



St John the Baptist C of E (Aided) Primary School

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Newsletter No. 1 – Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Families

It has been a pleasure to welcome all our families back for the start of this new academic year. The energy and enthusiasm around school is wonderful, and I am delighted to say that we have had a very positive and settled start to the term.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Reception children and their families, who have joined our school community. The children have made a fantastic start and are certainly ready to go full time as of next week.

We also welcome Mrs Marsh – our new teaching assistant who will be working predominantly with our Key Stage 2 children.

Across school, children have returned with a great attitude to learning and our staff have been busy organising classrooms, routines and expectations to set the tone for the year ahead. There is a real sense of purpose and positivity throughout the school!

Respect is our value this term and during our launch assembly, we discussed what it means to be respectful, how we can be kind to each other and how we can shine like lights being kind.

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Best wishes

Jane Sharrock

IMPORTANT NOTICE – WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

As we have children in school with severe nut allergies, please could we remind all parents that if children are bringing a packed lunch (or a mid-morning snack) to school, it is important that there are no products in the lunch box that contain nuts, including items such as chicken satay, cereal bars, and peanut based chocolate spreads. Alongside this, due to some of our children having various food intolerances, we would also ask that homemade produce is not brought to school to share with other children. Your support with this is very much appreciated.

PARENT FORUM

Last year, we set up a Parent Committee so that our parents would be the representatives of our parent body. We would like to carry on with the initiative, meeting once a half term to discuss what would be useful to communicate, including teaching and learning, policies and other items that would benefit from parent input. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact the school office.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

School meals are free for all state school pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 of primary school. These are known as 'universal infant free school meals'.

However, if your family are living on a low income and claiming certain benefits, your child may be able to get a free lunch regardless of their school year (known as 'benefit-related free school meals'). If your child qualifies for benefit-related free school meals, you should apply for this as they will not **only qualify for a free hot meal, but other subsidies including a free school sweatshirt, polo shirt and free milk.** For more information and to see if you are eligible, please follow this link: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

If you are not sure if this applies to you, then please come and talk to Mrs Baird or Mrs Johnson in the school

INSET DAYS 2025/2026

We have planned INSET days (staff training days) for this academic year. The school will be closed for children on the following days:

05/01/2026	13/04/2026
01/06/2026	22/07/2026

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For our new families, we have a tradition where we like to invite the children to wear non-school uniform on their birthday. If their birthday falls at the weekend, or during a holiday they can wear non-school uniform on the Friday before.



HEALTHY BREAKTIME SNACKS



Just a reminder for families who have children in Rowan and Redwood classes, if your child would like a snack during our morning break, then they can bring in fruit or vegetables.

All children in Ash and Willow class receive free fruit or veg daily from the Schools Fruit and Vegetable Scheme but may bring in fruit or veg of their own choice should they wish.

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE - Please speak to the office if you need copies of recent correspondence.

- Ash and Willow Construction Club
- Whole school Sing and Sign Club
- Redwood – Visit to Mary Rose, Portsmouth
- KS2 Angmering Mile
- KS1 Angmering Half Mile
- KS1 History – photos
- Year 2 – Year 6 Boys' Vocal Club
- KS1 Welcome letter
- Year 2 – Reading
- Rowan and Redwood homework
- KS2 Arundel Christmas concert
- Year 2 – Year 6 Choir
- KS2 Recorder Club
- Year 6 Bikeability training
- Class topic letters
- Year 5 and Year 6 football and netball opportunities

DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM 2025

Over the weeks, we will add **new dates/events in red**, so please make sure that you regularly check this list and update your diaries.

SEPTEMBER

Mon 15 September	Y2 - Y6 Choir starts (3.20 – 4.15pm)
Tues 16 September	Rowan & Redwood Angmering Mile (3.45pm) Y2 - Y6 Boys' Vocal Club starts (3.20 – 4.15pm)
Mon 22 September	Sing and Sign Club starts – all year groups (3.20 – 4pm)
Tues 23 September	Y1 – Y2 Angmering Half Mile (3.45pm)
Thurs 25 September	Rowan & Redwood Recorder Club starts (3.20 – 4.15pm)
Fri 26 September	Ash & Willow Construction Club starts (3.15 – 4.15pm)
Tues 30 September	PTA AGM (7.30pm, school hall) – all welcome!

OCTOBER

Thurs 2 October	Y5 – Y6 Football and Netball training
Tues 7 October	Redwood trip to Mary Rose, Portsmouth
Wed 8 October	Open Morning for 2026 Reception visits (9am)
Thurs 9 October	Y5 – Y6 Football and Netball training
Fri 10 October	Astracolour individual school photos (am)
Wed 15 October	Harvest Festival Service – all welcome (9am)
Thurs 16 October	Six Weeks In meeting for our new Reception parents – details to follow (9am) Y5 – Y6 Football and Netball training
Fri 17 October	Rowan trip to Brighton Museum
w/c 20 October	Year 6 Bikeability training
Mon 20 October	Open Afternoon for 2026 Reception visits (1.30pm)
Tues 21 October	Y1 – Y6 Parent consultations (3.30 – 6.30pm) – info to follow
Wed 22 October	Y1 – Y6 Parent consultations (3.30 – 5.30pm) – info to follow
Thurs 23 October	Locality football and netball matches
Fri 24 October	Parent Forum (2pm) Last day of half term
Fri 31 October	Deadline for secondary school applications