

The Jottings - 14th November 2025

St John the Baptist C of E Primary School

'Creating new possibilities for our future, with compassion in our hearts and courage on our journey.'



Dear St John Families,

"This is a longer bulletin, so you might want to grab a drink, settle in, and get comfortable before reading."

We have enjoyed another wonderful week, concluding our Autumn term Learning in Actions and held our Autumn Parents Evenings. Thank you to all who attended and for the positive feedback you shared. Spring dates will be released towards the end of this term or the beginning of next, so please keep an eye out.

On Tuesday, we held our Remembrance Service in school, marking the occasion with a period of silence. Reverend Jill and I led the service, and the children took time to reflect on the sacrifice of others in maintaining peace for us all. Before becoming a teacher, I served in the Army, so acts of remembrance are something I hold very dear. Your children demonstrated deep respect throughout the day and in their discussions - you should be very proud of them.

Our Children in Need celebrations brought fantastic spotty accessories across the school! Supporting others in an ever-changing world reflects our core value of compassion, and it was lovely to see this lived out so vibrantly. Finally, we are also delighted to share the outcome of our recent SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). Following our inspection on Friday 17th October, we are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded Grade 1 – the highest rating. This recognises that our Christian vision is deeply embedded and has a transformative impact on pupils and staff. Children were seen to flourish academically, socially and spiritually, with our ethos shaping daily life. Leaders were commended for ensuring consistency, coherence, and high expectations across curriculum and worship, and the school was judged to make a strong contribution to the wider community, living out its values beyond the classroom.

Our notable strengths were:

- Underpinned by the school's Christian vision and values, staff and governors are united in their high aspirations for pupils. This means that individual needs are met with kindness and understanding.
- Underpinned by Bible verse, the school's value of compassion is at the heart of school life. It drives decision making and underpins relationships, resulting in a deeply caring and inclusive school community.
- Warm, nurturing relationships shape the school. As a result, pupils and adults feel a sense of belonging within a safe and welcoming environment.
- Enriched by strong partnerships within the church and wider community, personalised support enables pupils and adults to flourish. Thoughtful initiatives, rooted in love, enhance personal growth.
- Collective worship promotes deep engagement with the school's Christian vision and values. Enriched by worship songs and spiritual reflection, pupils are enthusiastic to live out their values.

You can read the full report on our website: [St John the Baptist C of E Primary School - SIAMS](#)

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of all we do at school.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Spotlight on Year R

It was a very exciting week in Year R when the builders finished the resurfacing of our extended outside area. The children were absolutely delighted with the extra space to ride their bikes and play ball games! The next phase of work is due to start in December when role play areas and climbing equipment to develop gross motor control and strength will be constructed.

They have also been finding out about Remembrance Day and what the poppy symbolises. We hope you saw their poppies on the trees on your way into school this week.

In Drawing Club this week they enjoyed sharing the book 'Pumpkin Soup'. The children's drawings and its lovely to see the children applying their phonic knowledge to write words as their secret codes.

Inspired by the story Pumpkin Soup, they had a go at making our own soup. Learning how to safely use tools to peel and chop vegetables for the soup. The children were quite keen to try the soup although there were not many empty bowls.

For Maths this week Tadpoles have introduced using tens frames to support counting. They have been exploring the number 5 and different ways to arrange 5 objects on the tens frame. We then moved onto recording our work with jottings in our books. See more photos on our Instagram page from the week.



Attendance Matters

Good attendance is vital for every child's learning and progress. Each day in school builds on the last, and missing lessons can make it harder for children to keep up and feel confident.

We are aiming for a minimum of **96% attendance**, both individually and across the school, with the ultimate goal of getting as close to **100%** as possible. Please support us by ensuring your child attends school every day, arrives on time, and only stays home if they are genuinely unwell.

Together we can make sure every child makes the most of their opportunities and enjoys success.

This Week:

Whole school attendance average: 96.1% Our target is 96% - well done everyone, keep going!

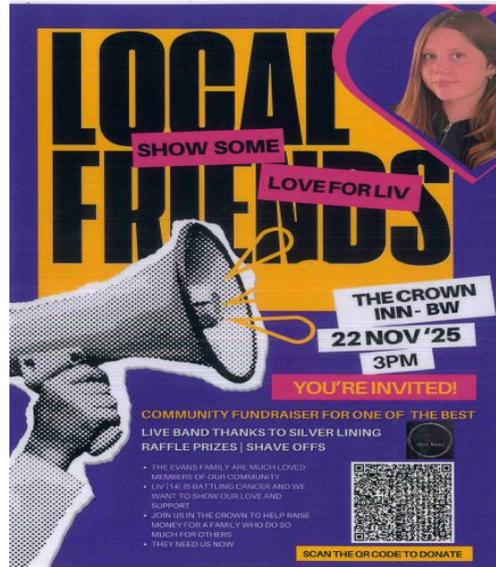
Best Attendance: KS1: Frogs 98.1% KS2: Dragonflies 99.2%

Best Timekeepers: KS1: Tadpoles and Frogs - No late minutes KS2: Dragonflies - 6 late minutes

Charitable Act

With great courage and compassion, one of our children is shaving their head for charity in support of a cause close to their heart.

Although we do not normally encourage haircuts shorter than a grade 2, this is an exceptional circumstance, and we fully support him as he stands alongside his family member.



Holiday and Food Program

You are now able to book for the holiday club provision with Active Me 360 which is being held at Swanmore Primary School this year. The dates are 22nd and 23rd of December and 29th-31st December. Please see information below and attached flyer:

Free for Benefit-related Free School Meals Families. In partnership with the Connect4Communities team at Hampshire County Council we are delighted to offer our camp free of charge to eligible families, places will be funded through the national 'Holiday Activities and Food' grant scheme. Our HAF Camps offer children a fun, active, and inclusive environment to enjoy during the school holidays. Each day is filled with exciting opportunities to stay physically active, build friendships, and develop new skills. Children take part in creative and engaging activities that support their overall wellbeing, while also learning about healthy eating and nutrition in a hands-on, age-appropriate way.

Please note that due to a change in Ofsted registration, 4 year olds are now eligible to stay all day. However they MUST be in Year R or above.

Our camp's are a great way to keep children active during school holidays in a fun, positive and inclusive environment. We offer a wide variety of choice for all ages, abilities and interests – including fun games, team sports, football, dance, musical theatre, acro gymnastics, outdoor pursuits and a range of other sports and activities in one fun-filled programme.

We are passionate and driven to achieve our mission - to change lives by improving health and wellbeing using the power of physical activity, sport and education. That's why alongside the many sports, games and other activities we provide, we ensure personal, mental and social skills are encouraged, developed and rewarded. Plus, as a proud social enterprise we do things differently, we invest our profits back into your community to add social

value and affect positive social change.

We require all children accessing benefit-related free school meal (FSM) support to be registered with the council ahead of booking and attending schemes. By registering you will receive a unique code that can be used to book places for our camps – please note, without this code you will not be able to book onto our camp!! The process is quick and easy. Simply use the link below and complete the form, adding basic details about your child and yourself and then add a contact email address. You will then receive confirmation of your eligibility for the programme, and a unique registration code to use when booking, if eligible.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/holidayactivities/register>

PAFS

Club 100

100 club tickets - ONLY **20** numbers left

Christmas Discos!

PAFS are running Christmas discos this year for the children- KS1 straight from school 1515-1630hrs and KS2 1645-1800hrs....Thursday 4th December.

KS1 will be £6 with a tuck bag provided

KS2 will be £4 with a tuck shop



Tickets are on sale now on www.pta-events.co.uk/pafs Get them early to avoid disappointment!!

Please follow our social media pages for all PAFS updates and announcements.

CHRISTMAS SHOP!

PAFS are running a Christmas shop for your little ones to come and chose a gift for a loved one or two of their choice on 12th December!

It will be £2 a gift with a max of two gifts per child.



Dates for your diary

This term important dates:

17th November - Open Evening at 5pm - 6pm

20th November - Helping Your Child with Emotional Regulation workshop (MHST) 9am- 10.30am

4th December - New YR Stay & Play 9.00am - 10.00am

4th December - PAFS Christmas Disco - KS1: 3.15–4.30pm (straight from school).K S2: 4.45–6.00pm.

8th December - Y6 height & weight & YR Autumn term height, weight & vision

9th December - 9.15am: KS1 & YR Nativity. Choir singing at Shirrell Heath Methodist for *Memory Lane*.

10th December - Rock Steady Christmas Concert 2.30pm - 3.00pm

11th December - 2.15pm: KS1 & YR Nativity

12th December - PAFS Christmas Shop - £2 per ticket max 2 gifts. (during school time) Further information will be shared by PAFS via the jottings.

15th December - Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day.

16th December - Carol Service at Church 6.00pm - 7.00pm

17th December - Community Hub at 9.00-10.30am (Citizens Advice Bureau and Community First attending)

19th December - Last Day of Term

22nd December - 2nd January 2026 Christmas Holidays

5th January - Return to school

7th January - Open Morning at 9.30am - 10.30am

8th January - New YR New YR Stay & Play 9.00am - 10.00am

2nd February - 12th February - PAFS Coin Wars

10th February - Community Hub at 1.45-3.15pm (School Nursing and Hampshire Healthy Steps attending)

20th March - Bingo night adults only - 20th March 7pm TBC

27th March - Community Hub (attendees tbc)

Statutory Tests:

Year 1 Phonics Tests week commencing Monday 8th June 2026

Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check 2-week period from Monday 1st June 2026

Year 6 SATS Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026

Inset Days:

24th October 2025

23rd February 2026

1st May 2026

19th June 2026

Courage - Compassion - Creativity

Have a wonderful weekend

Items you may be interested in

FRIDAY, NOV 28TH
5:30-6:45 PM
WALTHAM CHASE VILLAGE HALL
PARTY
PARENT & CHILD DISCO EVERYONE WELCOME
£10 INCL 1 ADULT 1 CHILD (UPTO YR6)
ADDITIONAL CHILDREN £4 EACH
LET'S ALL DANCE

TO BOOK CONTACT BELINDA - DANCE KIDZ 07889 419681

bring your own drinks and snacks (no alcohol)

Swanmore Primary School
December Holidays 2025
22nd, 23rd and 29th to 31st December
9am - 4pm

For children aged 5 - 11

» 360 Active £26.25 per day*
Our 360 Active camp is ideal for all-rounders, offering a mix of your favourite sports and new activities to keep children's bodies and minds active.

» HAF Camp Free
The HAF camp offers nutritious meals, engaging activities, and free childcare spots to children who receive benefit-related free school meals, supporting their health, wellbeing, and learning.

Don't forget about our 10% sibling discount* too!
*Not to be used in conjunction with any of our other codes

Our Mission is
To change lives by improving health and wellbeing using the power of physical activity, sport and education.

Scan the QR code to book your place.

*Get 15% off with our Active Saver code 'DECASIS' expires Sunday 30th November.

Book Here:
Follow this link to book:
<https://www.active360.co.uk/offer/171892>

For more information or to book, visit www.active360.com

DECEMBER ACTIVITY CLUB
Fareham Academy
St Anne's Grove, PO14 1JJ

8:30AM - 4:30PM
22/12/25, 23/12/25 & 2/1/26

Our holiday courses give children from Year R to Year 9 the ideal blend of play and structure. With safety and enjoyment always in mind, every day is designed to keep children active and engaged.

£24 PER DAY DISCOUNT FOR MULTIPLE DAYS

- ✓ CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED
- ✓ QUALIFIED PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID
- ✓ DBS CERTIFICATED
- ✓ REGISTERED BY OFSTED
- ✓ CHILD PROTECTION TRAINED

www.cm-sports.co.uk

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AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN ENTITLED TO BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

- ✓ CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED
- ✓ QUALIFIED PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID
- ✓ DBS CERTIFICATED
- ✓ REGISTERED BY OFSTED
- ✓ CHILD PROTECTION TRAINED

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TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

AMAZING LEGO DISPLAYS

NEW & RETIRED LEGO SETS

BUILD CHALLENGES

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

CHARITY TOMBOLA

MILLIONS OF LOOSE BRICKS

PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!

SOUTHAMPTON BRICK FESTIVAL

14TH DEC 2025
PLACES LEISURE EASTLEIGH
MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

Merry Christmas!

December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Decreasing Depression	1 DEC 10am
Raising Self Esteem	1 DEC 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	2 DEC 7pm
Autism - Improving Communication	8 DEC 10am
Improving Family Communication	8 DEC 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	9 DEC 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 DEC 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm

Waltham Chase Pre-School

QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER!

HOSTED BY WALTHAM CHASE PRE- SCHOOL

FRIDAY, 16TH JANUARY 2026
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM | QUIZ STARTS AT 8PM

WALTHAM CHASE VILLAGE HALL

CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM

TEAMS OF UP TO 8 PEOPLE

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINKS
ALCOHOL WELCOME

TICKETS £5 PER PERSON
SCAN QR CODE FOR BOOKING DETAILS
*BOOKING FEES MAY APPLY