



“Celebrate life in all its fullness. Let's learn together in God's love”

RESPECT

OPPORTUNITY

COLLABORATION

ASPIRATION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new academic year!

It has been lovely to welcome you all back to St John's this week.

What a fantastic start we have had; the children have settled well, demonstrated great kindness towards one another and have welcomed me with lots of friendly smiles! We started the school year with a collective worship thinking about 'new beginnings' and spent time thinking about new challenges and new ambitions for the year ahead. It has been great to find out what some of them are.

This week, we have also welcomed children to St John's for their very first time. Our youngest children have experienced their first week and have enjoyed exploring the learning environment both indoor and outdoor and having a tour of the school. Thank you to all of the parent/carers for supporting your child to come into school independently.

Throughout the summer break, work was carried out in school to replace all of the flooring in our classrooms. The classroom environments look great. Over the next couple of weeks you will have the opportunity to attend the '**Welcome to Class**' meetings so you be able to see the improvements yourselves. Please do try and attend these session- key information and expectations will be shared by the class teachers.

We have lots of events planned for the year ahead, the diary dates can be found below and class letters with further information will be sent home on **Monday 11th September**.

New Staff

This term we have a few new members of staff who have joined us. I would like to welcome Miss Katie Bowers back to St John's. Miss Bowers is teaching in Year 5. Miss Alix Costello has joined us as an HLTA, she will provide release cover for the class teachers during their planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time. Like me, she has many names to learn!

We also have two new teaching assistants, Mrs Watkins who is working in Year 1 and Mrs Wheeler, who is working in KS1 and Year 3.

School Leadership Roles

School Council and Eco Council

Next week, we are going to be holding our school council and eco council elections. Children can prepare a small speech if they wish to represent their class.

Spiritual Leaders

This year we will be introducing the role of Spiritual Leaders. Children can express an interest in becoming a spiritual leader. Class teachers will discuss this with their classes next week. The role of a Spiritual Leader may include; helping to lead collective worship, looking after displays and the spiritual garden and monitoring reflection areas and the prayer tree.

Parent/Carer Forum- the importance of working in collaboration

I value the importance of working with families and would like to introduce a termly Parent/Carer forum.

Parent/Carer forums are a way for parents and carers to get more involved in school life. These meetings are a valuable way for us to share information about how we operate and how we help your children learn and develop. They are a platform for parents/carers to share ideas and views to help the school continue to develop and improve.

Meetings are led by members of the senior leadership team.

Our first meeting date: **Friday 29th September at 9.15am**. Tea and Coffee will be available for parents after morning drop off.

Uniform Expectations

As a school, we work hard in school to ensure that children come to school wearing the correct and appropriate uniform each day. This includes wearing sensible school shoes and only trainers on a PE day.

Our School Uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity, which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. Our school [uniform policy](#), which can be found on our school website outlines what children should be wearing for school. Here are the key points:

All uniform branded with St John's logo is optional.

Standard uniform

- White blouse/polo-shirt/shirt
- Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan/jumper
- Mid-grey skirt, pinafore or trousers
- Trousers must be mid-grey, straight legged and tailored

- No bootleg or hipster trousers.
- Suitable footwear for school. **Children must not wear trainers** (except on PE days), fashion boots or open toe sandals
- Children wearing dresses/skirts may wear cycling shorts underneath for when they engage in physical activity at playtimes e.g. football/cartwheels.

PE kit

- Plain white polo top
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Plain black (no logos/ brands/ stripes) shorts, leggings, or tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers, not daps (any colour)

Attendance

As we start the school year, we would like to remind you of the importance of attending school, every day. Please read the letter sent by Mrs Yeoman today.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days Absence 1 week & 4 days of learning missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days Absence 3 weeks & 4 days of learning missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days Absence 5 weeks & 3 days of learning missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days Absence 7 weeks & 3 days of learning missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days Absence 9 weeks & 1 day of learning missed	Unacceptable

Children should only be kept at home if they have a serious illness or injury, if a child has a bout of sickness & diarrhoea they must stay at home for 48 hours from the last bout of illness, if this is the case parents must contact the school office before 8.45am.

If a child has a minor illness like a headache or cold parents should make the school aware but still bring them into school. If they do not get better, school will contact parents straight away.

The school gates are opened at 8.45am, class registers are submitted to the office by 9am any child arriving after 9am will go down as late on the register, if a child arrives after 9.10am this is classed as unauthorised for the morning session. A certain amount of unauthorised absences could result in a fine from the local authority.

Each week in celebration assembly, we celebrate the class with the highest attendance from the previous week.

Collective Worship

As part of our collective worship in school, we are introducing termly Christian values. The value for this term is 'thankfulness'.

Your children will have been sent home with a 'Home School Values' activity sheet. This is not homework rather an opportunity for you to explore the value at home with your children. It is another way to nurture the link between home and school.

This week at St Johns

Reception have settled in lovely and have been enjoying the sunshine and time outside using bikes as well as keeping cool with water play tables.

Year 1 have enjoyed many activities all centred around Stardust (our class key text) and the school's values. We also got hands-on in Maths by exploring an assortment of objects and investigating the various ways they could be sorted. The children have really impressed us with how well they have started in Year 1 and embraced the new challenges such as changing for PE.

Year 2, the children have been gradually immersing themselves back into school and classroom routines over the week. Getting to know each other through a range of fun activities built around our school values such as Collaboration and Opportunity. We are looking forward to our hook day on Tuesday 12th October. Well done Year 2 for making a great start.

Year 3 have made a brilliant start to their time as 'juniors'. They have learnt all of the new routines very quickly and have been superb at showing all of the school values. As part of our English work this term, we have been looking at a book called 'Mrs Noah's pockets'. To launch this book, the children designed their own pocket and what they would like to put in it.

Year 4 have shown superb collaboration during their team-building activities with Miss Costello. In class, we have welcomed our new book 'A storm called Katrina' and the children have enjoyed immersing themselves fully into it.

Year 5 We've settled into our new classroom and are enjoying reading our class 'reading for pleasure' book: 'Just So Stories'! We now know how the camel got his 'hump'.

Finally Year 6 have settled well back into the classroom routines; it is fantastic to see so many of them already becoming fantastic role models as the oldest children in the school. We have spent time discussing and becoming excited for the year ahead, and I look forward to seeing them continue demonstrating our school values and taking all opportunities they are presented with.

A great start for all years with some brilliant work already been shown in class.

MyChildAtSchool App (MCAS)

MCAS is a portal enabling parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time via a web browser. This facility allows exclusive access to the child's Attendance, Data, Trips, Reports and more.

The portal also provides general useful information about school such as the academic calendar and announcements. We strongly advise that you install the MyChildAtSchool App <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin> on here you are able to reset your password and update all contact information ie mobile, email, address

Dates for Diary

11 th September	Y5 Bikeability Week Y1-Y2 Hook Day Y3-Y4 Hook Day Welcome Meeting Y1&Y6 3.15pm in classroom	See email sent earlier in week. Y1 & Y2 Children to dress in summer clothing Y3 & Y4 Children to dress in Red, white and Blue
12 th September	Y3 Bible Service at 10am St Johns Church Years 1-6	Parent helpers required, please contact the office
14 th September	Year 4 & 5 Welcome Meeting at 3.15pm in classroom.	
15 th September	Book Fair open after school 3.15-3.45pm	
21 st September	Welcome Meeting Y2 3.15pm in classroom	
22 nd September	Welcome Meeting Y3 3.15pm in classroom	
28 th September	Year R Parent Workshop 5.30pm- 6.30pm in Reception	If you are unable to attend please inform school office.
2 nd October	Open Morning for Reception 2024 at 9.15am	
3 rd October	Parents Evening virtual	More information to follow
5 th October	Parents Evening in person	More information to follow
10 th October	Hello Yellow	Children to wear yellow for a small donation
12 th October	Open Afternoon for Reception 2024 at 2pm	

13 th October	Fraser Portraits individual	More information to follow
18 th October	Harvest Celebration at School @10am (Y1 –Y6)	Parents invited
23 rd - 27 th October	Half Term	
30 th October	Back to school at 8.50 prompt	
2 nd November	Open Afternoon for Reception 2024 at 2pm	
13 th November	Odd Socks Day – Anti Bulling week	More information to follow
17 th November	Children in Need	More information to follow
28 th November	Talent Show – celebrating differences	More information to follow
1 st December	Keynsham School carol concert 10.30-11.30am	KS2 Only
8 th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day	
12 th December	Christingle Service	St Johns Church
13 th December	KS1 Nativity performance	
14 th December	KS2 Nativity Performance	
15 th December	Christmas party End of Term	