



St John's Newsletter

Learning, Loving and Laughing Together



This week in worship... We have focused on the line 'Give us our daily bread' from the Lord's Prayer. We talked about how we can use prayers to ask God for help with the things we need in our lives. We talked about the difference between our wants and needs, and listened to the story of how God provided for Moses and the Israelites when they were in the desert. We also talked about how if we consciously take notice and are grateful for the things we have in our lives, rather than focusing on all the things that are not right, it can help us with our well-being.

Tips for supporting your child to succeed - have you got an analogue clock in your house? For most people the answer to this question is likely to be no or maybe just the one. Generally, we nearly all use digital clocks to tell the time whether this is the digital clock on the microwave or the cooker, or the one on the home page of our phones. However, being able to tell the time on an analogue clock is an objective within the maths National Curriculum and one that the children need to know how to do. The problem is that with the increased use of digital clocks, the children are finding it more difficult to master this skill. Although we teach it regularly, it is something that the children need to practise repeatedly to be able to use effectively. That practise is provided at school but is greatly enhanced if parents can also do some at home. To help support parents with this, the expectations for each year group are as follows:

Year 1 - Tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.

Year 2 - Tell and write the time to five minutes including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.

Year 3 - Estimate and read with increasing accuracy to the nearest minute, record and compare time in terms of seconds, minutes and hours.

Year 4 - Read and write and convert time between analogue and digital 12 and 24 hour clocks.

There are no objectives in Year 5 and 6 regarding time as it is assumed by this point that the children will be able to read an analogue clock.



Mathletics:

KS1: Eliana I

KS2: Saeeb U

Mathletes of the week: Daniel C

Long Hair

Reminder—if your child has long hair, can you please ensure it is tied back for school, thank you.

Attendance



Whole school attendance is currently at 96.9%. Our whole school target for the year is 97%.

Diary Dates

INSET Days 2025–2026

Friday 27th March 2026 (3)

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

Can You Help Keep Friends of St John's (FOSJ) Going?

After nearly two years on the FOSJ committee, all four current committee members will be stepping down after the Circus event in June. We wanted to give plenty of advance notice so this doesn't come as a surprise — and to encourage new volunteers to step forward.

FOSJ can only continue if a new committee is formed. If no one comes forward, FOSJ will unfortunately have to close. This would mean **no school discos, Frozen Friday, Colour Run, Leavers' mugs, Presents Room, Christmas pantomime, Break the Rules Day**, and many other events that bring so much fun (and fundraising) to our school.

The roles available are:

- **Chair** – helps coordinate meetings and activities
- **Treasurer** – looks after the money, tracks funds raised and spent
- **Comms (Social Media)** – shares events via social channels
- **Comms (Minutes)** – takes notes at meetings

You don't need prior experience. A full handover will be provided. If you're interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch by emailing: fosjcofe@gmail.com

Even one role filled makes a difference — and together, we can keep FOSJ going for our children.

Baby News

Congratulations to Miss Smith & her partner on the birth of their baby son Oscar, born on Thursday 22nd January 2026. Mum and baby doing well.



On Thursday 12th February we have a Valentines Lunch, please see below for the lunch choices.


This menu replaces the normal lunch choices for this day.




LETTER ALERT!

Child	Title	Response?
All Children	Parents' Evening Spring Term Letter	
Croatia Class	Croatia Class Letters	


BAG 2 SCHOOL
FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS
In partnership with your school or organisation



St John's C of E Primary School



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.




By using this paper leaflet we are helping to reduce unnecessary extra plastic. Please use your own bag or bags (there is no limit). The leaflet is recyclable.

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:
Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.
(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit

Please return your Bag2School on:
Thursday 26 February 2026 by 9am



01609 780 222 www.bag2school.com helpdesk@bag2school.com

Internet Safety Day—Tech free Tuesday

As part of Safer Internet Day on **Tuesday 10th February** we are holding a 'Tech Free Tuesday'. We would love to join families across Basingstoke for the day by not using technology at home!

The aim is to replace tablets, TVs and phones for board games, park trips, reading, arts and crafts, construction, sports, bikes rides, music, writing, nature and more—whatever your children and



family enjoy that isn't tech based!

We appreciate that tech will be needed for school, work and communication, so it is not a total ban, but rather taking the opportunity to deliberately be away from tech in leisure time. We will be chatting with the children in class about how they have got on!

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 another two members of our team:

Revd Jonah Watts—Foundation Governor



Jonah joined the governing body in February 2020 as an ex-officio governor appointed by the Diocese. He is retired from full-time parish ministry but continues to support St Michael's, Basingstoke, and the Benefice of North Waltham, Steventon, Ashe and Deane. Prior to retirement, Jonah served in both the Rochester and Winchester Dioceses. Before entering ministry, he worked in several areas of education, including the careers service, prison education, and large-scale education reform programmes. Jonah currently chairs the Headteacher's Performance Committee. His main interests include walking, cycling, and battling ground elder.



Michale Ahearne-Coe—Associate member

Michael previously served as a parent governor and continues to contribute as an Associate Member. He is a police officer and has worked within a child abuse investigation team. On the governing body he has a particular focus on safeguarding.