



St. John's CE Primary School

Autumn Newsletter November 2025



Diary Dates: [Click here for the school calendar](#)

Inset Days:	Monday 5th January Monday 1st June Monday 20th July
Monday 10 th November	Reception and Year 6 height / weight check.
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day / WW1 Soldier visit.
Tuesday 18 th November	Academy Photos
Wednesday 19 th November / 9am	Reading workshop for Reception parents
Friday 28 th November	Reception – Year 6 Flu Immunisations (More information to follow).
Monday 1 st December	Choir performance at Victoria Hall
Tuesday 2 nd December / 1:30pm	EY Nativity performance
Wednesday 3 rd December / 1:30pm	EY Nativity performance
Thursday 4 th December	Year 2 – Year 6 Christmas visit / New Vic Theatre The Little Mermaid
Monday 8 th December	Forest School Enrichment Day (More information to follow).
Wednesday 10 th December	EY and Year 1 Christmas visit to Amerton Farm
Thursday 11 th December	KS1 Nativity 9:30am / 6pm. Year 3 visit to Stanley Head Outdoor Education Centre.
Monday 15 th December	Christmas service at St. John's Church KS1: 9:30am KS2: 10:30am (Please note earlier time).
Tuesday 16 th December	Forest School Enrichment Day (More information to follow).
School closes / Last day of the term	Friday 19th December
Inset Day	Monday 5th January
School opens / Start of Spring Term	Tuesday 6th January

2025-2026 Statutory Assessments / SATs (Standard Assessment Tests):

- Year 1 / Year 2 (resit) Phonics Screen: Week commencing Monday 8th June, 2026.
- Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check: the 2-week period from Monday 1st June, 2026.
- Year 6 SATs Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May 2026.

Internal School Assessments: Assessment weeks for all years / second half of each half term.

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

Thank you to St. John's Church for another warm welcome for our Harvest Festival service. The children led a beautiful service full of joy, prayer, reflection and gratitude.

As part of our continued efforts to SHINE, Year 6 have undertaken a project linked to our local foodbank. The children listened to an



informative talk with representatives from the Leek Food Bank and then proceeded to share this information with the children at school and parents at our Harvest service at St. John's Church. Well done Year 6! This is part of our plan to develop 'courageous advocacy' within school where the children identify how they can stand up and take action for good causes.

St. John's is now an official collection point for Leek Food Bank. If you'd like to make a donation to the Food Bank, we have a collection basket in the school reception area.

Next term, Year 5 will be looking at animal welfare. The children will be discussing this and deciding which aspect of animal welfare they would like to address with the whole school and wider community.

After School Clubs for Summer term 2025-2026:

Autumn 2 After School Clubs:	
Monday	- Choir with Miss Parish (KS2) - Bee Active Sports Club (Dodgeball / KS2). 3:30pm-4:15pm
Tuesday:	Mini-Mindfulness 3:30pm-4:30pm
Thursday	Drum Club with Mr Oxborrow. 3:30-4:30pm

Bee Active:

Our BeeActive after-school club on Mondays this half term is KS2 Dodgeball. Places are just £3.50 for the hour.

Places are limited! Click here to secure your place...

<https://beeactive.hivelink.co.uk/105/9871>

MiniMe Mindfulness:

MiniMeMindfulness after school club is moving to Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm (Reception to Year 6).

This fantastic club supports children's wellbeing and sense of calm and has great reviews.



To book online please visit www.minime-mindfulness-staffs.class4kids.co.uk

Building Children's Resilience whilst online:

Continuing the theme of building knowledge of emotions and resilience, take a look at the '[Where Will it End?](#)' website.

This teaches children how to manage their emotions whilst online and helps them learn when to turn off. Click on the image to explore the website.



St. John's Sport



School sport returned to St. John's this September as our two football teams played host to 5 different schools from our CADSSA cluster.



We have some fabulous results from those who took part in the CADSSA cross country competition this October with everyone putting in 100% effort into their run resulting in an amazing second place for the Year 3/4 team, and third place for the Year 5/6 team.

Our hard working Year 3 / 4 girls' football team played 5 games with 2 amazing wins, and an overall 4th place - well done ladies!



BeeActive Enrichment Day

The children had a fabuou time during our 'Laser Tag' Bee Active Enrichment Day - I think the staff secretly had a great time too!



Reading at St. John's:

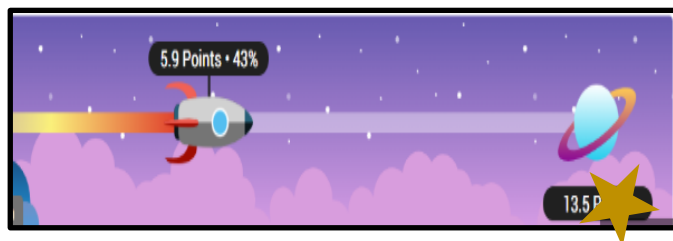
The **Accelerated Reader** programme is used in KS2 to monitor your child's reading.

Reading Targets to ensure your child is making progress:

Years 3 and 4: 20 minutes reading each day.

Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes reading each day.

Quiz pass rate of 85% or above.



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 great 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 little taste of what we've been up to over this half term:

Early Years:

Early Years have enjoyed reading and exploring the 'Same but Different' text, have learned all about Autumn over the first half of the term, refined their meditation skills on our 'Meditation Mondays' and continued to improve their fine motor skills with lots of fun activities.



Year 1:

Our fantastic Year 1 children had an exciting time at the Brampton Toy Museum, Newcastle, learning all about toys from the past. They've explored the world using their senses, learned about the weather and seasons, and created their own 'bog babies'.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a super busy half term. They've helped Year 1 to learn and refine their yoga skills; worked super hard in maths with their tens and ones; written excellent 'how to' guides for looking after pets; and shown super team work and communication skills to solve problems in PE.



Year 3

Year 3 have been busy learning about flexible partitioning using the maths equipment to show the different ways a 3-digit number can be made using hundreds, tens and ones. They've reviewed digital applications, and had great fun at the Laser Tag BeeActive session.



Year 4 Year 4 have been learning all about structure and texture in music. They worked in groups to create a short sequence of body percussion and completed their sequences on the outdoor stage. Coordination has been the focus in PE for Year 4 where they've worked hard to refine their ball skills. Fantastic work Year 4!



Year 5

Long jump skills and laser tag were on the agenda for our Year 5s this half term – they've shown some excellent jumping, defending and attacking skills. Year 5 have been working hard in Science in their forces topic: they've completed a range of experiments linked to air resistance, forces and water resistance. Super Science Year 5!



Year 6

Our eldest children have spent this half term learning about how food banks work. They've worked with Leek Food Bank and completed a presentation to the school to let people know how they can help. Did you know that there are more food banks than McDonalds! Pupils have also planned and led their own warm ups in PE, and completed online Geography projects. Great work Year 6.



Pupils shining outside of school...

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

One of our very talented Year 6 pupils auditioned for the British Ballet Organisation last summer, successfully gained a place at their centre in Birmingham, and will be training every other week with them. An excellent

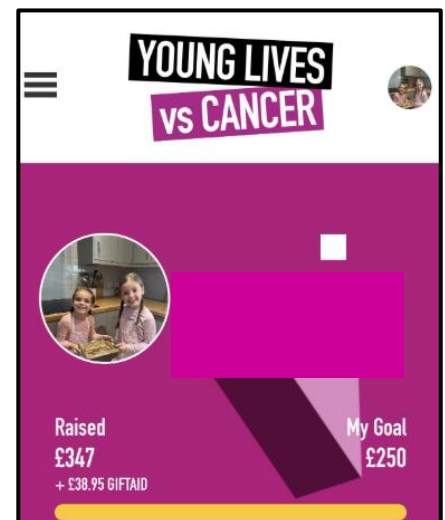


example of what hard work and dedication can achieve.

Our super talented equestrian in Year 3 competed in the National Schools Equestrian Championships at Addington achieving a fantastic 2nd place in her class. What an excellent achievement and one to watch for the future!



A huge well done to our super siblings who had the fantastic idea of an ice lolly sale at school to raise money for Young Lives v Cancer. The dedicated young ladies also completed a sponsored walk of 31 miles over the summer holidays managing to raise a total of £347. What a wonderful achievement and thoughtful thing to do to help others – well done girls!



Two of our talented gymnasts in Year 6 competed in the City of Stoke on Trent gymnastics competition over the half term placing 2nd and 4th. Well done ladies! Another example of hard work and dedication paying off.



Another amazing pupil from our Year 2 raised a fantastic £830 for the DougieMac, a charity close to her heart, by taking part in a charity road run – all of our school SHINE values in abundance!



Well done to all of our pupils who take part in activities out of school whether that be sport, dancing, horse riding, racing, music, scouts! We love to hear about your experiences and achievements.



Here's a few of our sporting and dancing stars celebrating their hard work and showing our SHINE values in action – great job everyone!

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

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

Thank you to Mrs Parker for our half term prayer...

Father God, we bring before you the children, young people, staff & teachers, of St. Johns School. We pray that you will help keep them safe, protect them as the nights grow darker, and help them to remember how to SHINE. We give thanks for the half term for the joy, love, laughter, and the learning that they have taken part in. May your blessings be over them all.

Amen

A huge thank you to everyone in our school community for another fantastic half term.

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

SHINE like the star you are.