



ST JOHN'S
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Newsletter

Issue 7, April 2024



Respect Kindness Confidence Tolerance Self-Discipline

Key Dates

Learning Showcase for Parents
Thursday 2nd May—3.40—4.30pm

Bank Holiday—School closed
Monday 6th May

Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 13th—Friday 17th May

Reception Prince and Princess Day
Thursday 16th May

New starter information evening—new Reception parents 2024
Thursday 16th May—5.30pm

Year 6—Mayan Workshop
Thursday 23rd May 2024

Reception Jack and the Beanstalk concert—families welcome
Friday 24th May—2.50pm

End of Term 5
Friday 24th May

Dear St John's Families,

It has been lovely to welcome back all of our pupils following the Easter break.

There are some fantastic learning opportunities planned in all year groups this term. Last week, we sent out our curriculum newsletters in response to parent feedback about wanting to be more aware of what children are learning in their classes. We hope you found these informative and useful.

We also look forward to welcoming many of you to come and look through your child's learning and books after school on Thursday 2nd May. The children are always so proud to show off their hard work!

It has been a really busy first week back for extra-curricular opportunities. We have had new after school clubs start for Dance, Drama and Maths as well as the EYFS Hedgehog club. We have sourced more after school clubs to provide greater variety for the children and again in response to feedback from families about wanting more opportunities for pupils to take part in. The children involved seem to be thoroughly enjoying them!

On Tuesday, we had a professional photographer come and take some photos of our fabulous school and children to help make our new website look fantastic. There is a sneak peek of some of the shots in this newsletter. The website will hopefully be launched in early June but we will keep you informed and send you the link as soon as it is 'live.'

Mrs Emma Jefferson

Headteacher

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<http://www.stjohnsprimaryacademy.co.uk/>

Ofsted

Good Provider

2023

GROWING YOUNG MINDS: A GREAT PLACE TO ENJOY LEARNING!



Attendance and Safeguarding

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

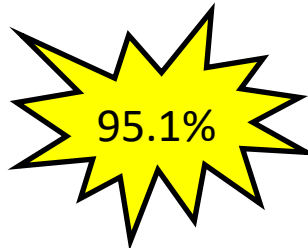


FS RJR	96.7%
FS RAS	98.6%
Y1CT	97.1%
Y1RT	97.1%
Y2ST	93.6%
Y2F	92.9%
Y3B	93.4%
Y3HC	96.6%
Y4O	95.1%
Y4BC	94.2%
Y5M	99%
Y5N	92.4%
Y6B	99.1%
Y6D	95%

Attendance for the week:



Attendance for the year to date:



NB: A school day is split into 2 sessions—AM and PM

Attendance Updates

We have now sent out details of the new attendance policy which St John's will adopt from September 2024. This is the attendance policy from the Priory Federation of Academies Trust and can be found [here](#). It is important to be aware that the new policy does include the issuing of fixed penalty notices (fines) for unauthorised absences, including term time holidays. The local authority issues these on behalf of the school.

Any planned absence from school should be requested through an absence request form available [here](#) or from the school office. These should then be returned to the Headteacher. According to the Education Regulations 2013, Headteachers can only grant absence in 'exceptional circumstances.'

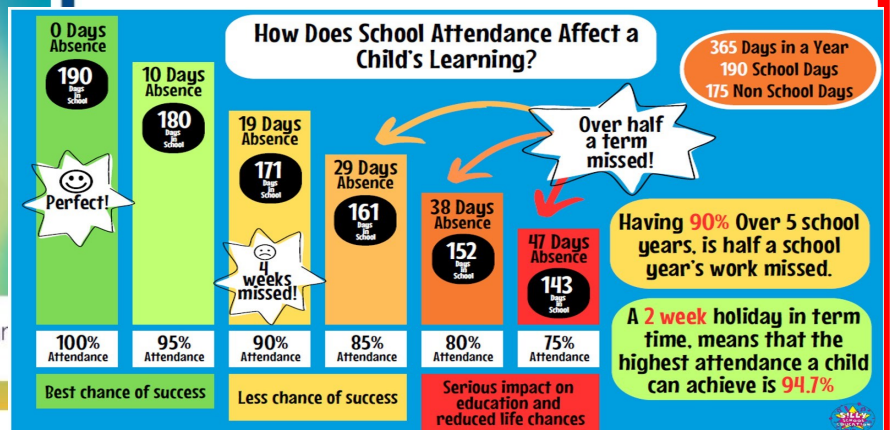
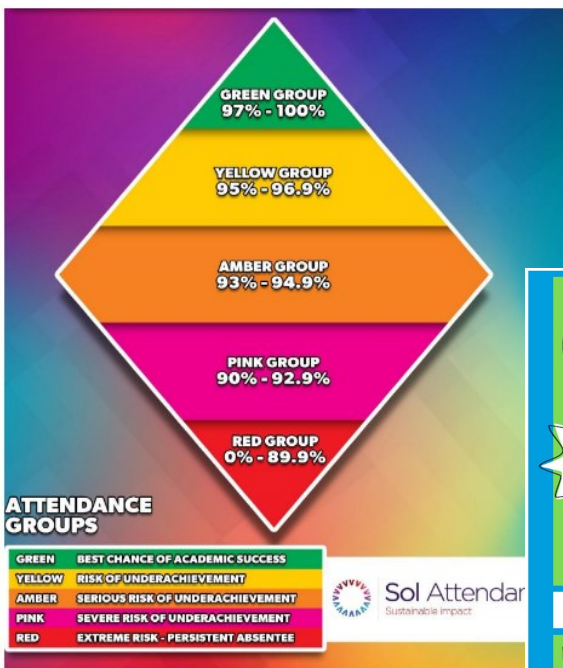
A list of academy holidays is available on our website. This list will help you to plan your own holidays to coincide with academy holidays thus avoiding any loss of schooling for your child. There is a close link between attendance and progress.

As always, if you wish to discuss your child's attendance or the support available, then please contact the school.

Special mention to 5M and 6B for some incredible attendance over the last couple of weeks of other 99%

I wonder if any other class can get themselves in the green box before the next newsletter!

Attendance Ladder



Curriculum and Learning



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Year 4 Online Safety

This week, Year 4 had an online safety lesson with Hannah Neall from LCC. It was set around a Hogwarts theme and after being put into groups, with a sorting hat of course, the children had some thought-provoking activities. In 'mythical beasts' the children learnt whether information came from a trusted source, then 'quidditch' where they learned how to play in a respectful way online, 'potions' where they worked to improve their decision making and finally 'spells' where they used 'expelliamus!' to block and report! Great work Year 4!



Year 5 British Council Project



Over 2 years ago, St John's got in touch with the British Council to be paired with a partner school in a different country to communicate on issues affecting our communities. This year, Year 5 were paired with a school in Egypt. Last week, the children showcased what they have been doing in a class assembly to their families. They highlighted how global warming and climate changing are impacting our environment, including through the flooding which has worsened in recent years. It was so reassuring to see the children as our future generation caring deeply about this and sharing tips for how we can prevent climate change having such a negative impact on our world. I was so proud of them!

Earth Day 2024

On Monday, it was Earth Day with the theme this year being Planet vs. Plastics. KS2 had this as the focus for their assembly where we discussed why we need to reduce our use of single use plastics and some tips we can follow to protect our planet. These tips can be accessed [here](#). I challenged the pupils to try and work towards some of these actions. It might be something that you wish to explore as a family.



EYFS Stay and Read

We were delighted to welcome parents into our Reception classes this week for a stay and read session with their children. Reading for pleasure and sharing stories are crucial to instil a lifelong love of reading so to see so many families enjoying books together was fantastic. The children were also able to practice their blending and show off just what fantastic readers they all are. Well done Reception classes!



In Other News



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New Playhouse for EYFS

The children in Reception class came back to class last week to a lovely surprise installed over the break. The playhouse will be a fantastic role play area to support and enhance the outdoor provision. It is currently acting as the 3 bears' cottage! A huge thank you to Asda and ColourMe Lincoln for donating the funds to purchase this - the children are very grateful!



ADHD Lincolnshire Parent Session

Ensuring we support pupils with SEND and their families is really important to us at St John's. We're delighted to be working with ADHD Lincolnshire to offer parents an information session delivered by an expert from the charity who has a wealth of knowledge around supporting pupils with ADHD or those with general attention and focus difficulties. We would welcome any parents to attend this session at St John's on **Tuesday 2nd July from 2.30—3.20pm**. Your child does not need to be on the SEND register or have a diagnosis of ADHD. If your child struggles with any attention, focus or impulsivity issues then the strategies shared will be useful. There will be the opportunity to ask questions and to speak about your child if desired. The staff will then also receive a training session after school to continue the important development of our own awareness and knowledge of SEND and how to support pupils with ADHD in the classroom.



Wedding bells!

There are wedding bells ringing all around St John's as we congratulate Miss Richardson who got married over the Easter holidays and Miss Opie who is due to get married over the May half term. Miss Richardson will become Mrs Pook from September with her new class and Miss Opie is becoming Mrs Opie-Skinner from after May half term. I know you'll join me in wishing them every happiness for their future!

Maths Competition

Before the Easter holidays, we took a small team of Y5/6 pupils to Sir William Robertson Academy to take part in a Maths competition. There were different rounds, including group rounds, speed rounds and logic rounds. Out of 12 schools taking part, St John's took 3rd place with 152 points. What an amazing achievement and some great determination from the pupils involved.



Picture Perfect!



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We couldn't resist sharing a small sneak peek of some of the amazing photos taken in school this week to help showcase St John's on our new website and in other materials we create. The children (and staff!) were all naturals in front of the camera and I can't wait to share more images with you very soon!



In the Community



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The Heath Village Hall and Library

I know we have some very keen chess players at St John's so please see the dates to the left if anyone fancies a play at The Heath library. No need to book, just turn up and play and brush up those skills!

The library have also extended their opening hours on a Monday and Wednesday. They will now open from 2pm-4.30pm so that children and families can attend after school. I know we have some avid readers so please do pop along.

The Bracebridge Heath Womble Group

To link with Earth Day and ensuring we are protecting and looking after our environment, we wanted to share with you a local community group. The wombles of Bracebridge Heath started around April 2021 with a small group of volunteers following excessive littering after Covid. The group was soon supported by Bracebridge Heath Parish Council and many villagers have contributed over the years. They meet once a month on Sunday, usually announced on their Facebook page - just search Wombles of Bracebridge Heath if you would like to join their very friendly group. Children are welcome but they must be accompanied by someone in their family with parental consent.



Football sponsors



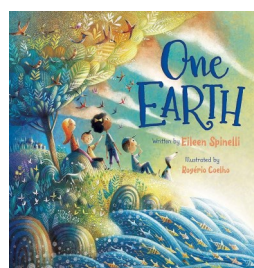
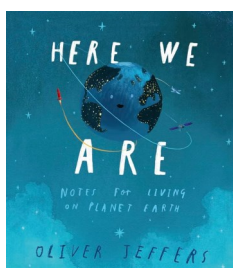
We are delighted that Party Delights are sponsoring our girls football team kit next academic year and we are thankful for their support. Our girls will look fantastic in their new kit and it may mean a few visits from the ice cream van!

We are still looking for a sponsor for our boys kit so if you know a business which may be interested, please let Mr Morris or Coach Danny know!

Mrs Jefferson's recommended reads

I've linked my choices this time to Earth Day and some fantastic books which can support with appreciating our planet.

EYFS / KS1



KS2

