



# St John's Newsletter

*Learning, Loving and Laughing Together*



## This week in worship

Our worship theme for this half term is 'Core Christian Values'.

Yesterday in worship we looked at new beginnings to link with the start of our journey in the new school year. We discussed how we might feel at the beginning of this journey, we reflected on things we did well last year and might want to continue doing on this new journey, and we thought about the things we might want to do better this year. We shared this passage from John (10:10): *"I came so that you may have life and live it more abundantly"*. We discussed how this means that God would want us to make the most of our lives and ensure we set ourselves goals that we can work towards to ensure we appreciate every day in the journeys we are on. The children thought about goals they wanted to set themselves on this new journey of a new school year ahead. The children were reminded that each new sunrise is a new beginning and new opportunities, and a chance to have a fresh start if things do go wrong.

## Community Room and Toilet

To provide the full range of support to our pupils, we are now using the community/parent room as a base for our Thrive Practitioner, Mrs Grant. This means that the toilet in this room is only accessible before school and after school. We apologise for any inconvenience. If you have any uniform to drop off to Friends of St John's, please leave this in the blue wheelie bin by the carpark at the side of the school building. This can be found opposite the large Eurobins.

**Arbor Parent Portal**—Our information management system, Arbor allows you to see your children's information, check their attendance and also book clubs. This can all be done through the parental portal. On page 4 of this newsletter, you will find a parent help sheet providing details of how to sign up for the parent app. Year R will not be able to do this until they go across on the Arbor system on 10th September.

Please note, the portal is used to inform you of non-urgent messages so it is essential that you have access.



**Attendance** — Whole school attendance is currently at 97.8%. Our whole school target for the year is 97%.



## Children who have Inhalers in School

Please can you ensure all inhalers are in school asap and the inhaler online form has been completed—thank you.



## Medicines

If your child has medicines in school and you would like to check the expiry date, please contact the school office who will check for you.



**Diary Dates**

- 10/09/25 Year R start school morning only—pick up 12.00 noon
- 11/09/25 Year R morning and lunch—pick up 1.15pm
- 12/09/25 Year R in school full time
- 15/09/25 KS1 Library visit—details sent today
- 24/09/25 Year R 'Come Dine with Me' parent lunch event—details to follow
- 20/10/25 SENCO coffee afternoon—invitations issued near the time
- 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—more details to follow
- 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
- 02/12/25 M&M Productions—Sleeping Beauty—more details to follow
- 04/12/25 Flu vaccinations for Years R-6—more details to follow
- 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 (Current Year 5's) – 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 (Current Year 3's) – 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.



**Year 5/6 DT**

For Year 5/6's DT project this half term, please can we ask that they bring in some fabric/material that is no bigger than A4 size—they will be sewing bags. Thank you.

***LETTER ALERT!***

Child	Title	Response?
Years 1-6	Welcome Back September 2025	
Year 1/2	Visit to The Discovery Centre—15th September	

## Communication Book and Reading Diary

Your child should now have, or should receive in the next couple of days their Reading Diary/ Communication Book for this year. These books are for you and the staff to record what your child is reading and how often they have read to an adult. Older children can also write in them when they have read to themselves. They can also be used as a communication channel between school and home although please encourage your child to actively show the teacher if there is a message in the book!

Each year when we purchase these diaries, we have to purchase in multiples of 50 which means we have 40 or so left over! This year, having had this happen for a number of years, we have decided to utilise all our left over stock. This means there are lots of different versions of the school diary this year. If your child is in Years 5/6, they will also need to write in the date at the beginning of each week as their diary this year came without a date.

Please write here every time your child reads to you or, with free readers encourage them to record their reading

Please record the date for the beginning of the week here

The image shows two forms. The first form is titled 'Reading Record' and has two main columns: 'Date, book and the page you read to' and 'Comments: Give a score out of 10 to show how much you enjoyed your reading'. Below these columns is a grid for recording multiple entries. At the bottom of this form is a section for 'Tricky words, or new words I have learned' with a small table. The second form is titled 'Week beginning:' and has a section for 'Homework, Notes, Messages or Reminders' at the top. Below this is a vertical list of days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. At the bottom of this form are two signature lines: 'Home signature:' and 'School signature:'. Blue arrows point from the text instructions to the corresponding fields on the forms.

You can write any messages here or information you would like staff to know but please remember to remind your child to show their teacher.



# We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App



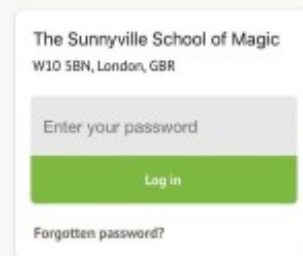
## We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

## How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday



## Need help using Arbor?

**Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal.** Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

### Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us

