



St. John's CE Primary School

Spring Newsletter February 2026



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

Inset Days:	Monday 1st June Monday 20th July
Monday 23 rd February	School opens for the Spring 2.
Friday 27 th February / 2pm	Year 4 Rainforest presentation to parents
Sunday 22 nd March	Longton Park Junior Park Run. (More details to follow).
Wednesday 25 th March (PROVISIONAL DATE / TBC)	Easter Service at St. John's Church KS1: 9:30am / KS2: 10:30am
Friday 27 th March	Last day of term
School opens / Start of Summer Term	Monday 13th April

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:

We've celebrated success, discussed lots of 'big questions' and visited many different themes over Spring 1 in our Worship time: mental health, stories that have made the news (behaviour in football / 2025-2026 Year of Reading). We've loved our visits from Reverends Michael and Steve who have shared stories based on our school value of Hope.

We've focused on a passage in The Bible which is a great lesson for life and the choices we make:

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.

Matthew 7:12

As we begin our countdown to Easter, our next half term will focus on the Easter story and our school value of Individuality. We look forward to our Easter Service at St. John's Church which we love sharing with our school community.

Leek Foodbank

It has been great to see even more kindness and generosity in action with our foodbank donation basket being full once again. This really does help lots of families, so a huge thank you for your donations.



After School Clubs for Spring Term 2025-2026:

Spring 2 After School Clubs:	
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. John's Choir with Miss Parish (KS2) Bee Active Sports Club 3:30pm-4:15pm (KS2 Football).
Tuesday:	Mini-Mindfulness 3:30pm-4:30pm. To book a place: https://minime-mindfulness-staffs.classforkids.io/?venueName=St.%20John%27s%20Primary%20School
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drum Club with Mr Oxborrow. 3:30-4:30pm. Please call the school office for more details 01782 550309.

After School Club **MiniMe Mindfulness**
Mindsight Coaching 4 Kids

Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm

- GAMES
- STORIES
- CHATS
- TEAM ACTIVITIES
- MEDITATION

Build Confidence
Raise Self Awareness
Recognise Emotions
Understand Feelings
Self Regulate Responses
Reduce Stress/Anxiety
Increase Inner Calm & Happiness
Encourage Resilience & Communication
Have FUN & Make Friends

St. John's CofE Primary School

- ✓ Build Confidence & Resilience
- ✓ Raise Self Awareness
- ✓ Recognise Feelings
- ✓ Understand Emotions
- ✓ Self Regulate Responses
- ✓ Increase Inner Calm & Happiness
- ✓ Encourage Communication
- ✓ Reduce Stress & Anxiety
- ✓ Make Friends & Have Fun

Our wonderful **MiniMe Mindfulness** Club continues after half term. With mental health increasingly on the agenda, this is a great club for teaching vital skills to help children navigate through the ups and downs of life.

Bee Active:

Our Spring 2 BeeActive after-school club 'KS2 Football' is just £3.50 per session. Book now at <https://beeactive.hivelink.co.uk/148/10462> or call 01782 205915.

KS2 Chess Club:

Chris Hankey (Potteries Junior Chess Club) will be running a chess club for KS2 pupils **every other Thursday** after school (3:30pm-4:30pm). Chris is a very experienced chess player and has coached members of the England chess team!

Sessions will be just £5 and run on Thursday 5th March and Thursday 19th March for Spring 2. Thursday dates for the Summer Term to be confirmed. Please complete the forms or email the school office if you'd like to secure a place.

[KS2 Chess Club \(Alternate Thursdays: Thursday 5th March / Thursday 19th March\) 3:30-4:30pm. – Fill in form](#)

BEE ACTIVE EC **EXPLORE**

Sessions for children of all abilities!

Improve your game with our expert football coaching!

Sessions will give your child the opportunity to develop their football ability, confidence and social skills.

Meet your coach
Cory

ONLY £3.50 PER SESSION

Mondays Years 3-6 3:30-4:15pm

Book now at beeactive.co.uk

Places are limited and will be secured on a first come, first service basis

Read our reviews ★★★★★
See what others say about Bee Active.



Spotlight on Online Safety:

Parent Safe: keeping your children safe online and beyond:

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/home>



Family digital agreements

Family digital agreements are a way for families to set ground rules and help children to be safe when using the internet. They can support children with what to do if something does not feel right or goes wrong. Amongst other things, parents can use it to explain why children should not share details of where they live and where it may not be appropriate to use their phone.



For more information, visit:

- [Family Agreement | Childnet](#)
- [Digital Family Agreement](#)



Spotlight on Special Educational Needs:



FREE Parent/Carer Training

Delivered by the Specialist Teaching Support Service Autism Inclusion Team

Please note, these sessions are for parents/carers of children with a diagnosis or on the pathway (e.g. a referral has been accepted and awaiting an assessment for an Autism diagnosis, inc. those not yet referred to our service)

To book please email: autism.training@staffordshire.gov.uk

Please include your name(s)/school your child attends & email address.

DATE	TIME	COURSE TITLE	LOCATION
26.02.2026	09.30-12.00	Early Years Workshop	Moorlands Family Hub
04.03.2026 (Max. 2 Sessions)	09.30-10.30	Understanding Autism	Stafford Children's Centre
	11.00-12.30	Raising Self-Esteem	
	13.30-15.00	Emotional Regulation	
11.03.2026	09.30-12.30	Transition to Adulthood	Stafford Children's Centre
19.03.2026	13.00-14.30	Understanding Autism	Moorlands Family Hub
16.04.2026	9:30 - 12:00	EYFS Parent Workshop	Stafford Children's Centre
03.06.2026 (Max. 2 Sessions)	09.30-11.00	Understanding Autism	Stafford Children's Centre
	12.00-13.30	Raising Self-Esteem	
	14.00-15.30	Autism & Girls	
10.06.2026	09.30-11.30	Understanding Self-Harm	Stafford Children's Centre





Spotlight on Healthy Relationships:

Spotlight on Mental Health Parenting advice from child mental health experts.

Click [here](#) to check out the 'Place2Be' site for lots of great practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour.



St. John's Sport

We have had another action packed half term full of sporting challenge, fun, enrichment and success. We want to say a really big thank you to the St. John's families for your help and support with our events – it's really appreciated!

Swimming Stars

A huge well done to our Year 3 and 4 star swimmers who managed to secure 2nd place overall at the CADSSA swimming gala – an excellent achievement!

We are super proud of the excellent team spirit and support shown by the team.



Healthy Relationships

Free support



Click to complete a Family Hub Referral Form

Finding things difficult at home? You're not alone – and support is here.

Whether you parent together, apart, or co-parent, this space helps you strengthen communication, lower tension, and create a calmer, more connected family life.

Even when disagreements feel small, children can feel the impact. Small changes can make a big difference.

A referral is needed – please complete a Family Hub Referral Form to book.

Booking required through referral only. Please complete a 'Family Hub Referral Form' to book your space.



Family Hub Staffordshire

- Right help.
- Right time.
- Right place.

Search Family Hubs Staffordshire to get the support you deserve






Netball Success

We are so proud of our amazing Year 5 / 6 netball teams who represented our school brilliantly at their recent tournaments both working hard to finish in an amazing second place. The teams showed fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout every match, supporting each other and never giving up. Well done to all of the players – you were outstanding ambassadors for our school!



Reading at St. John's:

NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026



National Year of Reading 2026

If you're into it, read into it

Everyone knows reading expands worlds, sharpens minds, and fuels creativity. But fewer of us are making time for it.

It's time for the nation to Go All In.

In 2026, the National Year of Reading is reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around.

Explore how you can join the movement at home, in your setting, or across your community. Click [here](#) or visit www.goallin.org.uk to find out more...

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:

We had a snowy start to the new term which went down well with the children, and lots of fun was had outside.

Dance Enrichment Sessions

A huge thank you to dance specialist **Claire Pring Dance** for two days of expert input and guidance for our KS2 pupils who have wowed us with their moves!

The sessions, delivered by the brilliant Claire Pring, have helped our children to develop dance routines based around a theme.



BeeActive Enrichment Sessions

The whole school had great fun throwing, sliding and firing to develop their target skills during their BeeActive enrichment session with Mr Vincent. Lots of fun and some potential Olympians in the making!





Children's Mental Health Week

The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week 'This is my Place' focused on the feeling of belonging - the feeling of being a valued part of the groups and places that are important to us. It means feeling supported, cared for and comfortable to be ourselves.

Each pupil created their own artistic map featuring pictures, places, groups and activities to represent where they feel they belong. Their wonderful art work reminded them of the support networks they have and the things they enjoy.



Internet Safety Day

To reinforce those vital online safety messages, we had a visit from the Saltmine Theare Company who treated us to their performance of 'Blast Off' - an interactive show covering online safety, cyber-bullying, grooming and inappropriate content.

Pupils took onboard the important online safety messages - remember to:

1. Stay in the safe zone
2. Protect your identity
3. Be kind
4. Call for help if worried or scared.



Our Early Years children appear to have travelled all over the place this half term: they've visited the far off lands of China, India, Africa and the rainforest with their new pal 'Pirate Pete', and spent lots of time exploring the outdoors in their Welly Wednesday sessions.



As part of their work relating to 'Animals including Humans' in Science, Year 6 all got hands on and made...blood! They all worked on understanding the function of four of the main parts of blood and the vital role that it plays in the body. Great work Year 6!



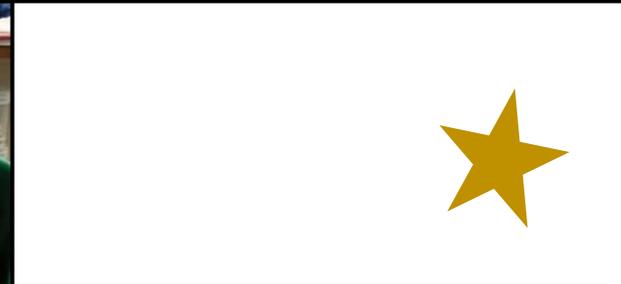
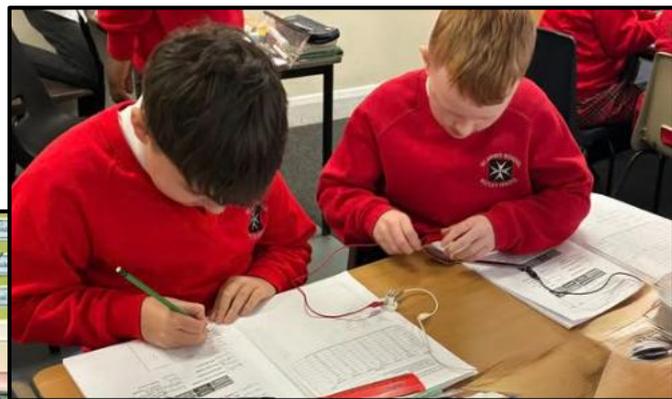
KS1 have been making their light shine through meditation, dance, and reading this half term.



As part of this half term's curriculum, KS1 have explored non-fiction texts, and have built on their previous learning about balanced diets and food groups by designing and making their own healthy wraps. Of course the process involved a taste test which went down well!



Upper KS2 have had a great half term full of practical science – identifying conductors and insulators in their electricity work, and getting messy investigating the property of materials. Super science everyone!



Years 3 and 4 have enjoyed playing maths games to refine their times table knowledge and get super confident with their number facts.



Attendance:

Good school attendance significantly boosts academic performance, social-emotional growth, and future success by ensuring consistent learning, building friendships, developing self-regulation, and establishing crucial habits of responsibility and punctuality, directly leading to better outcomes and readiness for later education and life.

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).



Spotlight on Finance

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.

Household Support Fund

Are you having financial struggles? The Household Support Fund may be able to help. Click the link to read more, or get in touch if you'd like to discuss this.

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

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

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

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.