

The Jottings - 23rd January 2026

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,

I hope this finds you well. Whilst we should never wish time away, January always seems to stretch on, and this past Monday was recognised as Blue Monday - a day often associated with low energy, post-holiday blues, and dreary weather (great!). Despite this, there has been plenty of joy and activity in school.

The opening of our new Year R playground space has been a real success. It has been wonderful to see the children exploring the area with such enthusiasm, using it in ways that support their development and enrich their learning.

This week, the children enjoyed a fantastic Panto performance, kindly funded by PAFS. Opportunities like this not only enrich our curriculum but, for some children, spark a real interest in performance and inspire their budding thespian nature.

This year is also the **National Year of Reading**, and we have a number of exciting plans to promote both reading for learning and reading for pleasure across the school. We look forward to sharing more with you as the year unfolds. If you would like to find out more about the national initiative and gain some top tips, you can visit the National Year of Reading 2026 – [National Year of Reading 2026 | Go All In.](#)

Finally, over the past few weeks, we have also welcomed several new families to St John's. We are delighted to have them join our community and hope they already feel at home within our school.

Have a lovely weekend when you get there.

Thank you for your continued support.

Rebecca Livings

Headteacher

Spotlight on Year 4

In Year 4 this week, the children have been recapping 2D shapes. They have been consolidating their knowledge on properties on different quadrilaterals and triangles and explored, using lollipop sticks, different ways we could create them. They used a lot of creativity to problem solve by ensuring that certain shapes and their sides were different in length.

In English, Otters have worked hard on writing our mini-sagas about the Romans ensuring that they are only 50 words long, no more no less! The children have practised and applied a range of sentence starters to make their stories more engaging for the reader and using a variety of sentence structures to allow cohesion.

In P.E, the children have been enjoying going outside and improving our skills in hockey. We have mainly focused on gripping the hockey stick correctly, passing to each other and dribbling to avoid tackles. We are looking forward to having a match for our final P.E lesson at the end of the half term.

Finally, in Science we have been exploring how different seeds pollinate. We are focusing on helicopter seeds and are ready to produce an investigation on how the length of the wings affect the rate it falls. We look forward to sharing our results with you next week!



The Boardwalk

Unfortunately, the boardwalk and access to school via the field will be closed next week.

The boardwalk (the wooden path) is not owned by the school but by Elliot's, who instructed a land agent to maintain it. This raised path is in place because the meadow it crosses is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), due to the number of plant species that grow there, including a rare orchid. The woodland path is also not owned by the school, although we do our best to maintain it, along with the connecting path on school grounds. This section belongs to us but exists as part of an agreement with Elliot's to keep access through the walkway and woodland open.

Naturally, these areas require ongoing maintenance and we work with the land agent to ensure paths are clear and safe. As a Hampshire school, we are responsible for the work on our site using the funding allocated to us. However, this funding does not always cover what is needed when looking after a school site this size over the course of the year, often leaving the school seeking support elsewhere. We work hard with local businesses to secure donations and grants to help maintain and develop the site, and we will continue to do so. While we work through this process, we appreciate your patience and understanding as we open/close the path as we look to resolve the maintenance issues affecting the pathway on a long-term basis.

Safeguarding Procedure Consent Form

Urgent Reminder KS1 - Return Form

In line with recent government updates to safeguarding procedures, we are now required to obtain parental consent before changing a child following a toileting accident. To help reduce the need for phone calls during the school day, we kindly ask all families of our younger children to complete the consent form attached, granting permission for school staff to support your child in the event of a toileting accident.

The form has been sent out via email previously, please complete the form and return to the school office asap. If you require a hard copy please see the school office.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

St John the Baptist Primary C of E Primary School



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**Welcome to our Community
Hub**

**Tuesday 10th February
1.45pm - 3.10pm**

We welcome all families to come along to our
Community Hub.

Everyone is invited to join our Under 5s Stay and Play,
access free advice, or simply enjoy a warm space, a chat
over tea and cake with a member of school staff and the
Church.

Stay and Play:

We've created a welcoming space where little ones can
enjoy playtime, have a snack, and listen to a story.

Free advice for school nursing:

The School Nursing Team is here to support children's health and
wellbeing. We offer advice on sleep, healthy routines, emotional
wellbeing, managing medical needs, and supporting families with
any health concerns. Friendly, confidential support for parents and
carers—helping every child thrive.

Hampshire Healthy Steps:

A free, friendly programme designed to help families build healthier
habits together. Learn simple ways to boost wellbeing, improve
nutrition, stay active, and support positive routines at home. Open to
all families—small steps that make a big difference.

Save the date:

Where: this session will be held in school

When: Tuesday 10th February - 1.45pm - 3.10pm

Courage, Compassion, Creativity.

W: www.stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk | E: office@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk | T: 01329 800670



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SEND Coffee Sessions

These sessions will include a brief talk about a topic and will then be a chance to meet other parents whose children also need support and share top tips.

Tuesday 3rd February 2pm-3pm
The ECHP Process

Tuesday 3rd March 2pm -3pm
Routines at home and how to avoid the after school crisis moment.

Wednesday 6th May 2pm-3pm
Autism

Wednesday 10th June 2pm-3pm
ADHD



Courage, Compassion, Creativity.

W: www.stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk | E: office@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk | T: 01329 800670

Attendance Matters

Help us with our attendance – Thank you – this week has shown an improvement.

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 **97% 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: 95.2% Our target is 97% - please feel free to come and chat with us regarding any attendance issues.

Best Attendance: KS1: Ducks 98.1% KS2: Otters 98.9%

Best Timekeepers: KS1: Frogs 12 late minutes KS2: Swans 8 late minutes

ActiveMe 360



ActiveMe 360 @ Swanmore College (HAF) Holiday Activity Camp; Food Programme (HAF)

Mon 16th - Fri 20th February 2026

ActiveMe 360 run a successful HAF provision. The day runs from 9am until 4pm and children receive breakfast and a hot lunch during the day.

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. For the all-rounder who loves to stay active, this camp has it all. 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.



If you qualify for benefits related Free School Meals then you are eligible to sign up for any of our HAF camps. Visit our website to find out more and book with us

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

COIN WARS IS BACK - 02/02-12/02

Starting the 2nd February through to 12th February each class will have their own jar and will need to fill it with as many copper coins as possible, Silver coins can be placed in other classes jars to reduce their final amount!

Aim of game to finish with highest amount of money in your classes jar at end of the 10 days!

Check down the side of the sofa, in the car and raid the piggy bank for them coppers!

Winning class wins a treat!

Next events:

WEAR SOMETHING RED - 13/02

Wear something **Red** – Socks, bows or badges - £1 donation to PAFS

ADULT ONLY BINGO NIGHT – 20/03

PAFS are holding an adult only Bingo night on Friday 20th March – £6 a ticket - includes the 6 books for the games. Prizes for lines and houses!

There will be a bar serving drinks, snacks and extra books on the evening and we will be running extra games throughout the night so bring your £1 coins along!

There will be raffle tickets on sale before and during the event with the prizes being drawn on the evening.

Ideal opportunity to get together with some friends and make some new ones on the evening!

We look forward to seeing you there.

100 club only has 8 numbers left!

BOUNCE BONANZA TAKE 2! – 03/07

Back by popular demand – Bounce Bonanza!!

After great feedback and fun PAFS are putting on another Bounce Bonanza for all to enjoy!

Lots of inflatables and games available on the day.

£10 a ticket for anyone using the inflatables, spectators are free, all children need to be accompanied by a parent/responsible adult.

LEGOLAND – 19/06

PAFS have again managed to secure discounted tickets for Legoland on the June inset day – tickets are only £23 pp. Tickets only valid for inset day.

Tickets available for all events on PTA Events – <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/pafs/index.cfm>

RAFFLE TICKETS – Raffle tickets will be on sale over the coming weeks, look out for the tickets in your children's bags...prizes will be announced shortly!

Thank you for all your help and support with the events- all money raised will be going towards the school regenerating the outside areas, any and all help is greatly appreciated!!

Dates for your diary

This term important dates:

- 2nd February - 12th February - PAFS Coin Wars
- 3rd February - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on EHCP Process
- 10th February - Community Hub at 1.45 pm -3.15pm (School Nursing and Hampshire Healthy Steps attending)
- 13th February - Wear something **RED** Valentine's Day for £1 with your school uniform
- 3rd March - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on Routines at home
- 4th March - Rocksteady Concert 2.30pm - 3pm
- 10th March - 13th March - Year 6 Calshot Residential
- 20th March - Bingo night adults only - 7pm
- 23rd March - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7.30pm
- 24th - 27th March - Travelling Book Fair Open at School
- 26th March - Author visit - Karen Inglis - Book signing
- 26th March - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.30pm
- 27th March - Community Hub (attendees tbc)
- Easter Service & Production TBC
- 6th May - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on Autism
- 10th July - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on ADHD



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:

- 23rd February 2026
- 1st May 2026
- 19th June 2026

Courage - Compassion - Creativity

Have a wonderful Weekend



Subject: Join the Waltham Chase Pre-School Governing Board

Dear Families and Members of St John the Baptist C of E Primary School community,

Many of you may already know us at Waltham Chase Pre-School — perhaps your child attended before moving on to St John's. We are proud of the happy and caring environment we continue to provide.

We are looking for new members to join our governing board and would love to hear from people within the St John's school community. This could include teaching or support staff looking to gain experience, or parents and wider family members who may be interested in supporting us.

No previous experience is needed — just a willingness to help. However, if you do have a childcare/Early Years/education background, that would also be wonderful! The role is flexible, with no expectation to attend every meeting, and you can give as much or as little time as suits you. Meetings can take place in person or online. We usually meet once a month during term time.

The role is varied and can involve anything from generating fundraising ideas, to supporting staff with ideas, to developing the curriculum, supporting SEND, as well as safeguarding.

If you would like more information, or know someone who might be interested, please get in touch with us— we'd love to hear from you. Please see our contact details below.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter, and we hope to hear from you. For now, we will get back to handprint painting, puddle splashing, and playdough making!

On behalf of the Waltham Chase Pre-School Governing Board

hello@walthamchasepreschool.com

07913640795



P.A.C.E.

2026
PARENT & CARER EVENTS

NHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

Free health & wellbeing events for all parents & carers who support or work with young people

| DATE | LOCATION |
|----------------------------|---|
| Thursday, 26 February 2026 | Basingstoke Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Rd, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 3HF |
| Thursday, 16 April 2026 | Eastleigh Junction Church, 2 Romsey Road, Eastleigh SO50 9FE |
| Friday, 8 May 2026 | Lyndhurst Lyndhurst Community Centre, Central Car Park, High Street, Lyndhurst SO43 7NY |
| Thursday, 25 June 2026 | Andover Winton Community Academy, London Rd, Andover, Hampshire SP10 2PS |
| Monday, 5 October 2026 | Havant Trosnant School, Stockheath Lane, Havant, Hampshire PO9 3BD |
| Friday, 23 October 2026 | Waterlooville Waterlooville Community Centre, 10 Maurepas Way, Waterlooville PO7 7AY |

BOOK YOUR SESSION SPACE AT:

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events

NHS

Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

UNDERSTANDING ADHD

Tickets £20
Tea and
coffee
included

A day that focuses on skills and strategies, for parents, carers and professionals supporting a child with ADHD. Hampshire CAMHS Colleagues will be hosting this day alongside parents / carers with lived experience.

Understanding your child with ADHD, support, strategies and tips. Led by the Hampshire CAMHS ADHD team.

Support for SEN in education & what to do if it's not working. Led by Gayle Moir, SENDIASS Services Manager.

ADHD nervous system differences, sensory systems, emotional regulation, stress response, attention regulation, and executive functioning. Led by Courtney Freedman-Thompson-coach and wellbeing facilitator and lived experience.

5 March 2026

Junction Church,
2 Romsey Road,
Eastleigh SO50 9FE

16 Sept 2026

The Pallant Centre,
Havant, PO9 1BE

3 November 2026

Andover Baptist Church,
Charlton Road, Andover
SP10 3JH

For more information scan the QR code or visit:

<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>



WALTHAM CHASE METHODIST CHURCH

CALLING ALL JUNIOR
SCIENTISTS

LET'S HAVE FUN!

MEGA MAKERS



LIGHTHOUSE HOLIDAY CLUB

THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
0930 - 12:30

science games, cooking, craft
and much more

£3.00 per child aged 5-11 years

TO BOOK A PLACE

Contact: anouska@chasemethodist.org

Tel: 07875218141

Parent
Information
Portal



NHS
Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Your Health Visiting and School Nursing records all in one place...
at your finger tips



View and manage
your appointments
with Health Visitors



View your child's
vaccination history and
newborn blood spot
screening results



Search a wide
range of resources
about children's
health



View growth charts
and add
measurements



The Ages and Stages
questionnaires are
available for you to
complete electronically
before your child's 1
year/2 year health
reviews



National Childhood
Measurement
Programme.
Receive results of your
child's height and
weight measurements
(Year R and Year 6).

Today's health, tomorrow's future

Sign up today! Email parent.portal@nhs.net

We CARE through:



Active Holidays

Holiday Activities and Food Programme



Swanmore College



February Half Term
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026

» HAF Camp

Our 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.

Free

- For ages 4*-13 years *They must be 4 years old and in Year R
- 9am to 4pm
- Wraparound Care available (charges apply)



Scan the QR code to find and book your nearest venue!



For more information or to book, visit:
www.activeme360.com

@activeme360

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Active Holiday Camps



Swanmore College



February Half Term
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026

» Multi-Sports

This camp is ideal for all-rounders, offering a mix of your favourite sports and new activities.



Scan the QR code to find and book your nearest venue!

» Football

Learn key skills through fun sessions, games, and matches all week long!

- For ages 4-13 years
- 9am to 4pm
- Extended day options available

» Performing Arts

This camp is an action-packed week of dance, routines, technique, and fun!

£26.25 per day*

Get 15% off with our Active Saver code 'FEBAS15' expires Sunday 1st February.

*FREE Mini Campers for children aged 4 and in Year R!



For more information or to book, visit:
www.activeme360.com

@activeme360

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STUDY SMART

Free Online Courses

Starting
Monday 2nd
February

Fully Funded Education Support Course
Online LIVE Webinars
6 Week Course
Mon - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 & 12.30 - 2.00
Support Session 4.00 - 4.30

Levels 1, 2 & 3 Available
Accredited Awards & Certificates in:
Prepare to Work in Schools
Wellbeing
Safeguarding & Prevent
Occupational Studies
Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Principles of SEN

