

St John's Friday Newsletter

Friday 2nd October 2026

Message from the Head

It's been a wonderful fortnight here at St. John's and we were thrilled to start this week with some delightful news. Over the weekend, Mrs Findlay and her family welcomed a precious new arrival - baby Jack Alexander Findlay. We send our warmest congratulations and love to the whole family at this very special time and we can't wait to meet little Jack soon!

We have also had lots of other things to celebrate in school, including the appointment of our Head Boy, Arthur; Head Girl, Veldah; Deputy Head Boy, Musa; and Deputy Head Girl, Isabelle. Congratulations to them all! They are going to be brilliant ambassadors for our school and excellent role models for others. A special well done to all those in Year 6 who applied and took part - we were all very impressed by the high standard of your applications and presentations.

It was lovely that so many of you were able to join us at our school Harvest Festival yesterday at St. John's Church. The children sang and performed beautifully and it was wonderful to see how each class reflected on harvest time and the importance of being thankful and sharing. Your kind donations for St. Catherine's Food Pantry are greatly appreciated.

We have an exciting few weeks ahead and look forward to welcoming you into school for parent consultation meetings on either Tuesday 13th or Wednesday 21st October.

Have a lovey weekend everyone.

Miss Hale
Acting Headteacher



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

7th October	Y3 visit to Wakefield Cathedral - Signs and Symbols workshop (pm)
8th October	World Mental Health Day – **Wear yellow to school**
9th October	Y5 Celebration Worship at 9:50am
12th – 14th October	SMART Week
12th October	Y4 visit to Wakefield Cathedral- Trinity workshop (am)
13th October	**Parent Consultations (3:30-6pm) – please note the change of date**
15th October	Religion and World Views Day
16th October	**SMART week dress-up day**
20th October	Art Curriculum Day
21st October	Parent Consultations (3:30-6pm)
23rd October	INSET Day (School closed to children)



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.

A Special Visitor

We were delighted to welcome a very special guest to our school recently! As part of a tour visiting places and meeting people across the diocese - including his visit to the Wakefield area - the Rt Revd Toby Howarth, the new Bishop of Leeds, spent time with us here at St John's. Mrs Findlay led Bishop Toby on a tour of the school, where he met with our wonderful pupils and staff, explored our facilities and observed the children hard at work and play. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity to share how our strong Christian ethos underpins everything we do - fostering a supportive, caring, and inspiring community for all our children. We are very grateful to Bishop Toby for taking the time to visit Wakefield, meet our school family and learn about what makes St John's so special.



Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thank you to everyone that came and supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raised £335 for Macmillan, which is amazing! We also sold £971.79 worth of books and so we received 50% commission from Scholastic to spend on books for school.

World Mental Health Day - 'Wear something yellow'

On Thursday 8th October, the children will be able to come to school in something yellow as our school will take parts in the **YoungMinds Hello Yellow campaign**!

Our fantastic **Wellbeing Warriors** have been working incredibly hard planning a wonderful day of awareness, positivity, and connection. They take huge pride in making this event special every year, and they have come up with some brilliant ideas to help us all focus on looking after our minds.
Here is what we have lined up across the school:

- **Wear Yellow Day (Thursday 8th October):** We are asking all pupils and staff to come to school wearing something bright and yellow. Whether it is a full yellow outfit, a bright jumper, or just a pair of yellow socks.
- **Mindfulness & Yoga:** We are delighted to welcome Sally back to school! She will be running peaceful mindfulness and yoga sessions to teach the children practical tools for staying calm and centered.
- **Enjoying Nature & Quieter Spaces:** Classes will be spending extra time outside in the fresh air, taking quiet moments to connect with nature and enjoying the peaceful, reflective areas of our school grounds.
- **In-Class Activities:** Teachers have planned a variety of engaging, age-appropriate activities designed to encourage open conversations about feelings and emotional wellbeing.
- **Well Being Warriors Collective Worship:** The Well-being Warriors will deliver a collective worship about Wear Yellow and World Mental Health day.

🔗 **How You Can Help Us Raise Money**
We want to ensure that no young person feels alone with their mental health. If you are able to support our fundraising efforts, please follow https://fundraise.youngminds.org.uk/s/9677/10500 to make a contribution. Every penny raised goes directly toward providing vital resources and early support for children's wellbeing. It will also help school be in the running to win a seated planter for our playground from Young Minds.

Thank you as always for your incredible support in making our school a kinder, brighter place!

KS2 teacher led after school clubs – After school clubs for KS2 children continue until week commencing Monday 19th October (6 weeks). If your child is unable to attend, please contact the school office to let them know. Children are collected from the main entrance at 4:20pm.

MP Sports - The club continues for KS1 children on Mondays and Wednesdays for KS2 children (6 weeks). Again, please let the school office know if your child is unable to attend on the day.

SMART Week

We are very excited about SMART Week which is taking place from Monday 12th October.

The theme for this year's SMART Week is '**Anyone can do any job.**' We would like to remind the children that anyone can do any job they choose, regardless of whether they are a boy or a girl. We want to encourage children to follow their interests, talents and dreams without feeling limited by stereotypes.

During the week the children will choose 6 different activities to do; two on Monday 12th October, two on Tuesday 13th October and two on Wednesday 14th October.

The children will be selecting their workshop choices next week in school. Your child will bring a slip home if they are doing a sports activity or outdoor activity to say that they need to bring their PE kit or old clothes to wear. Some children will have a slip saying that they have chosen a tie-dying activity and will need a white t-shirt for this.

Donations of **£1 per child** is to be made on the Arbor app under "school shop". It's a great week. Look out for the photographs on Instagram!

On **Friday 16th October**, the children can **dress up in something that they would like to be in the future**. Please don't go to any expense!



Xmas4Schools –

Next week your child will be making a Christmas picture at school or invited by their class teacher to make one at home. The pictures can be made into Christmas cards, tea towels, Christmas mugs etc. Pictures completed in school will be sent home by 12th October. If you would like to order anything, the order form must be completed and handed to your child's teacher by **Monday 19th October** at the latest. The order form will then be sent off and you will receive a unique code via text and email for you to log on and place your order. For every order made, £1 will be donated to the school PTA funds.

Xmas4schools™

Class Awards

Class R	**The Kindness Cup**	**Rosie**	**Showing kindness to all her classmates.**
Class 1	**The PE Cup**	**Sarah**	**Super partner work in our tennis lessons. Brilliant throwing and catching skills.**
Class 2	**St. John's Cup**	**Julia**	**Always working hard and trying her best. Being a kind friend and always caring for others.**
Class 3	**The Arts Cup**	**Frankie**	**A lovely Harvest picture.**
Class 4	**The Topic Cup**	**Rayyah**	**Great knowledge about the Ancient Romans**
Class 5	**The Improvement Cup**	**Beauty**	**Working hard on handwriting.**
Class 6	**The Reading Cup**	**Malia**	**A fabulous attitude to 3 mark questions.**
	Opal	**Mohammad**	**Being sensible and helpful at playtimes**

St. John's Church Harvest Festival – St. John's Church will be having their Harvest Festival on Sunday 11th October at 10am. Some of our children lead the prayers during this service. A letter has gone out with further details regarding this.



PTA Halloween Discos

Please note the CHANGE OF DATES/TIMES:

On **Wednesday 4th November from 5.00pm-6.00pm**, DJ Dan will be entertaining the **EYFS and KS1** children again with his fantastic disco. There will be a £2 charge for admission (to help cover the cost of DJ Dan and for unlimited juice and biscuits) and there will be sweets to purchase on the night.
(See posters for further details) Please do not send more that £5 for sweets. Children can dress up in Halloween costumes if they wish.



On **Thursday 5th November from 5.00pm-6.00pm**, the **KS2** children will have their Halloween disco with DJ Dan. There will be a £2 charge for admission (to help cover the cost of DJ Dan and for unlimited juice and biscuits) and there will be sweets to purchase on the night.

(See posters for further details) Please do not send more that £5 for sweets. Children can dress up in Halloween costumes if they wish.

Easyfundraising - If you purchase anything online, please go to the Easyfundraising website at www.easyfundraising.org.uk or download the Easyfundraising app.
You need to search for our cause which is:
St John's School PTA Wakefield and click 'Support this cause'.
You will need to create an account by putting in your name and email address and click 'Get Started'. You simply search for the retailer and it will direct you to the website of your choice.
Each time you purchase something, a percentage of your sale will be donated into our St. John's School PTA Wakefield account on the Easyfundraising page and we can then use the donations to purchase resources for school.

easyfundraising

PTA Meeting - The next PTA Meeting will take place on **Thursday 12th November at 2.30pm**. We will be finalising all the details of the Christmas Fair at this meeting. Please come along if you are able to.

Instagram - We have a school Instagram page **wakefieldstjohns** for you to see what the children are getting up to each week. Each class will post pictures for you to see with a #StJohnsJ&ISchool including the year your child started school e.g. #StJohnsJ&ISchool2026 for Class R.



This half term, we are thinking about the Christian value of **'Creation'** and linking this to our school vision 'Growing together, becoming all that we are created to be'. Christians believe that they are created in God's image and so we are thinking about how we are special and unique and how we can live our 'One Life' well.

As a school, we have defined spirituality as: "Spirituality is not something we can see; it is something we feel inside **ourselves (Self)** and how we treat **others (Others)**. It is about **awe and wonder (World)**, asking questions, inspiration and being aware of something 'bigger' **outside of ourselves (Meaning)**."

Each newsletter will contain **a 'Dinner Debate'** for you to discuss as a family if you wish.
Linked to our Christian value of 'Creation' and our focus on spiritual development (Self, Others, World and Meaning)

How do you feel when people do not look after God's world?

This question helps us to reflect on ourselves as human beings and how God trusted us to look after His world. It reflects the 'World' aspect of spiritual development by encouraging us to appreciate everything we have.


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DISCO
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PTA
HALLOWEEN
DISCO
DJ DAN
DJ
On THURSDAY 5th NOVEMBER
From 5:00pm - 6:00pm
The KS2 Children will have their
Halloween Disco with DJ DAN!
ADMISSION: £2
(To cover DJ Dan, unlimited
unlimited juice & biscuits!)
There will be SWEETS
to purchase on the night!
IMPORTANT: Please do not send
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Children can dress up in Halloween
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