



# St John's Newsletter

*Learning, Loving and Laughing Together*



**This week in worship...** We were joined by the Rising Generations Team from Basingstoke Church. They led our worship on Monday and helped us to develop our understanding of the next section of the Lord's Prayer. We thought about how God wants us to behave towards each other and the world, and what the world would be like if everyone lived in a way that was caring and respectful towards others. Next week, we continue with our journey through the 'Lord's Prayer' by looking at 'Give us your daily bread'.

**Introducing our Governors...** Our Governors are a group of volunteers who are integral to supporting and challenging the leadership team of the school in achieving our vision of providing an 'excellent education' for all. Meet two more members of our team:

**Revd John Hudson – Foundation Governor**



John is the Rector of Basingstoke Church, the local Church of England church with which the school is connected. Basingstoke Church operates across five locations: St Michael's (Town Centre), All Saints (Top of Town), St Peter's (South Ham), St Gabriel's (Popley), and Christ the King (Brighton Hill). John came to Basingstoke in the summer of 2022 from Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB) in London, the home of the Alpha Course. Since then, Basingstoke Church has been relaunched as part of a national church initiative aimed at reaching younger people and families. Before entering church ministry, John spent nearly 20 years working in broadcasting, including roles with Heart, BBC South, BBC News, BBC Radio Berkshire, and other radio stations across the UK. John has three children, two of whom currently attend St John's.



**Andy McCormack – Local Authority Governor**

Andy is the Labour and Co-operative Councillor for Brighton Hill and was a Church Warden of Christ The King Church, now serving on the Parochial Parish Council at Basingstoke Church. Andy attended St John's as a child; his mother was a teacher at the school and his grandfather previously served as a governor. He joined the governing body in March 2025.

**Drop off/Pick up from School**

Reminder, please do not drive into the staff car park to drop or pick your child up from school/clubs. Thank you.

**Class Certificates**

- Joseph F
- Flora D
- Romeo L-D
- Paul D
- Mary B
- Rihanna C-S
- Toby C
- Cora S
- Evelyn B
- Izzy G
- TJ H-R

**Number Awards:**

- Silver:** Adjoa H, Mila E
- Gold:** Jackson F, Adjoa H
- Platinum:** Lucy P

**Mathletics:**

- KS1:** Eliana I
- KS2:** Saeeb U
- Mathletes of the week:** Betsy C

**Attendance** Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 96.8%. Our whole school target for the year is 97%.

**Diary Dates**

**INSET Days 2025–2026**

Friday 27th March 2026 (3)

- 05/02/26 Year R Post Box Walk
- 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
- 16/02–20/02/26 Half Term
- 23/02/26 Parents Evening—3.40pm-5.30pm—more details to follow
- 25/02-02/03/26 Travelling Book Fair—3.20pm-4pm in the School Hall
- 25/02/26 Parents Evening—3.40pm-7.00pm—more details to follow
- 26/02/26 Bag2School
- 05/03/26 School Disco
- 09/03–13/03/26 Year 6 PGL Residential
- 24/03/26 Easter Service @ 10am All Saints Church
- 27/03/26 INSET Day (3)
- 26/06/26 FOSJ Circus—more information to follow

**A reminder of the up and coming Smartphone webinars...**

Mental Health, Smartphones and Tech—What is the balance? **Free Basingstoke Webinar**

In June 2026, we launched out Basingstoke wide “Smartphone Free” initiative. 33 schools are taking part, representing the vast majority of Basingstoke children. This came from a place of deep concern around recent research and statistics which show the negative impact that tech and smartphones can have at all ages. On the back of this, we’re pleased to offer more free webinars for parents which cover:

- The link between mental health and wellbeing and spending too much time online.
- Strategies for delaying the Smartphone.
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology.

**The dates are:**

Tuesday 3rd February 2026 7.30pm—link [here](#)

Thursday 26th February 2026 6pm—link [here](#)

Basingstoke Smartphone-Free Schools

<https://www.smartphonefreebasingstoke.org>



**LETTER ALERT!**

Child	Title	Response?