



St John's Newsletter

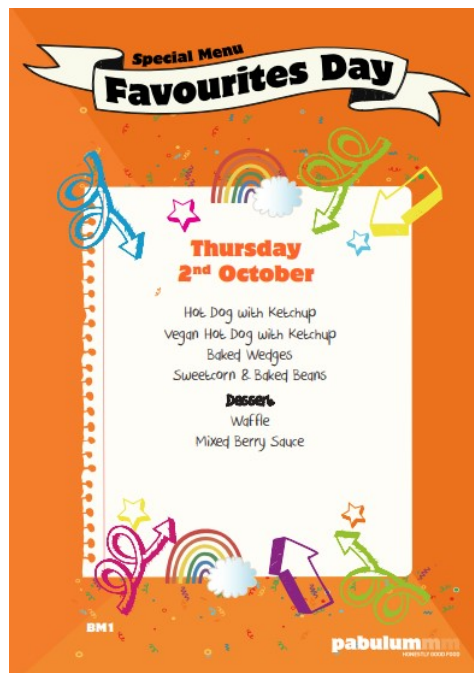
Learning, Loving and Laughing Together



CENSUS DAY - Help us to get the most for all the children at St John's

Annual Census - As those of you who have been with us a number of years know, on two days each year the school has to complete a census return. The data we return on these days dictates our allocation for different funding streams for the next financial year. One of the things that is measured is the funding for the **Universal Free School meals**. These are the meals that are provided free to children in Years R, 1 and 2 regardless of parental income. Basically, on the census days the number of children taking a meal is recorded and then multiplied out for the rest of the year. This is the funding we then receive. If, on these key dates, the number taking these meals is lower than normal we lose out on funding for the rest of the year and any meals above this number have to be paid for from other parts of the budget, such as not purchasing so many new books or renewing technology.

We therefore ask that if you have a child in Year R, 1 or 2 and they can possibly have a school lunch on **Thursday 2nd October (next Thursday)**, please, please do so to ensure that we can get the maximum amount of funding for the St John's community. Please see below menu for 2nd:



If your child has a special dietary menu in school, these will be emailed later today.

Class Certificates

Imogen Hinde
 John Chedcials
 Olivia Buckland Muszynska
 Elsie Taylor
 Chloe Routley
 Jazz Watson
 Skye Holley-Lincoln
 Esmae Appleton
 Charlie Furse

Number Awards:

Diamond: Chloe Sefah, Florence Byrne, Betsy Croll, Lily Crawford-Jones, Evelyn Ball, Daisy Chukwunenye, Eric Igbuan, Offrael Lufwa, Florence Skinner, Harrison Richardson, Parin Verma, Zack Imison, Harry Daly, Holly Chau, Blake Ellis, Daniel Gibbins, Emily Webb, Alice Tomlin, Frida Rasmussen

Mathletics:

KS1: Elsie Sefah
KS2: Parin Verma
Mathletes of the week:
 Jaden Mukesh

Attendance —

Whole school attendance is currently at 97.7%. Our whole school target for the year is 97%.



This week in worship...

We have continued with our theme of 'Core Christian Values' this week and focused on our value of 'Respect'. We discussed the importance of showing respect to others and that if we want to be respected then we should ensure we show respect to others around us. We looked at the passage from Matthew (7:12): "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." We heard the story of Zaccheaus, which demonstrated how Jesus showed respect to others—even those who were not respected or liked by their own community. We learnt that through Jesus' actions of showing respect, he was able to change Zaccheaus behaviour towards others around him. Throughout their class and phase worship time this week, the children have reflected on ways in which they could show respect to others—in school, at home and in their local communities.

Is your child starting school in September 2026?

If your child, or a child you know, is 4 before the 1st September next year, they are eligible to start school next September. Although this seems a long way off, applications for Year R open on 1st November 2025 and need to be submitted by 15th January 2026. If you, or anyone you know, would like to apply to St John's we will be running a series of open days to show prospective parents around our lovely school. Our open days are:

- Thursday 16th October at 10.30am
- Wednesday 5th November at 10.30am
- Tuesday 11th November at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 19th November at 10.30am
- Tuesday 25th November at 1.30pm
- Thursday 4th December at 1.30pm
- Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 10.30pm

If you wish to attend one of our open days, please contact the school office on adminoffice@st-johnscofe.hants.sch.uk or via phone on 01256 324121 to book a place.

Create a Poem

To celebrate the reopening of St Michael's church in Basingstoke we have been invited to create some poems about our wonderful school values. These poems will be displayed at a special service with the Mayor. Let's show Basingstoke how special our school is! If your child would like to contribute to this please bring your poem into school by Thursday 2nd October.

Names.....

Please can we ask everyone to check that their child's jumper and PE kit items have names in them. Even though we are only a couple of weeks into the term, we already have a pile of jumpers and cardigans in lost property!

Diary Dates

- 13/10/25 Year 1/2 Explorers Workshop
- 16/10/25 FOSJ AGM at 7pm—location tbc
- 15-20/10/25 Travelling Book Fair 3.20pm-4pm in the School Hall**
- 20/10/25 SENCO coffee afternoon
- 21/10/25 Harvest Festival (Years 1-6) - more details to follow
- 23/10/25 Last day of Autumn term 1
- 24/10/25 INSET Day 2—school closed to pupils
- 27-31/10/25 Half Term
- 03/11/25 Year 5/6 Greek Portals to the Past
- 03/11/25 Year R Library visit—more details to follow
- 06/11/25 Bags2School—more details to follow
- 12/11/25 Year R visit to War Memorial Park—more details to follow
- 14/11/25 FOSJ Fireworks—more information to follow
- 02/12/25 M&M Productions—Sleeping Beauty—more details to follow
- 04/12/25 Flu vaccinations for Years R-6
- 05/12/25 FOSJ Presents Room—more details to follow
- 16/12/25 Christmas Service at All Saints @10am—more details to follow
- 19/12/25 Christmas Lunch
- 19/12/25 Last Day of Autumn term 2

INSET Days 2025–2026

Friday 24th October 2025

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. You can start to pay this online in instalments if you prefer.



Year 4 – Stubbington Residential 21st-23rd January 2026

If you have registered your child for next year’s Stubbington trip in January, the outstanding balance will need to be paid online by Friday 24th October 2025. You can start to pay this online in instalments if you prefer.



LETTER ALERT!

Child	Title	Response?
All Children	Travelling Book Fair Letter	
Year R	Home Reading Books	



Only Mysteries
in the Library

Crime Writing Festival for children
at Basingstoke Discovery Centre

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Meet the Author - Paul Westmoreland

How to Write a Mystery - Creative Writing Workshop with Eve Wersocki-Morris

Saturday 25 October

2pm

FREE but booking is essential



Join Paul Westmoreland, author of the Rudy series and the Interactive Murder Puzzle Mysteries, for a fun interactive session, as he shares his journey to becoming an author and how he created his exciting mysteries.

Saturday 25 October

11am-12 noon

FREE but booking is essential



A fun and interactive workshop for aspiring authors and illustrators who love mystery, adventure and baddies! Put on your sneaky shoes, create a jewel thief and plan a heist with bestselling writer Eve Wersocki-Morris, author of Clem Fatale Has Been Betrayed – an adventure comedy about jewel thieves set in 1950s London. Eve is dyslexic so no one needs to worry about perfect spelling and grammar – this workshop is all about ideas and imagination! Suitable for children age 8+.

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Petersfield
Bounty - Basingstoke
Winchester College
Lymington
Totton
Fair Oak
Hart - Aldershot

FOR MORE INFO & TO SIGN UP
VISIT: WWW.HAMPSHIREJUNIORSQUASH.CO.UK
OR SCAN QR CODE

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Friends of St John's (FOSJ) AGM

Come along to the FOSJ AGM on **16 October at 7pm** in the school library. FOSJ is currently fundraising for brand-new laptops so every child can have proper IT lessons – the current ones just don't have the power and won't hold their charge. But here's the key: none of this happens without volunteers.

Over the years, FOSJ has raised money for the library, pirate ship, MUGA, wooden house, classroom boards, musical instruments, table tennis tables (and robot!), football kit, books, and iPads. They've also made the fun possible with discos, Break the Rules days, Frozen Fridays, movie nights, Christmas cards, the panto, quiz nights, second-hand uniform sales, Year 6 leavers mugs, Secrets Room, a colour run, and the list goes on!

If no one steps up, these opportunities and events simply won't run. Give a little time, get involved, and help make the next big thing happen for our children. FOSJ