



Newsletter April 2026

Dear Everyone,

It's a beautiful sunny day today and we are looking forward to some great weather over the weekend. The summer term has arrived and with it we are looking forward to all of the lovely activities and events in store.

James, our school gardener has been busy working with children, sowing seeds and planting vegetables and flowers that the children will water and look after over the term. He is also working alongside our Eco Council who have planted our wildlife garden and are now looking at how to develop our pond area.

A big well done to Year 5 this week who, for the second time this year, trod the boards at the Weymouth Pavilion when they performed in the Chesil Schools Poetry Festival. They did us proud! Thank you to Mrs Cast and Mrs Macey too!

Please check out other news and information in the newsletter.

I hope you have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Amanda Aze
Head teacher



Some safety reminders please

Please can we remind families that children should arrive at school at 8.20am at the earliest. This is especially the case if Y5/Y6 children are coming to school without an adult.

Also to remind parents/carers that children in your care at the start and end of days must be supervised. No tree climbing/playing on school equipment please before or after school.

We have recently spoken to Year 6 regarding mobile phones and the absolute importance that these are not used on the school site. As soon as children arrive at school these MUST be handed into either the school office, if children arrive before 8.30am OR handed straight into the class teacher/TA if arriving on or after 8.30am. I am pleased to say that children have listened and are following this rule in a responsible way.

Easter celebrations at St John's Church and School

At the end of last term children from Keystage 2 had a brilliant time at St John's Church doing some Easter escape room activities. This was a change from our usual Easter Service and the children really enjoyed solving puzzles and cracking codes to learn about the Easter story. A great big thank you to Susie Coopey and a wonderful team of helpers from St John's Church who made children and staff feel so welcome.



Easter Experience

Our EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children enjoyed a wonderful Easter Experience on in school exploring the meaning of Holy Week through a variety of engaging, hands-on activities. The children created their own palm leaves and acted out Palm Sunday, helping them understand Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem. They also shared bread and wine (squash) as they learned about the Last Supper, and explored the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet, reflecting on the importance of humility, kindness and serving others. These were just a few of the activities that brought the Easter story to life. It was a meaningful and memorable experience, giving the children the opportunity to learn, reflect and think about how they can show care and compassion to others. ✚



Sporting News

Last term the boys' football team played in the Nash Cup. They fought hard and put their all into it. Well done boys for great teamwork, courage and resilience!

In March, the St John's girls' team played in the Weymouth Schools Football Tournament. They worked super hard and showed great teamwork. Although they didn't win, they did the school proud!

Our Netball team played in the Weymouth Schools Netball Tournament. Although they didn't win, they scored lots of goals and showed excellent teamwork and determination.

Well done team St. John's! There will be lots more sporting activities and events to look forward to this term including, of course our school sports days.



Tell a Joke Competition winners

On Friday 20th March we supported Comic Relief with a non-uniform day and a Joking Around Competition. Children told their joke to their class and the winner was chosen by their class mates. You can see the winning jokes below. Well done to everyone who took part!



St John's Comic Relief

TELL A JOKE

Competition Winners!

Ivy - How many tickles does it take to make an Octopus laugh?
Ten tickles!

Tempany - Why didn't the shrimp share his treasure?
Because he was a little shell fish!

Zara - How did the sticker cross the road?
Because it was stuck to somebody's eye!

Year 1 - Why can't Elsa hold the balloon?
Because she might 'Let it go'!

Eva - What do you call a train that chews gum?
A chew chew train!

Mila - Why was Cinderella so bad at football?
Because she kept running away from the ball!



Reading Competition

Congratulations to the winners of our Reading Competition! They all won a £5 voucher to spend at our recent Scholastic Book Fair.

Take a look at the unusual places that they were found reading!



Governor Volunteer Vacancy

We are looking for new members of our School Governor Team!

Do you have some spare time and looking for a meaningful and rewarding way to help our school? We are looking for volunteers with a Christian faith to join our Academy Standards and Ethos Committee (ASEC). Please read through the information below. If this sounds like you and have 5- 10 hours every half term to offer, please contact the Clerk, Tracy Ruffle: tracy.ruffle@dsat.org.uk or via governance@dsat.org.uk. You can find out more about governance within our Trust on our website at www.dsat.org.uk.



The poster features logos for the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust, the Salisbury Diocese of Education, and St. John's CE Primary School. The title is 'FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY'. The text asks for new school governors and lists qualities such as Christian faith, willingness to represent the school, communication skills, and commitment to the school's ethos. It includes contact information for Tracy Ruffle and a website link. At the bottom, there is a photograph of children playing in a schoolyard and a graphic with the text 'FAITH makes a difference... NOT EASY'.



The poster features logos for the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust and St. John's CE Primary School. The title is 'GOVERNOR VOLUNTEER VACANCY'. The text asks for new members of the School Governor Team and lists qualities such as interest in education, support for the school's ethos, communication skills, and commitment to the school's aims. It includes contact information for Tracy Ruffle and a website link. At the bottom, there is a photograph of a group of people, including a teddy bear, smiling.

Helping Your Child with Big Emotions

The Mental Health in Schools Team is pleased to share their new pre-recorded webinar, “**Helping Your Child with Big Emotions.**”

This short, accessible session is designed to support parents and carers in understanding and responding to children’s emotional needs. The webinar explores:

- **Emotional regulation** – what it is and why it matters
- **Triggers and early warning signs** – recognising when a child is beginning to feel overwhelmed
- **Ways to help a child calm and cope** – supportive approaches that make a difference
- **Practical strategies to try at home** – simple tools families can use daily

You can view the webinar here <https://forms.office.com/e/TxhWjE7tza>

School Uniform Reminder

We have a uniform policy at St John's and expect every child to adhere to it. This ensures that there is equity for every child, it also helps us to look smart and ready for learning.

We wear our PE kit to school on PE days. Every other day we wear our school uniform. Shoes need to be plain black, trainers are only allowed to be worn on PE days.

Right now we can see that there are a number of children who are not wearing school uniform, especially footwear.

We will be sending reminder letters home if the uniform policy is not being followed with an expectation that this is then sorted moving forward. If you are struggling with providing the correct uniform, please do speak to the school office.

Clear guidance regarding our school uniform can be found on the school website here: [St John's Church of England Primary School - Uniform](#)

Dates for your diary

April

14th First day of Summer Term 1

22nd Year 5 Chesil Poetry and Music Event

24th Fraser Portraits Group Photos

May

4th BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

11th – 15th Year 6 SATS week

20th – 22nd Year 4 Leeson House Residential Trip

25th – 29th HALF TERM



Safeguarding - Child Protection

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

REMEMBER: If you have a suspicion or concern about child abuse you should always take some consult, seek advice and take action.

Families and members of the public can contact the Family Support and Advice Line (FSAAL) on 01305 228558.

Alternatively, during term time, you can contact the school to speak to Amanda Aze (Designated Safeguarding Lead –DSL), Heidi Martin (Deputy DSL) or Alice Rist (Deputy DSL).

The safety of our children is the responsibility of us all. St John's CE Primary School, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 7TP
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