



St. John's CE Primary School

Summer Newsletter May 2026



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

Inset Days:	Monday 20th July
Tuesday 2 nd June	School opens for Summer 2
Tuesday 2 nd June	Academy photos for Year 6 and Reception
Thursday 4 th June	NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe for KS1 / KS2
Monday 8 th June	Saltmine Theatre Company in school: anti-bullying and mental wellbeing production for KS1 / KS2.
Wednesday 17 th June	Uttoxeter Gymnastics Club visit (Years 3 4 5)
Monday 22 nd June	St. John's Sports Fest! KS2: 9:20am-11:45am / EYFS: 12:30-1:30pm / KS1: 1:30-3:00pm
Wednesday 24 th June	Uttoxeter Gymnastics Club visit (Years 3 4 5)
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 6 Rollercoaster transition day at Moorside
Wednesday 8 th July	Music evening / 6:00pm
Thursday 9 th July	Meet the teacher / Summer Term Parents Evening 3:30pm – 6:00pm
Monday 13 th July	Non-uniform day to support Reverend Steve's charity event supporting 'A Child of Mine'. All donations greatly appreciated.
Tuesday 14 th July	KS2 Show (afternoon 1:30pm / evening 6:00pm)
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 6 Leavers Service at St. John's Church (families welcome). 9:30am – 10:30am
Wednesday 15 th July	KS2 Show / 6:00pm
Friday 17 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Celebration / 2:45pm
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term
School opens for Autumn Term 2026-2027	Thursday 3rd September (Tuesday 1 st September / Wednesday 2 nd September Inset Days).

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

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

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

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

Representing all of our school SHINE values, we have a special star in Year 1 who was inspired by David Attenborough to take action to look after God's world.

Having always loved the outdoors and since school have celebrated David Attenborough's 100th birthday, he has been really interested in things he can do to help wildlife and the planet. He spent his weekend litter picking near his home. What a fantastic role model!



After School Clubs for Summer 2 2025-2026:

Summer 2 After School Clubs:	
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. John's Choir with Miss Parish (KS2) Bee Active Sports Club 3:30-4:30pm (Years 2-6 Cricket). Click here to sign up.
Tuesday	Mini-me Mindfulness EYFS/KS1/KS2 3:30pm-4:30pm. Click here to sign up. https://minime-mindfulness-staffs.classforkids.io/term/41
Wednesday	Drum Club Years 2-6 with Mr Oxborrow. 3:30-4:30pm. Please call the school office for more details 01782 550309.
Thursday	Chess Club KS1/KS2 with Mr Hankey (Potteries Junior Chess Club). 3:30-4:30pm. £5 per session. All pupils are welcome! Session dates: Thursday 4 th June / Thursday 18 th June / Thursday 2 nd July.

Chess Club (KS1 / KS2):

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 (EYFS/KS1/KS2)

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.](#)



BEE ACTIVE
 Improve your game with our expert cricket coaching!

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

Meet your coach
Cory

ONLY £3.50 PER SESSION

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

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.

Super Star Chefs!

Well done to our fabulous catering managers who dish up our delicious dinners each day for another 5 star food hygiene rating. Our school lunches couldn't be in better hands!





Spotlight on Safeguarding:

Do you have any concerns regarding radicalisation and extremism? The DfE have produced this resource to help:

[Parents and Carers: Protecting Your Child From Extremism and Radicalisation \(2023\) - Educate Against Hate](#)

**Educate
Against
Hate**



Department
for Education

Product recalls:

There have been a number of products hitting the headlines lately that have been recalled. Check out the list here:

The following children's products have had recalls due to containing potentially unsafe substances.

NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. programme

We are participating in the **NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. Programme** over the summer term. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities which we have reviewed, alongside NSPCC volunteer led face to face workshops for children aged 6-7 and 9-11. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. Additional workshops will be within Year 2, 5 and 6.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.

Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe

The NSPCC have shared some important information below on wider NSPCC resources and support to help keep children safe.

Parent/Carer support

Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers.

www.nspcc.org.uk/parents

Activities to extend learning at home

Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/activities

Online Safety Hub

For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more.

www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

Childline – under 12's

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content.

www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7)

www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)

Talk PANTS with your children

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Spotlight on Special Educational Needs:



**WONDER KIDS
SEN STAY AND PLAY**

Come and join us for our Stay and Play for children with special educational needs and disabilities to enjoy with their parents/carers.

**MAY HALF TERM
0-7 YEARS**

**TUESDAY 26TH MAY
1:30PM - 3:30PM**

**FOR WONDER KIDS AGED 0-7 YEARS
FREE**

Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub,
Albert Street, Biddulph,
ST8 6DT
For information call our friendly team on 01782 297970



**WONDER KIDS
SEN STAY AND PLAY**

Come and join us for our Stay and Play for children with special educational needs and disabilities to enjoy with their parents/carers. Today Caudwell Children will be with us to offer help and advice

**MAY HALF TERM
0-7 YEARS**

**WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY
1:30PM - 3:30PM**

**FOR WONDER KIDS AGED 0-7 YEARS
FREE**

Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub,
Albert Street, Biddulph,
ST8 6DT
For information call our friendly team on 01782 297970



**WONDER KIDS
SEN STAY AND PLAY**

Are you ready to unleash your superpowers? Come along to our Stay and Play for children with special educational needs and disabilities. Enjoy free play in our warm and welcoming environment

**FRIDAYS
1:00PM - 3:00PM
FREE**

Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub,
Albert Street, Biddulph,
ST8 6DT
For information call our friendly team on
01782 297970



Stay Well Service

Staffordshire Emotional Health and Wellbeing service

Jointly commissioned by Staffordshire County Council and Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Integrated Care Board, Stay Well, is a Children and Young People's Mental Health Service (CYPMHS) provided by Changes Health and Wellbeing, North Staffs Mind and The Dove Service.

Offering a successful blend of both group and one-to-one support, demand for Stay Well services continues to rise. Consequently, we are working hard to expand our reach and to establish a responsive and accessible mental health service for children, young people and families across Staffordshire. We provide rapid contact, assessment, and aim to follow this by access to support within just 20 working days.

Here are some exciting updates about our service:

- We have established new delivery venues in Cheadle, Leek, and Tamworth
- Our new website makes it easier for CYP, families, and professionals to find information, access resources and make new referrals
- We have strengthened and expanded our social media presence. Designed to promote our service and to inspire and inform young people to enhance their wellbeing - we have recently incorporated videos of Stay Well staff discussing wellness tools and grounding techniques
- A highly effective way for young people to support each other and learn how to improve their mental health, we are improving access to our psycho-educational programmes and peer-support groups
- Our service menu now includes one-to-one cognitive behavioural therapy to address simple phobias

Children, young people and their families, and professionals can refer through the Single Points of Access (see page 6) or directly into the Stay Well service.

To contact us, refer or get some information, advice and guidance Call: 01782 418 518 or go to our updated website: [Stay Well CYP | Stay Well Children & Young People Support](#)
For online referrals: [Stay Well online referral form](#)

Follow us on: [Stay Well Staffordshire](#) | [Stoke-on-Trent](#) | [Facebook](#)
[Stay Well Service](#) | [Staffordshire \(@staywellstaffordshire\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)



ABOUT US

We champion every kind of potential in disabled and neurodivergent children by truly listening and understanding.

Every child is different, that's why we offer personalised practical and emotional support. We're here to listen, support and help find the right path for your family.

Chat with your local **SEND Support Team** at community hubs across Staffordshire.

Who can visit us?

- ✦ Parents and carers of disabled and/or autistic children
- ✦ Health, education, and care professionals
- ✦ Anyone looking to learn more about Caudwell Children's services



Our SEND Support Team will be at Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub

ST8 6DT on the following dates. Drop in so no booking required

9:30am—12:30pm

8th and 22nd April

13th and 27th May

10th and 24th June



Spotlight on the Early Years

At the end of March, the government published new, evidence-informed guidance to help parents and carers of children under 5 navigate screen time.

Digital screens are now a normal part of family life. The early years are however critical for development - 90% of a child's brain development occurs by age 5, making it a critical period for the development of social, emotional and cognitive skills.

The advice is informed by recommendations from an expert panel and has also been developed with parents. It is designed to provide practical, clear and straightforward advice to help families make informed choices that support their child's development during the years that matter most.



Some of the key recommendations for parents include:

- Avoid screen time for under 2s and for 2-5 years, try to keep it to no more than an hour a day.
- Choose slow-paced, predictable content as this is better for young brains. Fast-paced, over-stimulating social media-style videos may affect how young children learn to concentrate, so it's best to avoid them.
- Avoid young children using screens alone as it reduces opportunities for social time and active play. Try watching and discussing content together with your child as it supports their development and helps you protect them from harmful content.
- Swap out screens at bedtime or mealtimes for reading stories or playing simple games.
- Children copy everything you do – their brains are like sponges. Be mindful of how often you use screens around your child.

The advice is available for parents to access on the [Best Start in Life website](#), alongside a whole range of other free resources and advice on everything from pregnancy to starting school.



UK Government



St. John's Sport

Thank you...

Firstly, a thank you to our parents / carers who help with transport. Without your support and assistance, taking part in these sporting opportunities wouldn't be possible, so thank you!

We are super proud of our KS1 gymnastics team who completed in the CADSSA gymnastics competition. They all performed brilliantly demonstrating our school values of hope, individuality, strength and excel. The team worked hard to achieve 4 individual medals and 3rd place overall - really well done to everyone!





Our Y5/6 Girls Football squad took part in the CADSSA Girls Football League. All involved brought energy, enthusiasm and positivity and came away with two hard-earned wins scoring 3 goals in the process! Excellent work ladies!



Run, Ride, Row Challenge:

Pupils had good fun and worked hard in the sunshine taking part in the 'Run, Ride, Row' triathlon challenge!



Rugby Fun:

There have been some excellent displays of rugby skills and teamwork over the half term in the CADSSA Y3/4 and Y5/6 Rugby tournaments. It's been a pleasure watching the teams make progress and go from strength to strength in each game.



BeeActive Football Enrichment Day:

Pupils had great fun learning and testing their new football skills in our football enrichment sessions. The penalty shootout was definitely the highlight of the day!



St John's CE Primary School

SPORTS FEST

Monday 22nd June

All parents & carers are invited! There'll be a carousel of activities, with our fun field events organised by Bee Active, and competitive races for you and your children to enjoy!

KS2
09:20-11:45

EYFS
12:30-13:30

KS1
13:30-15:00

St. John's Sports Fest!

Come and join us for a day of fun and competitive sporting challenges (hopefully in the sunshine) with our friends at BeeActive.

Bring your suncream, a picnic, and your camping chairs and enjoy the day! The La Paz Coffee Co will be onsite with a delicious selection of drinks and snacks.



Reading at St. John's:

Looking for a great new book to read over half term? [Check out The Book Trust's recommendations](#) for some great new books and top tips for reading.



A little taste of what we've been up to over this half term...

Year 4 had an absolutely fantastic day at Peak Wildlife Park learning fascinating facts, getting up close stroking and feeding the animals. The children were a credit to the school: curious, enthusiastic and wonderfully behaved. A day full of discovery, laughter and unforgettable memories!



Chess Competition:

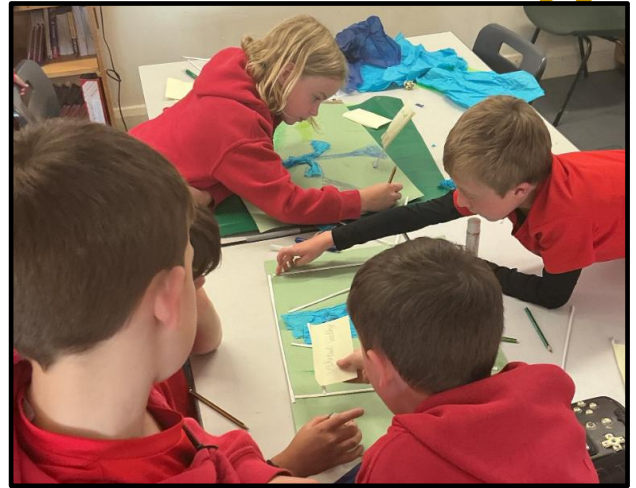
With a real mix of experience, our chess team did an excellent job holding their nerve, showing true team spirit and fully embracing an amazing opportunity at the FFET Chess Competition. Impeccable behaviour and manners throughout, they did us proud beyond words. Absolute super stars!



We've had a great half term filled with all sorts of fun, challenge, celebration, baking and creating, and new learning.

Our year group Curriculum Maps (available on the school website) give a detailed overview of what is taught in each class over each half term.





Attendance:

Our average attendance for the year so far is 96.3%. 😊

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:

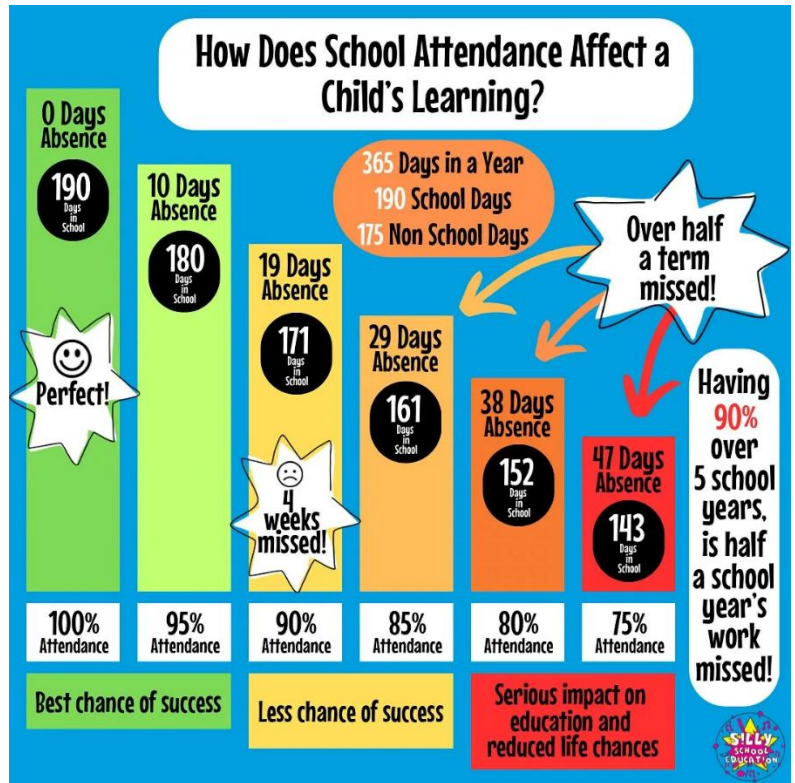
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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



"ON A MISSION"

MILLAR aged six, booked his first ever pass to Hickstead in the Pretty Polly mountain and moorland (M&M) lead-rein qualifier with the Welsh section A gelding Glebedale Silver Dot (Socks). A previous RIHS winner and British Show Pony Society (BSPS) novice supreme at the winter championships, eight-year-old Socks was purchased mid-season last year and made his way to the Bennions after HOYS.

Millar will join his mother Amy – who led them to win here – at RIHS, as she has already qualified her cob Hortons Valentine for the amateur cob final, where they finished second last year.

"This is Millar's first season competing in affiliated classes and only his third show with Socks," said Amy. "We will be on a mission to gain our open M&M lead-rein ticket now and then do some HOYS qualifiers."

FIRST
RIHS
TICKET



Well done to our running role model in Year 4 who has raised over £350 by taking on the Cancer Research UK 'Race for Life'. Your energy, kindness, and determination have helped make a difference — you are a superstar!

Well done to our superstar runners in Year 3 who took on the Mow Cop Killer Mile. Not only did they complete the challenge, but both finished in the top 30 - congratulations! You conquered the Mow Cop Killer Mile with courage, determination, and big smiles — you should be incredibly proud of yourselves!



Thank you to Lynn Parker for our end of half term prayer...

Lord, We thank You for the joys and love that has been shared in our school. For the trip to Standon Bowers for Y6, and the discoveries we have found out about ourselves & each other in our learning. You know how much both pupils & staff have worked so hard this term, and how exhausting the rush of deadlines can be. As we step into this holiday, grant us the rest and refreshment we need. Watch over our community, protect those who travel, and let us return with renewed energy and peace.

Amen

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 a fantastic half term.

**Have a lovely half term – it's due to be a sunny one!
We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 2nd June.**

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

SHINE like the star you are.