

The Jottings - 4th September 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 would like to offer a warm welcome back to all our families, including those who are new to our community. It has been wonderful hearing about the children's summer adventures, and they have returned full of enthusiasm and ready for the year ahead.

The term has got off to a great start, with the children embracing the changes around school — and I'm sure you have all heard about our new toilets. We don't think we've ever seen the children so eager to use them; they may currently be the most exciting part of the building!

Strong partnerships are essential, and we hope you have all seen your year group welcome letters and curriculum overviews, which outline what your child will be learning this half term. Your support is invaluable, and we look forward to working closely with you throughout the year.

Please also keep up to date by reading our weekly Jottings, which include helpful reminders, key information, safeguarding support, wellbeing guidance and details of upcoming events. You'll also find a selection of local community events at the end — always worth a look.

Thank you again for the fantastic welcome back — we are all excited about the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Rebecca Livings

Headteacher

Arbor

Arbor have been updating their parent portal over the summer break, so please ensure that you have the most recent version. You can use this app to contact the school regarding a child's absence, to pay for trips and meals and also to update your and their personal information.

Please remember that you must now book all Little John club sessions directly with ActiveMe360, the school office has no access to this site at all, bookings can be taken online with Active Me360 until the start of the session.

How to contact the school

We pride ourselves on effective communication based on mutual respect and a shared commitment to supporting your children. There are many ways to contact the school and speak with staff, and a reminder of our contact details is included below. However, please ensure you follow our **communications protocol** for parents, approved by our governors, as this helps us maintain strong partnerships and ensures the best outcomes for your children. This can be found on our policies page on our website:

<https://www.stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Policies+%26amp%3B+Procedures&pid=59>

Get in touch:

- On the door, or at the gate/on the playground
- Via the Arbor App
- Email: office@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
- Phone: 01329 800670
- Email directly to the class:

Year R	year_r@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 1	year_1@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 2	year_2@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 3	year_3@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 4	year_4@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 5	year_5@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk
Year 6	year_6@stjohnthebaptistprimary.co.uk

PE Days

Monday - Years 2 and 3 and 4
Tuesday - Years 1 and 6
Wednesday - Years 3 and 4 and 5
Thursday - Years 2 and 5
Friday - Years R and 1 and 6

PE will start again on Monday, 7th September 2026.

Uniform Reminder

Please ensure your child continues to come to school in the **appropriate P.E. kit**, ready for their PE/Games lessons. Football shirts are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn on P.E. days.
Many thanks for your support.

A reminder that all **P.E. competition kit** should be washed and sent back to school as soon as possible, so it is always available when needed.

If it is your child's birthday, they are allowed to wear what they want on that day, or if it falls on a weekend or during a holiday, their own clothes can be worn the day before or after the break.



Online Safety Newsletter

Sept 2026

Childline under 12s site

Childline have a separate area on their website for under 12s. The pages are written for primary school children. The area includes a section full of games and a Buddy Zone with tips, such as how to speak to a trusted adult and information on where to get extra support from.

You can access this area here:
<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/u12-landing/>

How to manage parental controls for different ages?

Internet Matters asked online experts, Karl Hopwood and Richard Waite to share their advice on how to manage parental controls for different ages. Find out more here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/managing-parental-controls-for-different-ages/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translation tool on our web version:
<https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/september-2026-primary/>

New guidance issued due to concern of AI-manipulated images

Photos of children that seem completely innocent can be manipulated using artificial intelligence (AI) to create sexualised or abusive images. There is a growing threat that children's images shared online are being manipulated by criminals into AI generated sexual abuse material. As concerns grow, the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and the National Crime Agency (NCA) have issued new guidance to help you understand the risks around AI image manipulation and advice on how to speak to your child about AI and image consent.



The IWF states that child sexual abuse images or videos created or altered using AI may include:

- Everyday images of a child or young person that are manipulated into child sexual abuse imagery, including images taken from social media, websites or messaging apps, that are manipulated into sexualised or abusive imagery. These are sometimes known as 'deepfakes'.
- Images or videos that look like a real child but are completely artificial.
- AI technology that digitally removes clothing from existing images to create nude or semi-nude images, sometimes known as 'nudifying'.

[source: IWF <https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/> accessed 25.08.26]

What can I do?

The guidance provides practical advice about sharing photographs of your child online. Some useful things to consider are:

- Think before you share photographs online. The IWF suggest creating a 'close friends' group to share images.
- Check and adjust your privacy settings on all social media accounts.
- Understand the steps to take if you or your child has any concerns and the organisations you can contact.

Where can I find the new guidance?

The full guidance can be accessed at the link below. It also includes a video highlighting how everyday photos can be misused using AI tools.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

You can find the full press release/announcement here:

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/new-guidance-for-parents-and-carers-as-ai-manipulated-images-of-children-become-a-growing-concern>

YouTube

YouTube is one of the most popular platforms, available across many different devices - phones, tablets and Smart TVs etc. YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/guardian. There are different options available to access YouTube, depending on your child's age:



1. YouTube Kids – a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).

2. Supervised accounts – a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything except for videos marked as 18+.

Find out more: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

What do I need to be aware of?

Whilst YouTube can be educational and fun, it is important to be aware of the potential risks, such as:

- **Inappropriate content**
- **Excessive Screen time** – particularly due to the autoplay feature.
- **Unwanted contact / cyberbullying** – particularly via comments if your child is sharing videos.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see to keep us engaged. This can lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.
- **Adverts** that may not be aimed at or suitable for your child's age.

What can I do?

- Set up appropriate parental controls.
- Show your child the reporting and blocking tools available.
- Watch YouTube together or supervise use.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.09.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership

A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives

The Children's Commissioner has published this guide to help you support your child and make starting conversations about their online world easier. It's a useful read: <https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2025/12/cc-what-i-wish-parent-guide.pdf>

Nex Playground

Nex Playground is a new video game console, which features games to get kids active. The games have no ads, no violence and no chat features, however it does rely on purchasing either a yearly or quarterly game subscription. You can find out more here: <https://www.nexplayground.com/en-gb>

Online Safety Quiz

The NSPCC have created this quiz to test your child's knowledge on how to stay safe online. It's a great way to start a conversation with your child about their online life. You can access the quiz here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/quiz/>

WhatsApp Usernames

WhatsApp is introducing the use of usernames, so people no longer have to share their phone number. Wayne Denner provides an overview of the new features, what you need to consider and steps you can take here: <https://www.waynedenner.com/whatsapp-usernames-what-parents-need-to-know/>

Dates for your diary - details can also be found on the school website calendar

This half term:

7/8/9 September - Year R in school for half days only - see Welcome letter for more details
10 September - Year R starting full-time in school
14/15 September - Year 6 Bikeability
17 September - Year R Teddy Bears picnic (3.15 - 4.15)
21 September - Volunteers Afternoon Tea, by invitation (2.00 - 3.00)
22 September - Football at Swanmore Primary (3.30 - 5.00)
23 September tbc - Flu Immunisation, whole school
1 October - Stay and Play for Pre-schoolers and Toddlers
6 October - Tag Rugby at Droxford Junior School
13 October - SEND coffee afternoon
14 October - Year 6 Educational visit to The Mary Rose
22 October - Community Hub (9.00 - 10.00)
23 October - INSET Day, school closed
26 - 30 October - HALF TERM, school closed

INSET dates 2026-2027:

- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Friday 12th February 2027
- Friday 25th June 2027

School meals

A reminder of the menu is below, please note that all children in Years R, 1 and 2 receive a free school meal. If you think you may be eligible for a free school meal (even if in the years quoted above), please use the link <https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants> to check and apply. This will also benefit the school government funding we receive,, so is also very helpful to us as well.

The first week back is WEEK 3, the price of a school meal is now £3.44

Lunch Menu Reminder:

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU		w/c - 7.9.2026 / 28.9.2026 / 19.10.2026				WEEK 1	
		06/2026, 06/07/2026, 07/09/2026, 28/09/2026, 19/10/2026					
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🍕	Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🍝🌾	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 🍗	Pork Sausage Bites with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Battered Pollock with Chips	
	OPTION 2	Arrabbiata Pasta Bake 🌱🍷🌾	Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🍝🌱🌾🌾	Bean and Cheese Pastry Turnover with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 🍕	Macaroni Cheese 🌱🌾	Quorn Dippers with Chips 🍕	
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍕🌱	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍕🌱	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍕🌱	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍕🌱	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍕🌱	
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD							
DELI	OPTION 4	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD							
DESSERT		Carrot, Orange and Sultana Slice 🍰🌱🌾	Oat Cookie 🍪🌱	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Apple Crumble with Custard 🍰🌱	Chocolate Ice Cream	
 AVAILABLE DAILY Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water							
🌱 Vegetarian 🌱 Vegan 🐟 Oily Fish 🍷 Fruity! 🌾 Wholegrain 🍷 Nutritionist's Choice Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.							
						 Chartwells Schools	
7/06/2026, 06/07/2026, 07/09/2026, 28/09/2026, 19/10/2026							

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU		WEEK 2				
		w/c – 14.9.2026 / 5.10.2026				
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🍕	Beef Burger with Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice 🍗🌾	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OPTION 2	Vegetarian Cottage Pie with Gravy 🌱🍷	Beany Vegetable Burger with Potato Wedges 🌱🍷	Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Macaroni Cheese 🌱🍷	Spanish Omelette with Chips 🌱
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍷🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍷🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍷🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍷🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍷🍷
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
DELI	OPTION 4	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD						
DESSERT		Apple and Golden Syrup Sponge with Custard 🍏🍷	Sticky Oat Slice	Caramel Mousse	Chocolate Brownie 🍫	Strawberry Ice Cream
		AVAILABLE DAILY Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water				
		🌱 Vegetarian 🌿 Vegan 🐟 Oily Fish 🍌 Fruity! 🌾 Wholegrain 🍷 Nutritionist's Choice				
		Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.				
		Chartwells Schools				

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU		W/c – 31.8.2026 / 21.9.2026 / 12.10.2026					WEEK 3
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🍕	Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta 🍝	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 🍗	Lasagne with Garlic Bread 🍝	Battered Pollock with Chips 🍷	
	OPTION 2	Veggie Meat Feast Pizza with Potato Wedges 🍕	Cheesy Bean Burrito with Wholegrain Rice 🌱 🍷	Vegetarian Cottage Pie with Gravy 🍷	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread 🍝	Veggie Fingers with Chips 🍷	
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍝	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍝	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍝	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍝	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🍝	
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD							
DELI	OPTION 4	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	Jacket Potato with Choice of Toppings	
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD							
DESSERT		Custard Shortbread with Melon Wedges 🍰	Orange Glazed Sticky Sponge Cake with Custard 🍰	Chocolate Mousse 🍰	Vanilla Ice Cream 🍰	Berry Blondie 🍰	

AVAILABLE DAILY
 Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water

Chartwells
 Schools

🍌 Vegetarian 🌱 Vegan 🐟 Oily Fish 🍌 Fruity! 🍷 Wholegrain 🍷 Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.

Items you may be interested in:

Learn to swim with Fareham Nomads

SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

Our friendly, qualified teachers and coaches teach children aged 4 and upwards, in line with the Swim England 'Learn to Swim' Programme.

We'll help to develop good stroke and training techniques and provide opportunities to compete at all levels.

Swim twice a week, unlike most Learn to Swim settings.

Friendly club environment and social events.

Learn to Swim Stages 1-7

- Stage 1 - Basic safety awareness, movement and confidence in the water
- Stage 2 - Safe entries to the water, push and glide and travelling for 5m on front and back
- Stage 3 - Develop safe entries including submersion, travel up to 10 metres on front and back and water safety knowledge
- Stage 4 - Understand buoyancy, refine kicking technique for all strokes and swimming 10 metres
- Stage 5 - Sculling & treading water skills, somersault and handstand in the water, demonstrate an action for getting help and perform all strokes
- Stage 6 - Push & glide in all four main strokes, perform surface dives and swim 10 metres wearing clothes
- Stage 7 - Develop all strokes, build stamina and improve diving skills

Our Learn to Swim classes can:

- Provide a pathway into our competitive squads, if desired
- Be a chance for children to make new friends and learn a new skill

Venue: Fareham Leisure Centre

For more information or to arrange a free trial, contact: enquiries@farehamnomads.co.uk

Competitive swimming for all ages, including adults

Our friendly, qualified coaches help children and adults develop good stroke and training techniques.

With our Level 3 coach we offer land training and advice on fitness and nutrition to help swimmers to develop and compete at all levels from Novice up to National.

Under 18s

- Our aim is to help every swimmer fulfil their potential in a fun swimming environment
- Aligned to the Long-Term Athletic Development pathway, focusing on technical ability
- Introducing competition, from local junior novice galas through to County, Regional and National levels

Adult Improvers & Masters Squad Over 18s

- Our Masters squad is designed for people who want to swim competitively or just to keep fit
- High-quality and friendly Swim England qualified coaches
- Friendly club environment and social events

Venues: Fareham Leisure Centre, West Hill Park School, Holly Hill Leisure Centre and Mountbatten Centre

For more information, contact: enquiries@farehamnomads.co.uk



★ **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**
TUES
3.10- 4.10

DANCE KIDZ AT STJOHNS

Year Groups R, 1 , 2 & 3 can book for next term now,

CONTACT ME ON 07889 419681
 TO BOOK YOUR CHILDS SPACE

LOTS OF FUN WITH PARTY DANCES, ANIMATIONS, GROU
 DANCING, AND LEARNING NEW RHYTHMS

★

★

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