

# St John's VA C of E Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Finding the light in ourselves and each other (John 8:12)



26/06/25

### Summer Term 2

### Value: Faith

#### Welcome message from the Headteacher

#### What a hot few weeks!

Dear all,

I am so very grateful for the number of parents who came on the big St John's tidy up. It was a great day with so many supportive adults and children helping clearing the forest, the pond area, the river side, the pathways, the sensory garden and the outside Year 1 area. On top of this, we have had painting work in EYFS area and clearing of the PTA container. This has been an incredible day where children, staff and parents have come together to make our school look amazing. We will continue to book this in once a term. We will also be looking at other times of the year for those who would like to help tidy up to develop the school even further.

With the ambition of opening up the whole grounds at lunch times and to begin OPAL (Outdoor Playing And Learning) next year, this has helped us prepare for next year and allowed the community spirit to grow. Thank you so much for a great effort together as a school. I am very proud of our family and how we have all pulled together.

Children have now been told their new teachers and support staff for next year. I am very excited to see how the classes will grow. I am very proud of each and everyone of you for settling in so well and trying new things. We have discussed last week about change and how it makes us feel and how we must have faith in order to get through the challenges of change.

We have come to the end of most of our sporting festivals this year, it is great that we have won in so many activities and collected many medals. Well done to all who have taken part. Next year, we are looking to open this up to include KS1 and so all children in KS1 and KS2 will take part in a sports festival.

Before the end of the Summer term, I will be sending out a survey to see what has gone well this year and what needs tweaking to continue to improve our school. It has been great to get feedback at Autumn and Spring to allow next steps to be created.

I have booked in for the Autumn term the 2 John's who are 2 experienced John's who travel up and down the country to talk about online safety to children and how to stay safe. There will be a parent workshop attached to this to share ways that we can support our children accessing the internet and devices if parents choose to do so in a safe manner.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to my staff for keeping me going for the rest of this term. It has been a long year but I am excited to reach the summer knowing that our school is outstanding!

Mr Worton-Geer

**Pupil quote of the week: Cecilia (Year 1):** I like the sports and I also like the English that we do. I like playing outside and I really like the new outside area. Thank you parents for helping us.

**Quote from the bible: Ephesians 2:8-10:** *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

#### Improvements to the school:

A new staffroom will be developed over the next few months to include food technology as part of the DT curriculum.

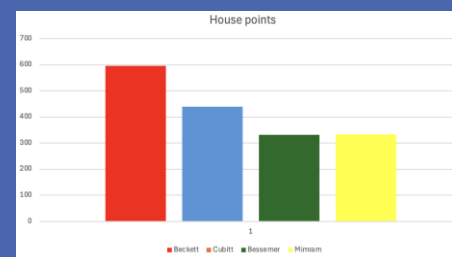
A huge thank you to everyone who supported in the St John's Big tidy up.

We have purchased some new sporting equipment — we are excited for next weeks sports week.

Our new books have arrived for writing ready for next year.

After Forest training, Mrs Wilkins and I have a huge order of equipment to order.

A new stage is coming and the dressing up box will be completed soon.



# Highlights

Here is some useful information that is happening in the school.

## Attendance:

### Week commencing 28th February 2025

Year	Percent	Place
Nursery	98.4%	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Year 1	97.3%	5 <sup>th</sup>
Year 2	98.3%	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Year 3	95.5%	8 <sup>th</sup>
Year 4	97.6%	4 <sup>th</sup>
Year 5	96.4%	6 <sup>th</sup>
Year 6	95.5%	7 <sup>th</sup>
Year R	99%	1 <sup>st</sup>

## Girls footgolf:

On the 9th of June all of the year 6 girls went to a foot golf event at mill green golf club. We got split into 3 teams of 5. We all went round the course once to get our first scores, we then went around again and did a competition. There were a few schools and they counted all of our points up. They called out the number of points and we had to cheer if we got that many points. A group of us including, Maia, Lili, Precious, Eva H and Cara won the competition, we got 32 points. Eleanor got a get golfing hat for being an all round great player and cheering on the rest of her team and being supportive.



**Written by Cara and Eva H, Year 6.**

## Rounders:



Two weeks ago, 5 girls and 5 boys went to a Rounders tournament at Monks Walk School. We played 3 matches. On our first match, we played against Sherrodswood and we lost 4 and 1/2 to 4. Next we played Applecroft and we won 3 to 5. For our final match, we played Springmead and we sadly lost 5 to 7. Our player of the tournament was Thomas. We played really well and tried our absolute best. Well done to everyone who played.

## Cricket:

Today in cricket we were doing bowling. For are warm-up you had to get in partners and play head, shoulders, knees and toes. Then when the coach said cones, you had to grab the cones but the first person to grab the



cone got a point. Then in the same partners, you had to bowl to each other and see who could bowl the best. The coach said the difference between bowling and throwing is that in bowling you need to keep your arm straight. After that we got into 5 teams each team had a few cones and stumps behind. One person stood behind the stumps while the others were bowling the ball and trying to hit the cones. The team that won was 3 & 1.

**Written by Eloise, Year 4.**

## Sports Day Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025:

Sports day is going to be a busy day with lots planned – I am looking forward to it. Children will be asked to wear house group colours. This year children will sit in their house groups (apart from Nursery). They will be cheering their house groups together for extra house points! Races will begin around 9:15am with the aim to be finished around 11:30am. Each child will take part in each race if they wish. Events include: egg and spoon, obstacle course, sack race, running and relays. At the end of the event, children will be asked to go back to class at around 11:30am to prepare for our picnic lunch. If parents are unable to stay for the picnic lunch, they can decide either to take their children home at 12pm when they will come back out or stay with our MDAs and teaching staff. After the picnic at around 1pm if parents would like to collect their children for the afternoon they are welcome to while the school prepares for the opening evening at 3:30pm. We are looking forward to seeing you on this day. We will be adding a survey in July to see how the year went and how this particular day has gone. It would be great to hear from you all.

## Child Prayer:

Dear God,  
Thank you for our school. Thank you for our friends. Thank you for our playground. Thank you for everything.  
Amen (Year 1- Angus)

## Calendar

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Sports Day Ceremony
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025	Sponsored Bounce
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025	Sports Day, Picnic Lunch and Opening Evening
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	New Activity day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Forest School Year 4
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Year 3 Trip
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Year 4 sleep over
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Sports Day Reserve
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Transition day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Forest School Year 3
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Reports out
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Forest School Year 2
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Year 6 performance
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Whole school reward morning
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	Leavers Celebration – St John's Church
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	Last school day for the summer

## Volunteer/ donation work and competitions:



### Works Party Around the School:

What a great day last Friday when over 25 volunteers came and supported the school preparing it for the end of summer. We have had painting, gardening, weeding and clearing across the school. I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part and helped support our school. We will be doing this termly as I feel that it helps build teams spirit and also helps develop the learning environment for our school. A great job by all.

### Development of the Year 1 outside area:

The year one area is coming together by a group of fantastic parents and volunteers. The soil boxes have been filled, new seats and balance beams created and the pond has been cleared. We now need to fill in the pond and are looking for anyone who may have contacts who can support us with this. It continues to grow and is developing nicely.

Thank you to the Year one parents and team for working hard on this area.





### PTA events:

Father's day event. TBC

Saturday 21st June- summer activity to be confirmed.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025 - back to school disco

Friday 3rd October 2025- quiz night

Saturday 8th November 2025 - fireworks

Saturday 29th November 2025 - Xmas fair

Feb 2026- Family Games night TBC



### Fancy dress box:

We are going to be changing our stage to a lower decking stage in a few months time however we want to begin to improve our dressing up box. Any donations of old costumes would be greatly appreciated. Next year we are looking to develop outdoor learning time. More to follow.



### Online Safety:



In today's digital world, children are using the internet more than ever—for learning, playing, and connecting with friends. While the internet is a fantastic tool, it's important that our pupils understand how to use it safely and responsibly. At school, we teach children the basics of online safety, but it's just as important for families to continue these conversations at home.

Online safety means protecting personal information, being kind to others, and knowing what to do if something doesn't feel right. Children should never share their full name, address, school name, or passwords online. They should also be encouraged to talk to a trusted adult if they see or hear anything that makes them uncomfortable.

We encourage parents and carers to explore the internet together with their children. Setting clear rules, using parental controls, and having regular chats about what they're doing online can make a big difference. By working together, we can help our children enjoy the benefits of the internet while staying safe and confident in the digital world.

# Academic Highlights

Here is some useful information that is happening in the school.

## Nursery:



All the tender loving care that the nursery have given to their strawberry plot in the sensory garden is really paying off. Every day they are now picking a huge bowlful of delicious strawberries to eat 😊

The children have ensured the plot is weeded, watered and the plants tended to. They have learnt so much about plant lifecycles and how strawberries grow from the flowers. 🍓

"We had so many strawberries that we had enough to deliver a huge bowl to each class" 😊

## Reception:



This week Reception have been to Shepreth Wildlife Park and what a great day we had. Although the weather was slightly varied, the children's spirits were high and full of awe and wonder.

We did a sensory walk around and after seeing the animals we had a lovely packed lunch and played in their fantastic

playground.

Thank you to our special parent helpers who joined us for the day.

## Year 1:



Year 1 have had a fantastic couple of weeks. In maths, we have been thinking about place value with bigger numbers. We drew number lines in the playground beginning and ending at any number and we have used lots of different equipment to make tens and ones.

We have really enjoyed our new book 'The naughty bus', learning about all the cheeky things that it has been doing in the story and in our classroom!

## Year 2:



'Year 2 have been making full use of the warm summer whether that we've had recently! This has been particularly helpful in our preparations for Sports Week, where we've practiced relay and sack racing.'

## Year 3:



In Year 3 we have been learning about the Egyptians. In Art we have been designing our own Egyptian patterns in our sketch books.

## Year 4:



This week the Multiplication Check Results for Year 4 were released.

I am so very proud of our Year 4, not just for their

AMAZING results but also for the way they have supported each other throughout this process. They are a wonderful bunch of kind and caring children, who should be very proud of themselves.

## Year 5:



In year 5, we are really enjoying our Friday morning sports sessions learning cricket. We have been developing

our skills of batting and bowling over the past three weeks and are looking forward to playing some games.

## Year 6:



Year 6 have been hard at work investigating this crime scene left outside our classroom! It turns out it is a clue to our new

text in English... Romeo and Juliet!





## SPOT THE SIGNS, SUICIDE PREVENTION WEBINAR

15TH SEPTEMBER  
2025

FREE FOR ALL  
HERTS PARENTS

7PM - 9PM  
ONLINE



Please contact [cyp@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:cyp@hertsmindnetwork.org) to book your space!



### Parent/Carer Evening Support Group

Talk about your child's needs in an open,  
caring and non-judgemental online environment.

Online Thursday evenings 7.30-8.30pm on the following dates:



22<sup>nd</sup> May  
19<sup>th</sup> June  
10<sup>th</sup> July

[www.angelssupportgroup.org.uk](http://www.angelssupportgroup.org.uk)

Next attachment



# SUMMER PARISH BREAKFAST

Saturday 5 July 10am-1pm

at Christ the King Hub  
75 Haldens  
Opposite the Shops

Grand Opening of the  
Refurbished Rosedale Room

+  
Breakfast served

+  
Lots of stalls

+  
Colleen's Tombola

+  
Fr Rob's Bingo at 12.15pm

+  
Grand Raffle Draw at 12.45pm

+  
Admission £1 (Children free)

All Welcome

[info@digswellparish.org.uk](mailto:info@digswellparish.org.uk) | [www.digswellparish.org.uk](http://www.digswellparish.org.uk)



Schools out (nearly!) – hello May Half Term! As we head into the break next week, we're sending a big virtual high five to all our SPACE families – you've nearly made it through another busy half term. Whether you're planning days out, quiet moments at home, or a bit of both, we've got a packed programme ready to keep things engaging, inclusive and low-stress for everyone – please come and visit us at our Lending SPACE.

For many neurodivergent children, the change in routine can feel overwhelming. Try using a simple visual schedule to map out each day – even just a few pictures or icons – so your child knows what to expect. A little structure can go a long way in creating calm.

We're sharing our remaining summer term training and workshop schedule, Lending SPACE opening times over half term, news of one skydiving space left for any brave adrenaline-seekers, slots for our popular Gaming Club, one remaining ticket for our SPACE Exclusive Softplay at Rye-Assic Adventure Park, and a chance to kick off June with Online Cooking and a gentle Introduction to Golf.

**Here's to a fun, flexible and supported Half Term – we're right here with you.**

JUNE - JULY SUMMER TERM 2025 FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS			Limited places available - book today
2nd June	18:30-20:30	ADHD in Girls and Women	
3rd June	10:00-11:30	Understanding Tics and Tourettes	
3rd June	19:00-21:00	Sensory Signs, Signals and Solutions	
4th June	10:00-12:00	Anxiety and SEND	
6th June	10:00-12:00	PDA, ODD and ADHD	
9th June	10:00-11:30	Encouraging Independence in Neurodivergent Young People Ages 8+	
9th June	18:30-20:00	Understanding Dyslexia	
10th June	10:00-12:00	Sleep	
10th June	18:30-20:00	Autistic Girls	
11th June	10:00-12:00	Understanding Behaviour as Communication	
13th June	10:00-12:00	Understanding Dual Diagnosis: Autism and ADHD	
16th June	10:00-11:30	Understanding and Supporting Emotional Regulation	
16th June	18:30-20:30	Navigating the SEND World Post-16	
17th June	10:00-11:30	Understanding OCD	
17th June	18:30-20:00	Understanding and Supporting Executive Function	
18th June	10:00-12:00	Therapeutic Thinking for Parent Carers	
19th June	19:00-20:30	EHCPs - Annual Reviews	
24th June	10:00-12:00	Navigating the SEND World	
25th June	10:00-12:00	ADHD in Girls and Women	
1st July	10:00-12:00	Sensory Signs, Signals and Solutions	
3rd July	18:30-20:30	Puberty and Neurodiversity	
4th July	10:00-12:00	Anxiety and SEND	
7th July	10:00-11:30	Understanding and Supporting Executive Function	
8th July	10:00-12:00	EHCPs - Submission to Finalisation	
8th July	18:30-19:30	Understanding Autism	
9th July	10:00-12:00	No two brains are the same: What is Neurodiversity	
11th July	10:00-12:00	Understanding Behaviour as Communication	
14th July	18:30-19:30	Understanding ADHD	
16th July	10:00-12:00	PDA, ODD and ADHD	



## Our second half term of Summer 2025 Support Groups are now open for booking!

### Summer 2025 Support Groups



Our Summer second half term Support Groups for parents and carers are now open for booking.



#### ABOUT THE GROUPS

ADD-vance runs regular support groups which provide an opportunity for you to meet other local parents and discuss individual concerns with two specialist ADD-vance coaches. We welcome parents and carers who have a formal diagnosis for their child, as well as those who do not have a formal diagnosis but would like to learn more about neurodivergence.

#### TIME AND PLACE

**General Secondary Aged Children Support Group**  
Tue 3rd June 2025 - 1.30-2.30 pm  
Tue 8th July 2025 - 1.30-2.30 pm  
**Sleep Support Group**  
Tue 10th June 2025 - 1.30-2.30 pm  
**PDA Support Group**  
Tue 17th June 2025 - 1.30-2.30 pm  
**Parents/Carers of 16 to 25 yrs Support Group**  
Tue 24th June 2025 - 1.30-2.30 pm  
**General Primary Aged Children Support Group**  
Tue 1st July 2025 - 7.30-8.30 pm  
**ALL ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

01727 833963

herts@add-vance.org

http://www.add-vance.org/

**Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website <http://www.add-vance.org/>**

These groups are open to residents of Hertfordshire only