



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

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Newsletter No. 4 – Friday 3rd October 2025

Dear Families

As we are part of the Chichester Diocese, we work alongside the team who support us as a Church of England School. We had our termly visit this week and our new School Effectiveness Officer, Nick Sharp, had the opportunity to see our school, meet the staff and children and have a tour of our grounds. Feedback was very positive and he could see that we are a nurturing, family school.

Over the last twelve months, we have been reviewing the school vision and our mission – the reason we are here and what we do. This has now been finalised and updated on our website and appropriate policies. In Collective Worship, we looked at our new mission statement.

“Grown in Christ, Belong to Community and Serve with Purpose” and the children did a great job identifying who we are and what we do. There are some examples of what the children came up with:

Work together
Everyone is equal
Tolerance
Willing to learn
Kind
Thankful
Stand strong

What amazing answers they gave and how blessed we are that they could articulate this.

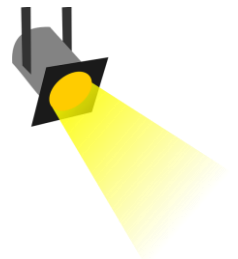
ATTENDANCE SPOTLIGHT

Attendance Matters: Why Every Day Counts

Our current school attendance is 97.5% which is above national and a great start to the year.

I wanted to highlight the importance of school attendance.

1. Children who attend school regularly are far more likely to meet expected standards in reading, writing and maths. Missing a few days each month can lead to gaps in learning that are hard to catch up on.
2. Regular absences can affect a child's ability to secure friendships and feel part of the school community.
3. Children with less than 90% attendance have missed the equivalent of four weeks school.
4. Being in school builds positive routines and helps to reduce anxiety and isolation.



I also wanted to highlight that as of August 2024, the DFE mandate that:

- 10 or more unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 full school days) must trigger consideration of a penalty notice.
- A session is defined as either a morning or afternoon.
- Family holidays during term time are unauthorised absences.

As always, we are here to support all of our families and should you have any concerns or struggles with attendance, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes
Jane Sharrock

REMINDER - BOYS' VOCAL CLUB

On Tuesday, 7th October, Boys' Vocal Club will not take place because Mrs Wellby is on a school trip with her class.

FOOD SAFETY

We have had some new guidance around nutrition and choking hazards. More information to follow regarding this. In the meantime, please can we ask that grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut into quarters.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Wednesday 15th October, at 9am, we will be celebrating Harvest Festival with the children and you are all welcome to join us. Redwood Class will be leading this year's service. We have chosen to support Worthing Foodbank again who would greatly appreciate any donations. **Please bring in donations on Wednesday 15th, which can be presented at the Harvest Service.** Parents are welcome to wait in the school hall after drop off.

Here are some suggestions from Worthing Foodbank:

Tins - fruit, puddings, meat, fish, tomatoes, vegetables, soup

Packets – biscuits, cereals

Drinks – Milk (UHT), fruit juice (long life), tea bags

Thank you for your support.



RECENT CORRESPONDENCE – Please speak to the office if you require copies of recent correspondence.

- Redwood Trip information emailed to parents
- Year 6 secondary school open events emailed to parents
- Y1 – Y6 parent consultation letter
- Email to Rowan Class parents – history curriculum



DIARY 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.

OCTOBER

Tues 7 October

Wed 8 October
Thurs 9 October
Fri 10 October
Wed 15 October
Thurs 16 October

Fri 17 October
w/c 20 October
Mon 20 October
Tues 21 October
Wed 22 October
Thurs 23 October
Fri 24 October

Fri 31 October
w/c 27 October

Redwood trip to Mary Rose, Portsmouth – please check emails

BOYS' VOCAL CLUB & NETBALL CLUB CANCELLED
Open Morning for 2026 Reception visits (9am)
Y5 – Y6 Football training
Astracolour individual school photos (am)
Harvest Festival Service – all welcome (9am)
Six Weeks In meeting for our new Reception parents – details to follow (9am)
Year 6 Height and Weights (am)
Y5 – Y6 Football training
Rowan trip to Brighton Museum
Year 6 Bikeability training
Open Afternoon for 2026 Reception visits (1.30pm)
Y1 – Y6 Parent consultations (3.30 – 6.30pm) – info to follow
Y1 – Y6 Parent consultations (3.30 – 5.30pm) – info to follow
Locality football and netball matches
KS1 Fairy tale WOW day
Parent Forum (2pm)
Last day of half term
Deadline for secondary school applications
Half-term holiday

NOVEMBER

Mon 3 November

Fri 7 November
Sat 8 November
Thurs 13 November
Fri 14 November
Wed 19 November
Mon 24 November

Back to school
Clubs restart this week*
*No Chelsea Football Club
PTA Fireworks Night
World Kindness Day
Children in Need fundraising
Small Schools Football tournament (Y5&Y6)
Angmering Football tournament (Y5&Y6)

DECEMBER

Mon 1 December	Last Sing and Sign Club
Fri 5 December	Last Construction Club
Sun 7 December	Findon Christmas Lights Switch On! – school choir (5pm)
Mon 8 December	Last Wannado Street Dance
Tues 9 December	Ash and Willow Nativity (2pm) Findon Village Walking Nativity (5.30pm tbc)
Wed 10 December	Ash and Willow Nativity (2pm)
Thurs 11 December	PTA Elfridges event – details to follow
Fri 12 December	Nasal flu vaccinations (pm) – information to follow PTA Christmas Disco – details to follow
Sat 13 December	Christmas Carol Concert Arundel Cathedral
Tues 16 December	School Carol Service (9am) – all welcome
Wed 17 December	Rowan and Redwood Christmas Concert (9.15am) – details to follow
Thurs 18 December	Rowan and Redwood Christmas Concert (2.15pm)
Fri 19 December	Whole school Christmas party lunch – Chartwells meals cancelled Last day of term
Sun 21 December	9 Lessons and Carols – school choir (pm – tbc)