



NEWSLETTER No. 17

June 2025

Dear Saint John's families,

It is the penultimate newsletter of the year and it is a bumper edition! There are so many great photos of the activities we have been doing during these last two weeks and we hope that those of you who were able to join us have enjoyed experiencing them alongside us!

Sports Day was a huge success. Huge thanks go to all those involved in organising it, with particular mention to Miss Sanders and Mr Allison, plus all the PTFA team. It was lovely to have so many of our Saint John's community come and watch; thank you!

As we look towards the end of term, there are the normal activities happening as always. Please do note these in the opposite section of writing. Please also keep an eye on Dojo as there are occasions when changes need to be made and communicating this to our families is done via Dojo, either on the Class Dojo or on the whole School Story.

Changes always occur at the end of an academic year and there are often goodbyes. We will be saying Goodbye to Miss Kiely who joined us last November, having moved into the area. She is getting married this summer and we wish her all the best for the future. We have had a very large number of applicants for this class teacher post and will be interviewing in the middle of next week, so will announce the new teacher as soon as we can. A number of the applicants are people who have worked here before so it is great to have so many wanting to return!

Transition afternoon will happen on Monday afternoon and children will experience new classrooms and new teachers. Please encourage your child to look forward to this time and help them to be positive and resilient in the face of change. Worried parents/carers can impact a child, so please be enthusiastic and talk about the process of growing up and change! Families will find out the arrangements as children come out at the end of the day; we see it as their news for you, rather than via some official communication from school! It is all very exciting.

Monday 7th July: Open Classrooms at 2.15pm

After a chance to see the children in their classrooms, there will be an Internet Safety presentation with really **important information** for parents/carers. In order to make this as accessible as possible, we have arranged this for the end of the afternoon in the hope that parents/carers can stay a little longer after the end of the school day. We will provide child care outside in the playground (an extra playtime for the children!) and we would really encourage parents/carers to commit to listening to this excellent presentation. We continue to see concerning behaviours involving devices across schools in Gloucestershire and therefore, at Saint John's, we want to ensure our parents have all the information they need to support their child's use of a phone/laptop/device.

Friday 11th July: School Summer Fair at 5.30pm

Wednesday 16th July: Year 6 Performance: 10.30am

As we did last year, we will be having a performance for the Year 6 at the end of their time with us at Saint John's. The other junior classes will also be involved, but with the focus on the Year 6 pupils. Please do put this date in the diary. It will be at Highbury Church at **10.30am (approx)** but we will need help walking down with the whole school at about 10.10am. Please help!

Wednesday 16th July: Leavers' Disco at 6pm

Thursday 17th July: Leavers' Service at **2pm**, with the option of pupils being taken home directly from St Luke's. Again, all parents/carers are welcome with the supporters of Year 6 pupils strongly encouraged to come!

Friday 18th July: Final day of the year. **Finish at 2pm**

Enjoy the sunshine this weekend!

Mrs Beevers



Written by Sharon Morrow TA



Reception have had such an exciting week! The children loved their sports day races and behaved so beautifully, despite the heat! In RE, the children have been thinking about 'special places'. They talked about their special place where they can relax and feel safe. Their suggestions included the park, their bedroom, a garden, the beach and even a swimming pool. They have also been learning how the church is a special place for Christians. The children will be learning about special places for other religions later in the term. They learnt about the features in a church, including how stained glass windows tell stories from the Bible and make the church look special. They made their own stained glass windows to remind them of the church being a special place for Christians. In Maths, the children have been learning to 'manipulate, compose and decompose'. They have been rotating shapes for a purpose to make pictures. They have cut out and stuck summer pictures and used the Numicon to make dogs, butterflies, cars and rockets. They have also made some pictures out of tangrams.



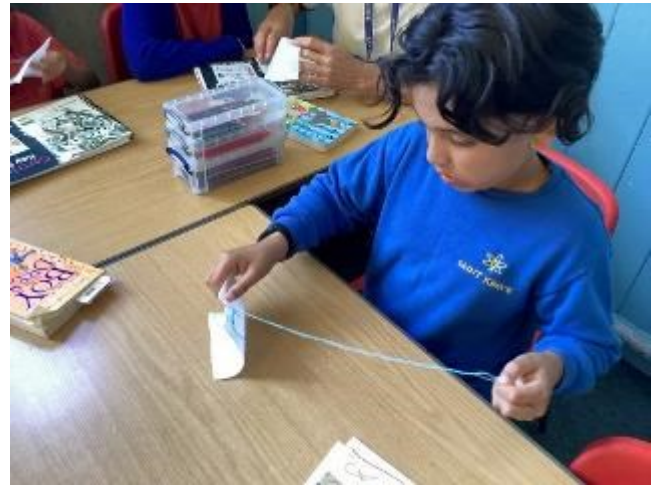
Year 1 worked in pairs to find some interesting facts about different animals. The children organised these facts under sub headings. They will use this information later on in the term when they write their own non-chronological report. As part of their DT unit of work, the children spent a lesson making sure their wheels and axles were secure before they added on a toy to their design.



In Science, **Year 2** have been enjoying learning about what plants need to grow. The children then had fun planting their own sunflower seeds. They have been practising their fielding and striking skills in PE. and they took part in small sided games to practise these skills.



Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their time at St Luke's church on Monday. The children participated in a variety of activities to explore the creation story and particularly loved their squash and biscuit on the beanbags! In DT, they have been learning how to sew using running stitch and backstitch. This has been a challenge but they have shown great perseverance and are starting to reap the rewards.



Year 4 spent the day at Robinswood Nature Reserve, looking at the different habitats as part of their Science unit. The children enjoyed exploring a woodland area as well as pond dipping in the wildlife pond. A lovely day was had by all. THANK YOU to the parents who came with us, without whom the trip would not be possible.



Last week, **Year 5** had a fantastic trip to SkillZone to learn about the many potential hazards that they may have to deal with. They learned how to cross a railway crossing and a road safely. There was a real bus and train on site, which the children sat on and discussed how to deal with challenges from the public. They also went into a house and identified the many fire hazards that can be found in houses and how they should minimise these dangers. They also learned more about staying safe online, knife crime and avoiding dark alleyways! The children also competed in sports day. They showed great sportsmanship, cheering and encouraging all the other year groups as well as their classmates.



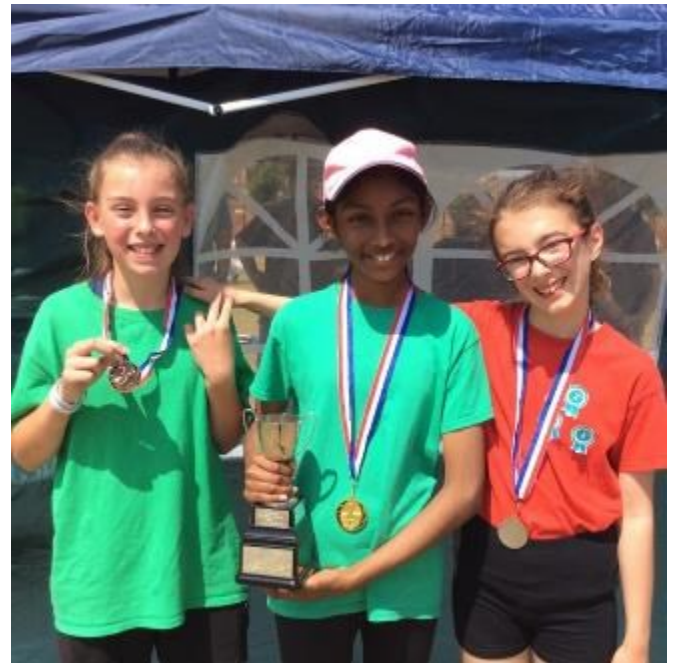
Year 6 ukulele lessons are going very well. The children are learning a number of songs using up to five different notes. They are really enjoying getting to grips with this fun instrument and are working towards a mini performance that they can show to an audience. The children also had another useful transition workshop, this time thanks to Cambray Baptist Church. In groups, the children had the opportunity to discuss some of the differences that they will experience next term, how they might manage any potential problems that they might have and also ask any questions on their mind to a couple of Year 11 pupils who had just finished their secondary schooling.



We enjoyed a fantastic sports day morning at Victoria Cricket Ground. THANK YOU to the PTFA for providing drinks and ice-lollies for the children, the cricket ground for allowing us to use the venue and the staff and volunteers who made the morning such a success. Well done, to the children who won medals in the Year 5 and Year 6 long distance races.







The KS2 children enjoyed a visit by Anne Evans from Friends of Sandford Park to talk about the refurbishment of the playground in the park. They had a discussion about what makes a good play park and they had planning time in groups to generate ideas.



Clare and Daisy come into Year 1 regularly to help with reading. We raised some money for the Pets as Therapy charity to say THANK YOU!



The school cricket team really enjoyed the Gloucestershire Cricket Federation Dynamos Cricket Tournament held at Cheltenham Cricket Club. The children represented Saint John's superbly and showed huge progress with each game, defeating Dunalley in their third and final match. Some of the bowling was excellent, all catches were held and several mighty sixes hit. Further games were unfortunately not possible as the rain set in for the day.



Who is excited for the sponsor GLOW DANCE happening next week? Don't forget to bring your money and sponsor sheets to the office by Monday 30th June!

The PTFA is gearing up for the summer fair and we cannot wait to see you all there for lots of fun in the sun (hopefully) and games! We have a pizza van coming for some dinner and on Friday 4th July we are hosting a non-uniform day in exchange for some Tombola prizes!

If you or anyone you know would like to help us out by donating raffle prizes, please do get in touch - it is a great way to spread more awareness about your business whilst helping out the children!

We look forward to seeing you on 11th July at 5.30pm!