

# The Jottings - 24th 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's Families,**

We've had a really positive week in school, with the children making the most of the brighter weather and enjoying plenty of opportunities to get outside and explore our fantastic grounds. It has been wonderful to see so much active learning and play across the week.

Thank you for the positive feedback we've received regarding the recent changes around school. Your support makes such a difference, and it's lovely to hear how much the children are benefitting.

We do, however, need a little help.

- We are looking to remove the pile of tyres at the back of the school.
- We are also hoping to acquire some rubble (we have already asked next door) and soil to fill our seven new planters in the outside classroom.

If you are able to help with either of these, please contact the school office - we would be very grateful.

A reminder that, with our new fencing in place, we have asked children not to bring their own balls into school. We have plenty of school equipment available, and retrieving personal balls from beyond the fence is difficult and can cause unnecessary upset.

Finally, please note that **Friday 1st May is an INSET day**, and school will be closed as staff undertake training.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

**Rebecca Livings**

Headteacher

## Spotlight on Year

The sun has been shining this week, and Otters have had a positive start to the new half term. In Science, we have been learning about electricity and how to make a functioning circuit. We explored how different components worked, where we particularly enjoyed making the classroom as noisy as possible by using the buzzers.



In Maths, we have learnt 2 new strategies when solving multiplication and division. The children have learnt both formal methods and have impressed me with their understanding and success when applying this independently.



In English this week, we have developed our skills and have planned our non-chronological reports about a dragon that we have designed. Mrs Livings has specially requested to read our reports to see how informative we can be.

Finally, in P.E, we have been learning and developing our cricket skills. Children were understanding the game and how 2 batters needed to run between 2 wickets. We focused on staying alert and waiting for the correct signal before running otherwise you could get yourself or your teammate out.



## Ticks

Our area (along with most of Hampshire) is prone to ticks, and it is important to be particularly vigilant during the months of May and June. Parents and carers may wish to familiarise yourselves with the advice from the UK Health Security Agency, which provides information on prevention, identification, and treatment. This information can also be found on our website under the *Parents → Health Advice* section.

A reminder: if you notice a tick on your child, it is important to know how to remove it safely and as soon as possible. In school, this means we will contact parents or carers by phone to ask whether you would like a member of staff to remove it using a tick-removal tool. A helpful video demonstrating safe tick removal can be found here:

[How to remove a tick](#)

## 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: Ducks 98.9% KS2: Dragonflies **99.7%**  
**All classes achieved over 95% again this week- Keep it Up!**

Best Timekeepers: KS1: Frogs 6 late minutes KS2: Kingfishers 0 late minutes

## Online Gaming

This video provides a quick overview on how to keep your child safe whilst gaming online, outlining communication risks, in game spending, age ratings and reporting tools.

Linking to our website or downloading a copy for use yourself please click on the three dots in the bottom right hand corner and then click download: <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Online-Gaming.mp4>

- You can use this embed code: `<div style="padding:56.25% 0 0 0;position:relative;"><iframe src="https://player.vimeo.com/video/1184041329?badge=0&autopause=0&player_id=0&app_id=58479" frameborder="0" allow="autoplay; fullscreen; picture-in-picture; clipboard-write; encrypted-media; web-share" referrerpolicy="strict-origin-when-cross-origin" style="position:absolute;top:0;left:0;width:100%;height:100%;" title="Online Gaming"></iframe></div><script src="https://player.vimeo.com/api/player.js"></script>`

## 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

### 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>

# Please shop at Tesco's and support our school

Every little helps.

We have been successful in the Tesco Grants Programme and our project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from Tuesday 28th April 2026 until the end of July 2026.

Tesco empowers its shoppers to make a difference in their own communities. With grants being awarded to a wide range of projects, focused on supporting children and young people, from improving school facilities to providing vital services in the local community, committing to making a positive impact.

## Hampshire Healthy Families

### School Readiness – Hampshire Healthy Families

In response to recent media coverage regarding children not being ready for school, the Hampshire Healthy Families offer has been developed in partnership with the Health Visiting team as part of the Healthy Child Programme, drawing on evidence from the [School Readiness Survey \(Kindred Squared, January 2026\)](#).

A new face-to-face workshop, [Two and Beyond](#), explores children's developmental journey from age two through to starting school at age five, highlighting key skills needed for school readiness.

In addition, a series of short, supportive videos has been created to help parents understand and support their child's development at home: <https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/two-and-beyond-videos>

## 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=ckYBUSK4ufHGIK2gYl>

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

## Donation Station

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our donation station. With the basket now full, we have taken the proceeds to **Meon Valley Food Bank**

**We are now refilling the basket again. If you are able to spare a packet, please drop it into the basket in the foyer.**

Thank you for your kindness and support.

## Online Safety

In partnership with Knowsley CLCs, all parent/carers are invited to an:

# Online Safety Information Session

This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!  
We will share the link with you privately.

**Guide to Social Media & Livestreaming** - this will include latest trends and emerging threats and will focus on developing your understanding of social media and livestreaming, the associated risks and steps we can take to support our children.

**WEDNESDAY  
6TH MAY  
2026  
4PM - 4.45PM**



The link will be to follow.

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## Dates for your diary

### This term important dates:

28th April - Contemporary Class Photo & Year 6 Leavers - **School uniform must be WORN**  
 29th April - Fishbourne Roman Palace Year 2 Trip  
 4th 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



### 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](http://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
<b>FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep</b>	<b>28 May 7-8pm</b>



### 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](http://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
<b>FREE Decreasing Depression</b>	<b>23 April 7-8pm</b>
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



MAY

# ACTIVITY CLUB Fareham Academy

St Anne's Grove, PO14 1JJ

8:30AM - 4:30PM  
26<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY

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.

£26 PER DAY  
MULTIPLE DAY DISCOUNT

- ☑ CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED
- ☑ QUALIFIED PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID
- ☑ DBS CERTIFICATED
- ☑ REGISTERED BY OFSTED
- ☑ CHILD PROTECTION TRAINED

[www.cm-sports.co.uk](http://www.cm-sports.co.uk)



## 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



Active Holidays 

This May Half Term

# Choose Your own adventure!

Choose Your Adventure this May Half Term with fully themed Football, Multi-Sports, Performing Arts and Mini Campers, each following daily missions, challenges and celebrations that turn four days into one unforgettable adventure.

**Our Adventure Academy Camps**

- Football Camp** - Train like a pro, play with your friends
- Performing Arts & 3SIXTY Dance** - Take the stage & steal the show
- Multi-Sports** - Big energy, new sports, nonstop fun
- Mini Campers\*** - Little campers, massive adventures

**FREE**

26 - 29 May 2026

£26.25 per day - Mini Campers go free!\*

For ages 4 - 13

9am - 4pm - extended hours available

**Venues**

- Swanmore College, Swanmore
- Toynbee School, Eastleigh
- Colden Common Primary School
- Ludlow Junior School, Southampton

**Active Saver**  
Use code **May26AS15**  
for 15% off  
exp. Fri 1 May 26

**Find out more and book here!**



[www.activeme360.com/may26](http://www.activeme360.com/may26)

\*Mini Campers must be both 4yrs old and in Reception Class to access our free camp. Camp availability varies by venue.

**NHS**

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAMS

# 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 1:1 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



**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**

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**17<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**PLACES LEISURE - EASTLEIGH**

**MORE LEGO<sup>®</sup> THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF**

**SOUTHAMPTON BRICK FESTIVAL**

waltham Chase  
Pre-School

**FAMILY FARM DAY**

**WALTHAM CHASE VILLAGE HALL**

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

Tombola

Hot & cold refreshments available

Games & Activities

Face painting & Tattoos

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

Please bring cash if possible!

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