

St John's Friday Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026

Message from the Head

I hope you all had a wonderful half term holiday.

The Year 5 children have had a fantastic time on their residential to High Adventure this week. Thank you to Mrs Earley, Mrs Hall, Mrs Crawford and Mr Heseltine for giving up your time to look after the children for the three days.

We have lots of exciting things happening over the next few weeks including: World Book Day, NERF Day, Science Day, the book fair and coffee morning, Comic Relief, the PTA Chocolate Bingo Night, the Easter Service and the DT and RE themed days.

Our theme for One Life this half term is 'Compassion'. The children will be learning what compassion is and that self-compassion is important for our mental health.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Parents' Consultations meetings.

Have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Findlay



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Dates for your diary (all dates for the academic year are on the school app/website)

5th March	World Book Day
6th March	NERF Day / PTA Meeting at 2:30pm
9th March	Science Day
10th and 11th March	Parent Consultations
10th March	Y6 Hockey v Newton Hill
11th March	Class Photos / Y5 Football v Newton Hill
12th March (2-3pm)	SEND Coffee Morning with Parent Carer Forum
13th March	Book Fair and coffee morning
18th March	Messy Church @ St John's Church 3.30pm to 5.30pm
19th March	Y6 Resurrection Workshop at Wakefield Cathedral
20th March	Comic Relief (Non-Uniform Day) / Year 5 Celebration Worship (9:50am)/PTA Chocolate Bingo Night
25th March	RE Themed Day – Crosses from around the World
26th March (10am)	Easter Service at St. John's Church
27th March (9:50am)	Year 4 Celebration Worship

St John's All Stars

St John's All Stars

If you require childcare before or after school, we have St John's All Stars which opens from 7.30am and then again from 3.20pm -6.00pm Monday to Thursday and 3.20pm - 4.30pm on a Friday. Children can enjoy sausage sandwich Friday on Friday mornings! Look at the school website under Parent Information or contact wraparound@st-johns.wakefield.sch.uk for further details.

School Uniform - Just a reminder nail varnish/false nails, make-up or unsuitable hairstyles or colouring do not complement the school uniform and are **not** allowed.

Ramadan – As a school we understand that Ramadan is an extremely important month for Muslims and we wish to work with parents to ensure that we support your child's experience during this time. It is vital that parents ensure they inform the school office/class teacher, in writing, if their child is due to be fasting or refraining from any other school activities. Unless we have this in writing from parents then all children will be fed. They will also take part in all activities taking advantage of the full school curriculum.

KS2 teacher led after school clubs – Clubs continue through to week commencing 23rd March. Please contact the school office if your child is not able to attend on a particular day, they can then let the club leader know. Please collect your child from the main entrance at 4.30pm. KS1 children need to be collected by an adult after the club and KS2 children can be collected by an adult or a child of 16 or over.



MP Sports - The afterschool club continues through to Monday 23rd March for KS1 and Wednesday 25th March for KS2. As it is now lighter children can be collected from the hall doors on the KS2 playground so please ensure you make your way around school via the gate to the left of the main office and follow the path round. You will need to wait on the KS2 playground and the MP Sports leader will ask you to come to the door to collect your child/ren. KS1 children need to be collected by an adult after the club and KS2 children can be collected by an adult or a child of 16 or over.



World Book Day - On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day. The children can come dressed as any character from a book. Where possible, please bring the book too. We will post lots of pictures of the costumes on our school Instagram page. Each child will receive a £1 book token next week to use at any book shop or at the Scholastic Book Fair on 13th March.



Coffee Morning/Book Fair - On Friday 13th March, we will be hosting our Coffee Morning and Book Fair. Each class will be able to come to the coffee morning. Please come and join us when your child's class is in the hall:

10.00am Year 2
10.15am Year 1
10.30am Year R
10.45am Year 3
11.00am Year 4
11.15am Year 5 and 6

We would be grateful if you could send in donations of cakes, buns and scones (homemade or shop bought) on the morning of the event. Please label any containers so that they can be returned to you afterwards. The Scholastic Book Fair will be available at the Coffee Morning for children to purchase books. Please ensure you bring cash to make any purchases.



Red Nose Day - On Friday 20th March, we will be having a non-uniform day to raise money for Comic Relief. The children can wear something red if they wish. Please use the link to donate to this worthy cause.
https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-wakefield-st-johns-church-of-england-voluntary-aided-junior-and-infant-school

PTA Chocolate Bingo Night – The PTA have organised an Easter Chocolate Bingo Night on Friday 20th March from 3:30-4:30pm. There will be lots of Easter Egg prizes to be won! Please come along and support the event if you are able to. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are priced at £5 for adults and £2 for children (these must be purchased from the School Office by Friday 13th March). More details are on the poster attached.



Science Day - On Monday 9th March, we will be having our annual Science Day. This year's theme is 'Curiosity – What's your question?'. The children will be carrying out experiments in their classes throughout the day.



NERF Day - On Friday 6th March, we will be holding a NERF Day across school.

From Y1-Y6, each class will have the opportunity to take part in team and individual based games with our very own NERF instructors. Each child will be given a pair of safety goggles to wear and neck and headshots are specifically forbidden.

This opportunity has been offered to us as a school as we won not one, but two NERF competitions last year in Y6 - crowning us the NERF Champions of Yorkshire and the North East.

The sessions on Friday will allow children to participate in vigorous exercise, work as a team and most importantly have a lot of fun with their friends and teachers. The children will need to be in their PE kit on this day.

Class Photos - On Wednesday 11th March, the children will be having a class photograph taken. These will be available to purchase online through Tempest (more details will follow). Please ensure your child has their school uniform on for this rather than their PE Kit. If your child has PE on that day, they will do this in their school uniform.



MP Sports Holiday Camps – MP Sports Holiday Camps are coming to St John's during the Easter Holidays (7th – 10th April). During these camps, children will be taking part in a range of activities from football, to dodgeball to crafts and gymnastics with a dinner provided by a local cafe as well!

To book your child in, please follow the link which will take you to the EEQU booking website and select the dates your child will be attending. Fill out the relevant information that we need for our registers and your child's place will be secured (It is a first come first serve basis). Bookings will be open on Tuesday 3rd March for children eligible for Pupil Premium and then open to all from Tuesday 10th March for any remaining places.



https://eequ.org/book/mpse-st-johns-ce-junior-and-infant-school-with-mpse-community-engagement-cic-24427



Our 'Dinner Debate' for this newsletter is for you to discuss as a family if you wish

Linked to our Christian value of 'Forgiveness' that we are thinking about this half term in our Collective Worship and our focus on spiritual development (Self, Others, World and Meaning)

Is it easy to forgive?

This question helps us to reflect on the 'Self and Others' aspect of spiritual development by encouraging us to think about other people's feelings, how we treat others and how we listen and consider each other's views.


St. John's PTA Chocolate Bingo Night
Friday 20th March at 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Bingo!
Adult £5.00
Children £2.00
3 Games of Bingo •
Raffle •
Refreshments •
Tickets are available from the School Office – please purchase these by Friday 13th March.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Lots of Easter Egg prizes to be won!
St. John's CE (VA) J&I School PTA
Parentkind
Member Association

Dear Parents and Carers,

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March and we hope you'll join us to celebrate. We are celebrating World Book Day because we support the charity's mission to change lives through a love of books and reading.

Dressing up or bringing books into school is a big part of World Book Day celebrations and is something that children and families particularly enjoy. We are inviting children to dress up this World Book Day as it's an exciting way for children to get book recommendations from each other.

The book choice is key – even if it's just a prop or a clue, make sure your child is recommending something to read with their costume.
We are aware that the cost of living crisis might make this difficult for some families, so we encourage you to use things you already have at home to make a creative costume.
Please send your child's chosen book in with them on the day so we can read it to them and their friends.

The children will be given various activities to complete on World Book Day. There is also a live event that the children in KS2 will be watching:
LIVE-STREAM: World Book Day LIVE BBC Teach Live Lesson at 11am

Your child will also receive a free £1 book token. You can take your £1 book token to your nearest bookseller and swap it for a World Book Day £1 book or use it to get £1 off any book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more. You can find your nearest bookseller at worldbookday.com/participating-retailers. You will also be able to purchase books at the Coffee Morning on Friday 13th March.

We're very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, which could not happen without the support of parents and carers – thank you.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best wishes
Mrs Findlay