on Sunday 9th March

9.45-11.15am

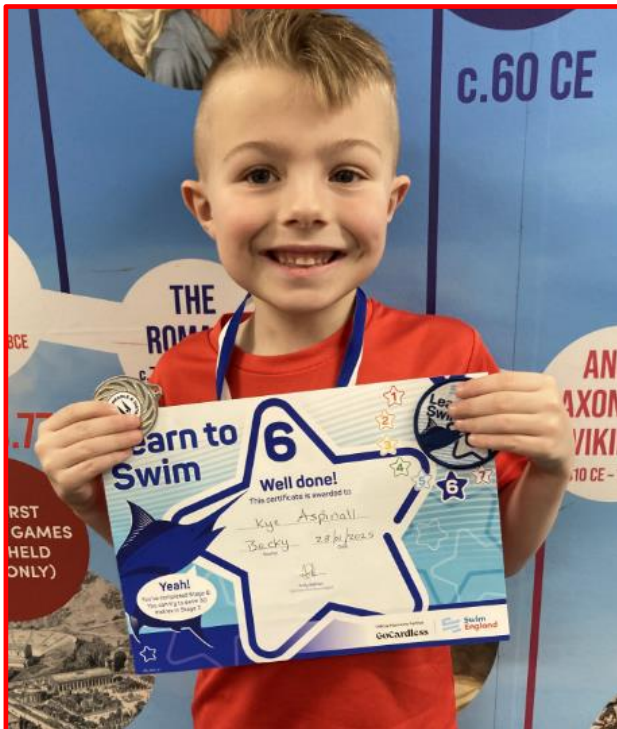
Raising money for good causes

## Pupils shining outside of school...

### **Digging for treasure!**

One of our Year 3 pupils has made history by discovering his very own Staffordshire hoard! He's been spending his spare time with his metal detector and has found a whole range of treasures: Roman coins, a Roman brooch, medieval silver pennies, and his most amazing find – a 4000 year old axe head!

The local museum has confirmed and logged the find, and will have some of the items on display.



### **Spotlight on Swimming:**

A huge well done to another of our Yr 3 pupils who has achieved his Level 6 swimming award. Ongoing dedication and hard work at swimming lessons has secured a near to perfect technique with all of the strokes and success in the most recent swimathon and swimming gala. A real case of practice makes progress!

We 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](mailto:headteacher@st-johns-wetleyrocks.staffs.sch.uk)

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

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

### **Personal Contact Details:**

***Please remember that it is your responsibility to inform us of any changes regarding your personal contact information. This includes addresses, phone numbers and emergency contact details. If you would like to check the details we hold for you, please call the office.***

**A huge thank you to everyone in our school community for another fantastic half term. Whether it's helping your child academically, giving lifts, mystery readers, supporting at events, or even just a hello in the morning, we couldn't do it without out you.**

**We look forward to seeing you on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

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

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