

The Jottings - 17th April 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,

Welcome back.

I hope you all enjoyed a restful break and that the children have had a positive start to the new term. It has been wonderful to see the school full of energy again, and we are already off to a busy and exciting start.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the kind words and support shared through the recent parent survey. Your feedback means a great deal to us. We value your honesty, your encouragement, and your suggestions, and I want to reassure you that your comments will be acted upon as we continue to strengthen our provision and our community.

This term is already proving to be a lively one. Year 2 have enjoyed a fantastic school trip, and both Year 2 and Year 3 have welcomed a visitor to enrich their RE learning. There is much more planned across all year groups in the weeks ahead, and we look forward to sharing these experiences with you. Please also take a moment to look at what your child will be learning this half term - these overviews were emailed to you earlier today.

Sadly, at the end of next week, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Crabb. We thank her sincerely for the care, commitment, and support she has given to the children during her time with us, and we wish her every success in her next steps.

I would also like to express my gratitude to everyone who has helped with the recent improvements to our school environment - including the refurbishment of our multi-purpose room, the clearing of outdoor areas, and the installation of new fencing. While some of this work was contracted, much of it was made possible by the generosity of our community. Thank you to the parents who came in to move the kindly donated woodchip, and to the family members who gave up their time (my husband and children are now definitely no longer fans of green paint).

We are a community school, and with tight budgets, this support makes a real difference. I am incredibly grateful. We will be opening up further opportunities later in the year for parents to get involved in school projects - after all, many hands make light work.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to a positive, productive, and joyful Summer Term together.

Rebecca Livings

Headteacher

Spotlight on Year 2

Year 2 has had an exciting first week back to the summer term. We had a fantastic trip to the Seacity Museum on Wednesday, where the children discovered the story of the RMS Titanic through a hands-on workshop, interactive Titanic model and a discovery session. In RE, we had a guest speaker, Susmita Roy, who introduced us to the Hindu idea of dāna and the importance of generosity in Hindu traditions.



Sports Day

-Save the Date-

This year, Sports Day will take place on **Friday 15th May**. We have brought the event forward to make the most of the cooler weather and to allow the end of term to focus fully on transition activities. Normally, Sports Day is held after the half-term break, but we are trialling this new timing to see how well it works for our school community (and the weather).

Further details will follow, but we wanted to share the date now so you can make arrangements to join us if you are able.

As we will be having sports day this half term, we will hold our termly parent event during the second half of this half term, this will be in the form of Learning in Action (as it was during the Autumn term) so you can see how far your child has come this year.

Attendance Matters

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

This Week:

Whole school attendance average: **95.7%** Our target is **97%** - please come and chat with us regarding any attendance issues.

Best Attendance - KS1: Joint 1st Frogs and Ducks both **with 100%** KS2: Dragonflies **99.3%**

All classes achieved over 95% this week- Keep it Up!

Best Timekeepers: KS1: Tadpoles 0 late minutes KS2: Otters 0 late minutes

Transition Day 2026

This year, we will be holding one whole- school transition day on **2nd July**, coinciding with the Year 6 Swanmore transition day.

This will allow all children to move up and spend a full day with their new teacher. Naturally, additional transition opportunities will be arranged for those who need them, and we will work closely with parents to ensure every child feels supported.

Transition arrangements for our new Year R entrants will be shared separately.

Transition can be a wobbly time for many children, and parents too, so if you have any questions or concerns, please do get in touch.

Please note that we will not share which classes or teacher's children will be moving to in advance of this day.

PAFS News

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.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/pafs/index.cfm>

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>

The Winchester Mental Health Support Team

The Winchester Mental Health Support Team (MHST) is offering a series of free online workshops for parents and carers during the summer term. These sessions are open to families whose children attend MHST- supported schools in the Winchester area and will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams.

Parents can sign up using the QR code on the workshop poster or via this link:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/dEit7hbd1j>

CARE: Coping and Resilience in Education

Friday 24th April | 09:30–11:00

A practical workshop to support parents in helping their child understand and express emotions. It introduces simple strategies to build resilience and manage feelings such as anxiety, sadness, and anger.

Microsoft Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/360537322402717?p=5TknjpFLM1dtMQEdAR>

Meeting ID: 360 537 322 402 717 | Passcode: ZW7MH25M

Managing Behaviour

Wednesday 6th May | 09:30–11:00

This session offers practical approaches for supporting emotional regulation, building routines, and strengthening communication when children's behaviour feels challenging.

Microsoft Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/371700292963206?p=z8NmAgOkBQAW1jHmhl>

Meeting ID: 371 700 292 963 206 | Passcode: Ct3pH6et

Understanding and Managing Your Child's Anxiety

Wednesday 20th May | 09:30–11:00

A workshop exploring what anxiety is, what keeps it going, and tools parents can use at home to help build confidence and manage anxious feelings.

Microsoft Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/39928471999655?p=ckYBUSK4ufHGIK2gYI>

Meeting ID: 399 284 719 996 55 | Passcode: yC3dn7ru

Dates for your diary

This term important dates:

28th April - Contemporary Class Photo & Year 6 Leavers
29th April - Fishbourne Roman Palace Year 2 Trip
5th May - Bank Holiday
6th May - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on Autism
7th May - Stay & Play 9am - 10am
11th - 14th May - Year 6 SATS
15th May - Sports Day
15th - 16th May - YR 4 Sleepover 5pm - 8.30am
21st May - Snuggle Buddy Book Time. Yr R & Key stage 1- 2.30pm - 3pm (Parents Invited)
21st May - Community Hub - School Nurse 2 - 3pm
25th May - Bank Holiday
26th May - 29th May - Half Term
3rd June - 8th July Year 5 Swimming every Wednesday
4th June - Stay & Play 9am - 10am
10th June - SEND Parent coffee afternoon 2pm - 3pm - Focus on ADHD
2nd July - Shuffle up day. Swanmore Induction Year 6 Induction
3rd July - Year 6 Leavers at Portsmouth Cathedral
14th & 15th July - Year 6 Production Performance
16th July - New Yr R intake Stay & Play
17th July - Community Hub 9am - 10am
22nd - Last Day of Term

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:

1st May 2026
19th June 2026

Items you may be interested in

10% discount voucher for entry to our venues. Alongside the discount code for SeaCity Museums there is also information on leisure and holiday activities.

Hello,

Thanks for taking part! We really hope you enjoyed the session. Don't forget, we have plenty more classes, activities and tours for all ages at weekends, evenings and in the school holidays!

We also have live online workshops and talks on art and history topics, here at the museum and at our partner venues, Tudor House and Garden Museum and Southampton City Art Gallery.

Join our mailing list or visit our websites to find out more. We hope to see you soon.

Best wishes,

SeaCity Museum

PS here's a code for 10% off ticket entry to our venues: **CSLEARN**

Culture Vulture

Sign up to our mailing list:
[Bit.ly/CultureVultureSignup](https://bit.ly/CultureVultureSignup)

Browse our events and activities:
wegottickets.com/SouthamptonCulture

Visit us online:

www.southamptoncityartgallery.com
www.tudorhouseandgarden.com
www.seacitymuseum.co.uk

Visit www.artfund.org to book/buy venue entry tickets

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In partnership with Solent University Southampton BA Illustration





May 2026 Timetable

All regular 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

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm



April 2026 Timetable

All regular 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

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm

THE STANDEN SWIM ACADEMY

Free Taster Swim Lessons
 Three Oaks, Bishops Waltham

Lessons 7 days a week
 Lessons for newborns up to Stage 6
 3 swimmers per Stage class
 Warm, private pool with spectator seating
 End of term personal reports & medals

Find out more at
www.thestandenswimacademy.com
 or email us at
lessons@thestandenswimacademy.com

BE WILDFIRE AWARE
 AND HELP PROTECT THE COUNTRYSIDE

PACK A PICNIC
NOT A BBQ

DON'T START
CAMPFIRES

EXTINGUISH CIGARETTES
FULLY

DON'T DROP
LITTER

Hampshire & Isle of Wight FIRE RESILIENCE SERVICE

IF YOU SEE A FIRE CALL 999

SCAN ME OR VISIT bit.ly/Wildfire-Aware



FREE online talk by
Jane Keyworth

FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Parents - Live Talks page

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAMS

NHS

ONLINE PARENT WORKSHOPS

CARE: Coping and Resilience in Education - Friday 24th April (09:30 - 10:30)

A workshop to help you support your child in understanding and expressing their emotions. It introduces simple, practical strategies to build resilience and manage feelings such as anxiety, sadness, and anger, while helping children feel confident in asking for help when they need it.

Understanding & Managing Your Child's Anxiety - Wednesday 20th May (09:30 - 10:30)

This workshop offers helpful approaches and strategies for supporting emotional regulation, building routines, and strengthening parent-child communication when children present with challenging behaviours.

Managing Behaviour - Wednesday 6th May (09:30 - 10:30)

This workshop explores what anxiety is, what keeps it going, and offers practical tools and approaches you can use at home. It provides clear, helpful strategies to build your child's confidence and support them in managing anxious feelings.

We are the Winchester Mental Health Support Team (MHST), and we work closely with children, parents, and school staff to support emotional wellbeing across our partner schools. Alongside offering 1st support through school referrals, we also deliver a range of workshops designed to build confidence, understanding, and practical skills around children's mental health. This term, we are pleased to offer a selection of online workshops, open to all MHST schools in the Winchester area. These sessions are designed to be accessible, informative, and supportive for anyone wanting to better understand and help the children in their care.

Sign up to the Winchester MHST Online Parent Workshops

waltham Chase
Pre-School

FAMILY FARM DAY

WALTHAM CHASE VILLAGE HALL

Monday 4th May '26 | 10AM- 12PM

Tombola

Hot & cold refreshments available

Come and meet, pet and feed the lovely animals provided by Em's Friendly Farm

Games & Activities

Face painting & Tattoos

Please bring cash if possible!

*Have a good weekend.
Courage - Compassion – Creativity*