

**13th November 2023**

**Issue No: 2**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new half term. The children have all come back to school with wonderful enthusiasm and a great attitude to learning, which is as always, lovely to see.

Today, **Monday 13th November is Anti-Bullying Week and also World Kindness Day.** The national theme for the week this year is 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. In school there will be a whole school assembly about anti bullying and being kind. Further sessions will also take place in the classroom. We have also included in the messenger '14 ways you can share kindness online' poster to support discussion with your children. **On Friday we are asking all children to come to school wearing odd socks (as part of their non uniform for the day) as a great way of celebrating how unique we all are.**

For our Harvest Appeal we supported our local food bank (Kidsgrove Rotary). A huge thank you to all who donated, it was an amazing effort and greatly appreciated. Our fundraising focus this term is the Dougie Mac. We will be holding a Christmas jumper day to raise money and will be asking for any donations of unwanted toys to be given to the charity. Further communication will be sent out from our Mini Vinnies.

Today, our Year 6 children will be starting their 5 day residential at Stanley Head, we know they will have an amazing time and wish them a wonderful week ahead.

**On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 3.00pm – 6.00pm (drop in at any time),** we are holding an **open evening in EYFS for any prospective parents for Nursery or Reception** next year. Please come along if your child will be in Nursery or Reception next year or if you know anyone who is interested please pass the information onto them. The application process for the reception class is now open – this is for children who will be 4 on the 1st September 2024. Applications for the reception class need to be made directly through the authority and this closes on 15th January 2023. <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

Applications for Nursery come direct through the school, please ask at the office for a Nursery application form.

We have a very busy half term ahead of us and Christmas will be here before we know it. Please look carefully at all of the dates for November and December, sent out before half term

Thank you for your wonderful support.

Mrs Rigby  
Principal



Yesterday was Remembrance Sunday.

Thank you to all of the children and families who joined us on the parade, it was wonderful to see lots of St. John's children both walking with us and with their beavers and scouts groups.

Last week the children had the opportunity to pay their respects for those who have died for our country. This month in our prayers, we remember all of those who have fallen and given their lives for us.

Lest we forget.



# Diary Dates / Notes



## November

Sunday 12th—Remembrance Day Parade  
15th—Lichfield Cathedral Performance  
17th -Non Uniform in exchange for Chocolate/Selection boxes etc for Christmas Fair  
17th—Celebration Assembly 2.30pm  
20th School Photographs  
22nd—Film Night  
24th—29th Book Fair (in the hall)  
24th—Non Uniform in exchange for bring a bottle for Christmas Fair  
24th- Celebration Assembly 2.30pm

## December

1st—Non Uniform in exchange for Refreshment items eg Crisps, sweets, Biscuits for Christmas Fair  
1st—Celebration Assembly 2.30pm  
5th—EYFS/KS1 Santa Visit  
6th—Year 1 Toys of the past trip  
8th—Christmas Jumper Day in exchange for £1.00 (payable on Scopay under Charity/ cash) in aid of Douglas Macmillan  
8th—Christmas Fair  
15th—Celebration Assembly 2.30pm  
20th—Christmas School Dinner  
22nd—Whole School Mass  
22nd— Last day of school

**PE kits need to be brought into school every Monday  
and left in lockers for the week, full uniform to be worn everyday.  
Please ensure your child has the correct Uniform and PE kit.**

## Term Dates 2023-2024

### Autumn Term 2023

Last day of school Friday 22nd December

### Spring Term 2024

Inset Day Monday 8th January  
(School closed to pupils)  
School opens to all Tuesday 9th January  
Half Term Monday 12th February—Friday 16th February  
School opens to all Monday 19th February  
School Closes Friday 22nd March

### Summer Term 2024

School opens to all Monday 8th April  
May Day—school closed Monday 6th May



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## IMPORTANT

Please notify the relevant office if your address/telephone/email has

### October Attendance

Nursery	88.42%
Reception	97.54%
Year 1	96.26%
Year 2	98.33%
Year 3	97.22%
Year 4	95.97%
Year 5	95.71%
Year 6	95.95%

**Well done Year 2!**



While the weather is colder please ensure that all children have suitable clothing for outdoor play at break/lunch time eg coats, hats and gloves.



### PTFA Events

**17th -Non Uniform in exchange for Chocolate/Selection boxes etc for Christmas Fair**

**22nd November Film Night Nativity  
15:15—17:15**

**24th—Non Uniform in exchange for bring a bottle for Christmas Fair**

**1st—Non Uniform in exchange for Refreshment items eg Crisps, sweets, Biscuits for Christmas Fair**

**8th—Christmas Jumper Day in exchange for £1.00 (payable on Scopay under Charity/cash) in aid of Douglas Macmillian**

**8th December Christmas Fair**



**Be In SCHOOL  
Be On TIME**

Please be mindful of other road users, local residents and the safety of our children when parking around school. Please be reminded that no parking is allowed outside The Avenue **at any time**, unless displaying a blue badge. Gloucester Road—please do not block residents driveways or park on the zig zag lines.

**Please do not send children into school with cough /throat sweets these are not allowed due to being a potential choking hazard.**



Please share your positive views about our school on Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> Thank you for your support.

# Reminders to Parents



- ♦ **School Uniforms**—Our full uniform range is now available at Supersport, Tunstall (including Ties and book bags). Smart school, Tunstall stock the cardigans/jumpers and non branded items. The school office carries a limited stock of elastic ties, water bottles & book bags. Please order via Scopay.
- ♦ **School Dinners** -  
Price per meal **£2.40** for Nursery.  
Price per meal **£3.10** for years 3/4/5 & 6.
- ♦ **Breakfast Club - Staffed by Mrs Copeland & Mrs Meadowcroft**
- ♦ Places must be booked and paid for in advance via Scopay.  
**Breakfast Club per child;** from 7.30am £5.00 or £20 for the whole week—**Children must be in by 8.30am**  
**Drop off at 8.30am cost £1.00 (Bookable via office@stjohnskidsgrove.org.uk)**
- ♦ **After school care club—Mon-Fri 3pm-5.45pm –Snack included. Staffed by Mrs Copeland & Mrs Bennett**
- ♦ Places must be booked and paid for in advance via Scopay.  
**Care Club per child:**  
from 3.00pm to 4.30pm £5.00  
from 3.00pm to 5.45pm £7.50  
St Margaret Ward Siblings can be dropped off from 8.10am and picked up by 3.40pm no charge. Before or after this time charges above apply.
- ♦ We are a cashless school—all payments are to be made in advance via your child's Scopay account.
- ♦ **Late Arrivals / Early Leaving** - please bring/collect your child to/from the school office. It is important that your child attends school regularly and on time in order to ensure good academic achievement. Please ensure that where possible, medical appointments are arranged outside school hours.

Please note the school has a strict no smoking policy on its grounds. This includes E-cigarettes or any other nicotine based products.

If you see anyone on the school premises when the school is closed please call the police on **101** and report the incident. Thank you for your support and cooperation

**Would Parents and Carers please note that dinner money, careclub and afterschool clubs are payable in advance and should be paid online via your child's Scopay**



**Please note Dogs should not be brought onto school premises**

**School Hours:** EYFS/KS1 Doors open at 8.35am need to be in by 8.40am

Nursery doors open 3.00pm Reception & KS1 Collection at 3.10pm

KS2 Doors open at 8.45am need to be in by 8.50am. Collection at 3.20pm

**ABSENCE ....IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL YOU MUST TELEPHONE SCHOOL ON 01782 367267 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE ABSENCE LINE. BEFORE 09.30am stating the reason for absence.**

**If you require this document in any other format please contact the office.**