



St John's Newsletter

Learning, Loving and Laughing Together



Team Table Tennis County Finals

After weeks of early morning practice sessions, our talented Year 5/6 children headed back to Blue Coat School for the County Round of the Team Table Tennis Competition. With 14 girls' teams and 14 boys' teams competing, the standard of play was incredibly high, and our children were ready to give it everything they had.

The girls were placed in a pool of five schools, meaning they had four tough matches to play in the group stage. Each match was played as a best-of-three games, testing consistency, focus, and skill under pressure.

The girls played brilliantly, showing great teamwork and determination throughout. They secured two wins and two narrow defeats, placing them third in their group. This performance saw them face a talented Springhill side in the knockout stage. Despite a close 2-1 loss, the girls demonstrated real resilience and positivity – and, with most of the team in Year 5, they'll have another opportunity to compete at this level next year with even more experience under their belts.

The boys got off to a flying start in their group, winning all four of their matches and finishing top of the table. Their focus and teamwork shone through, earning them a well-deserved place in the quarter finals. As the competition began to run behind schedule, the organisers announced that all remaining matches would now be played as best-of-one games – meaning every point suddenly mattered even more! After a quick team talk, the boys stepped up brilliantly, showing calm heads and sharp reactions.

In the quarter finals, they defeated Highfield with confident play, then faced St Mary's in the semi finals. With great rallies, clever placement, and plenty of encouragement between players, the team secured a 3-1 win to book their place in the final – and guarantee a spot in the next round of the competition.

The final against St Francis was a thrilling contest, full of long rallies and skilful shots. The boys held their nerve, supported one another, and played with real composure to take victory – earning the title of **County Champions!**

Both teams showed fantastic attitude, resilience and sportsmanship throughout the competition. Their encouragement for one another, whether playing or cheering from the sidelines, truly captured the spirit of school sport.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they represented our school with pride and respect. A huge well done to all players involved, and a special congratulations to the boys' team, who will now go on to represent Hampshire in the Regional Finals in February!



Class Certificates

Arthur N
Ted J
Scarlett C-S
Dax F
Matthew T
Ava-Grace A
George W
Wilbur W
Eric I
Jake W
Darcy M

Number Awards:

Bronze: Gwyneth W,
Ethan A, Alyssia W

Silver: Katelyn T

Gold: Gabriel N,
Lianna C, Lucy P

Platinum: Darcy M,
Robyn G, Lianna C

Diamond: Darcy M,
Robyn G, Lianna C

Mathletics:

KS1: Elsie S

KS2: Saeeb U

Mathletes of the week:

Wilbur W

Christmas starts here!

Christmas Service—Tuesday 16th December at All Saints Church. This will be led by Year 5 and their parents are welcome to attend. Parents of other children are also welcome although space is limited. We will be looking for volunteers to walk with us to church. As all year groups are going, we need roughly 35 adults (including our school staff) to accompany the children to and from church. Please contact the office if you can help, thank you.

Christmas Cards— From Wednesday 3rd December 2025, the St John's Post Box will make an appearance. The Post Box will be situated in the corridor near the leadership office.

Children may post cards to children and staff who attend St John's. The cards will be collected and sorted each evening by a team of Year 6 'posties'. If your child wants to post their cards, they need to make sure that they have written the child's first name and their surname on each card (or at least the first letter of their surname) with the class that they are a member of. Without the class name, the Year 6s don't know where to deliver the cards. Last posting day for Christmas will be Wednesday 17th December 2025. This will allow us to sort and distribute all cards before we close on the Friday.

Christmas Lunch—This will be on Friday 19th December. The children may wear Christmas jumpers. You should have already booked your child's Christmas lunch online.

Presents Room—This will take place on Friday 5th December. Presents Room is an opportunity for your children to purchase gifts for you without you being present. On the day, they need to bring in some money—£3 per gift, max 2 per child—in a named envelope or purse, and a carrier bag. They will then be supported by a group of volunteers to purchase and wrap presents for those at home—siblings can shop together.

Decorations Day—The children have taken part in decorations day today. The children have made decorations which we can use to decorate parts of our school the next week. These decorations will be brought home at the end of the term.

Stars for the tree— This is an opportunity for your child and the wider family to get involved in decorating our Christmas tree. As a family, we want to challenge you to create a 'star' decoration for your child to hang on our Christmas tree on Monday 1st December. Your star can be any colour, made of any material (as long as it will hang on the tree) and can have a prayer written on it if you choose. Stars can be added at any time next week.

M&M panto—This is an in-school pantomime (Sleeping Beauty) that will take place on Tuesday 2nd December. This is a Christmas treat that the FOSJs fund each year for the children. It takes place in school hours.



England Rocks Competition

Well done to everyone who played Times Tables Rockstars last week as part of the England Rocks competition. Out of 4356 schools taking part, St John's came 360th with an amazing **119,025** correct answers given. Well done!!

Class results:

1st Place: Costa Rica

2nd Place: Canada

3rd Place: Poland

Individual results:

1st Place: Dylan G

2nd Place: Evan H

3rd Place: Tristan G



Finally, a special mention to Edward C, Harry R and Owen C in Key Stage 1 who were also recognised as very valuable players.

Diary Dates

02/12/25	M&M Productions—Sleeping Beauty
04/12/25	Flu vaccinations for Years R-6
05/12/25	FOSJ Presents Room
09/12/25	Yr R Nativity @ 4pm
10/12/25	Yr R Nativity @ 2pm
16/12/25	Christmas Service at All Saints @10am
17/12/25	Year 3/4 Romans Workshop
19/12/25	Christmas Lunch
19/12/25	Last Day of Autumn term 2
22/12-02/01/26	Christmas Holidays
05/01/26	Start of Spring Term 1
19/01/26	Individual School Photos
21-23/01/26	Year 4 Stubbington Residential
06/02/26	Guitar/Ukulele Performance at 9.30am in the school hall—parents of children learning these instruments can attend
11/02-13/02/26	Year 6 Bikeability—more details to follow
16/02—20/02/26	Half Term
09/03—13/03/26	Year 6 PGL Residential
27/03/26	INSET Day (3)

INSET Days 2025—2026

Friday 27th March 2026 (3)

Year 6 – PGL Liddington Residential 9th-13th March 2026

If you have registered your child for next year’s PGL trip in March 2026, the outstanding balance will need to be paid by **Tuesday 9th December 2025**.



This week in worship... We have concluded our series of worships focused on learning values by looking at responsibility. We started the week by considering what we meant by taking responsibility and discussing how we can take responsibility for ensuring that we have a lovely school environment. In our phase worships we explore the story of Jonah and the Fish. We talked about how Jonah tried to avoid the responsibility that God had given him. Next week, we begin our preparations for Christmas by focusing on Advent.

Attendance —

Whole school attendance is currently at 97.3%. Our whole school target for the year is 97%.





FOSJ

If anyone can help with the Presents Room, please contact Friends of St.John at fosjcofe@gmail.com—thank you.

Hot Chocolate Sale 5th December:

FOSJ will be selling hot chocolate on the top playground at pick up on the 5th of December.

Have you any old large/men’s shirts?

We are looking for donations of old or gently used shirts to repurpose as painting aprons for our art activities. If you have any to spare, we would greatly appreciate your contribution!

LETTER ALERT!

Child	Title	Response?
Year R	Year R Nativity Play Letter	
Year 5/6	Year 5/6 Visit to QMC	
All Children	Big Pictures—Autumn Term 2	



The Big Christmas Give

Can you help Spotlight bring joy this Christmas by purchasing a toy for our Christmas toy appeal or making a small donation...




Use the qr codes below for ways to donate.

Amazon Wishlist



Give As You Live

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Donation Point
 Donate new & unwrapped toys for children this Christmas
 Deadline for donations 1st December

Nationwide Basingstoke

3/4 Clapham House, Basingstoke, RG21 7JN

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