



# St. John's CE Primary School

## Spring Newsletter March 2026



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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Inset Days:</b>  | <b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b><br><b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b> |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April                                   | School opens for the Summer Term.                                       |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April                                   | BeeActive Commonwealth Games Triathlon Day – Run / Ride / Row!          |
| Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April                                  | Summer Term Disco.  |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May-<br>Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May   | Year 6 SATs   |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May                                     | BeeActive Enrichment Day  |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May –<br>Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May | Year 6 attending Standon Bowers Outdoor Education Centre                |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May                                     | Last day of term  |
| <b>School opens / Start of<br/>Summer 2</b>                     | <b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>                                      |

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

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

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

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

The countdown to Easter was kicked off by our fabulous Year 6 pupils taking action with a 'Lent act of kindness' - looking after our school grounds with a litter picking session. A lovely example of our school SHINE values in action.



Thank you to our whole school community for sharing another beautiful service with us to celebrate Easter at St. John's Church. Our pupils and the St. John's choir really did SHINE as always.



## After School Clubs for Summer 1 2025-2026:

| Spring 2 After School Clubs: |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St. John's Choir with Miss Parish (KS2)</li> <li>Bee Active Sports Club 3:30pm-4:30pm (KS2 Football).</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>               | Mini-me Mindfulness. 3:30pm-4:30pm   |
| <b>Thursday</b>              | Drum Club with Mr Oxborrow. 3:30-4:30pm. Please call the school office for more details 01782 550309.  |
| <b>Thursday</b>              | Chess Club with Mr Hankey (Potteries Junior Chess Club). 3:30-4:30pm. £5 per session. Every other Thursday starting with Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July (6 sessions). Please call the school office for a place 01782 550309. |

### Bee Active:

Our Summer 1 BeeActive after-school club 'KS2 Football' is just £3.50 per session. Book now at [www.beeactive.co.uk](http://www.beeactive.co.uk) or call 01782 205915.

### KS2 Chess Club:

We are delighted to have started Chess Club with Chris Hankey (Potteries Junior Chess Club) on a Thursday after school. Chris is a very experienced chess player and has coached members of the England chess team! Sessions are just £5.

### Minime-Mindfulness

Is your child struggling with anxiety or just needs a bit of calm? If so, Minime-Mindfulness is the answer! 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 on this brilliant club.](#)

### Spotlight on Online Safety:

*'Technology is part of everyday life. And that means even very young children are using shared devices to watch videos or to play simple games.*

*For children under the age of five, technology can offer fun and support learning. It also brings risks. Children at this age are curious, quick to click, and unable to recognise danger.*

*That's why parents and carers play a vital role in making screen time safe, purposeful, and age appropriate.'*

**NSPCC**

[Click here to access this really useful guide.](#)

**BEE ACTIVE**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

**Book now for Summer 1 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.

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|---|
| <p><b>Year 3-6 Football</b></p> <p><b>Mondays (15:30 - 16:30)</b><br/>From: 13/04/26<br/>To: 18/05/26</p> <p><b>£3.50</b><br/>per session</p> <p>Maximum: 20 children</p> |
|---|

If you would like your child to participate in the above sessions, you can book now by visiting: [www.beeactive.co.uk](http://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.

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](http://www.beeactive.co.uk) Tel: 01782 205 915 Email: [info@beeactive.co.uk](mailto:info@beeactive.co.uk) Search: 'Bee Active'

The Hive: Unit 1, The Works, Etruscan Street, Etruria, Stoke-On-Trent, ST1 5PJ

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



## A parent's guide to online safety for children under five

Learn about the risks, get practical guidance, and discover ideas to help keep younger children safe.

## Spotlight on Special Educational Needs:

### FREE Parent/Carer Training

Delivered by the Specialist Teaching Support Service Autism Inclusion Team

To book please email: [autism.training@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:autism.training@staffordshire.gov.uk)



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)

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<br>(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<br>(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 |

## Support for Speech and Language Development:

There's lot of really useful advice and activities to help develop your child's speech and language at the Stoke Speaks Out site.

[Click here to find out more...](https://www.stokespeaks.org/parents-carers)

<https://www.stokespeaks.org/parents-carers>



## Spotlight on Mental Health

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



## Spotlight on the Early Years

Giving every child the best start in life: the government's strategy for improving child development from birth.

[Click here for lots of advice and strategies for your pre-school little ones.](#)





## St. John's Sport



A huge well done to our Y3 and Y4 athletes for their hard work and amazing 7<sup>th</sup> place in the Staffordshire and Stoke School Games Sportshall Athletics final.

The children qualified for this prestigious event by winning the Staffordshire Moorlands district event back in November. The competition was raised but our children rose to the challenge! For a primary school from Wetley Rocks to achieve this in a county-wide competition is a fantastic achievement!

We are so proud of the children who competed in the CADSSA gymnastics competition for their sporting attitudes, hard work and amazing progress. They were an absolute pleasure to spend time with, and it was a joy to see each one of them SHINE for so many different reasons. The individual medals and well deserved overall first place was a lovely result for their dedication.



Well done to our Y4 footballers who had lots of fun playing two friendlies against two of our fellow TMPF schools in Great Wood and Bishop Rawle. The team made full use of the 3G pitch at Cheadle Leisure Centre by playing some great football and picking out some excellent passes. Fun and fitness – a perfect mix!

Thank you so much to our St. John's families- we really appreciate your time, support and help with transport to make such events possible.



# junior parkrun

You couldn't ask for a better start to the day than a walk, jog or sprint around a beautiful park in the fresh air! The sun was shining to greet us and it was lovely to see so many St. John's faces (pupils, staff and families) taking part in Junior Parkrun.

To register for find out more about Junior Park Run click here: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/longton-juniors/>



## Reading at St. John's:

**Grow a love of reading with the National Literacy Trust...**

*What you are doing as parents and carers at home has a significant impact on your child. Finding time to read with your children or encouraging your less-than-enthusiastic readers at home to pick up a book can feel like a challenge. However, there are lots of simple, everyday ways you can encourage your children to grow a love of reading.*



*We've collated some helpful tips, guides and booklists to help you to support your child as they grow a love of reading at home. Click here to find out more: <https://literacytrust.org.uk/reading-for-pleasure/families/>*



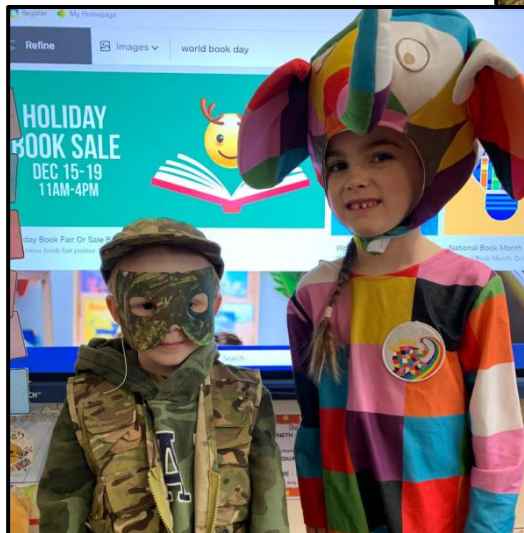
## World Book Day:

We had a fantastic day celebrating World Book Day 2026 at St. John's: sharing stories, sharing our favourite books and authors, book swapping, making book marks, book quizzes, dressing up, and getting lost in the beautiful world of reading!

**Huge congratulations to**



**Penny C, Oliver H, Mila H and Harrison R – our Year 6 Word Millionaires!**



## 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...

### Super Scientists!

There's been lots of learning through experimenting and experiencing in science lessons this half term.



We've been getting creative in Art, DT and computing...





Year 4 did a fabulous job of presenting their research about the rainforest to their families.



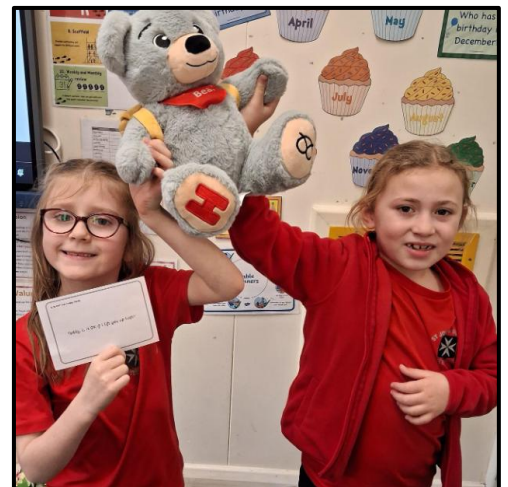
Year 1 learned all about the four countries of the United Kingdom and presented their research to the class.



We made bouquets of flowers for lovely ladies...



We've learned how to keep safe and healthy in our PHSE lessons...



And had lots of STARS...



Our Breakfast Club pupils have made Easter gifts for the residents of Wetley Moor Residential Care Home...

Year 2 have really enjoyed learning how to manage and be safe on a scooter with our friends at BeeActive!



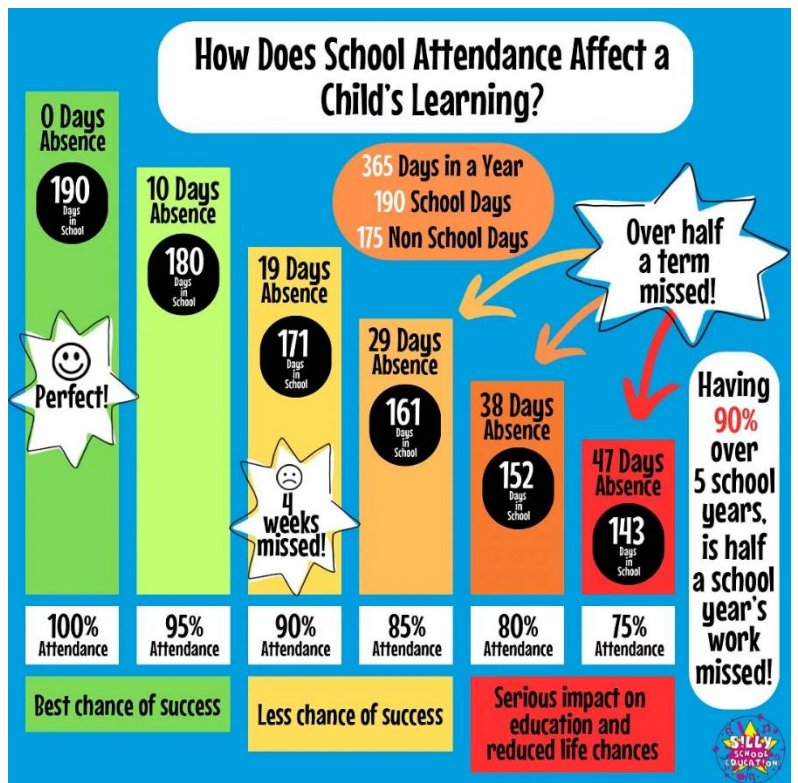
**Attendance:**

Our average attendance for the year so far is 96.1%. 😊

Did you know... primary school children who attend nearly every day in Year 6 (95–100% attendance) have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90–95% of the time!

**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).



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



### **Trampolining Triumph!**

One of our Year 2 pupils has been going from strength to strength with the trampoline.

In February she competed at Solihull in the West Midlands Regional Qualification and finished in an amazing 1<sup>st</sup> place. In March, she returned to Solihull moving up to Club 2 level and once again did an excellent job finishing 2nd in the West Midlands Championships. We are looking forward to seeing how she gets on in the Regional Challenge Cup Series at Wolverhampton University in April.



### **Swimming Success**

We are super proud of one of our Year 4 pupils who has tried something new competing in his first swimming gala and achieved a fantastic 2<sup>nd</sup> place. What a great start for his club!



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

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

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

**Wishing you all a very happy Easter!  
Very best wishes. Mrs Stone and the St. John's team.**

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