



St John's News

Issue 04 - Friday 6th December 2024



Attendance

National Target for Attendance	Percentage Attendance For the Period 03.09.24 - 29.11.24	
96%	Robins	95.6
	Heron	95.6
	Kestrels	95.3
	Kingfishers	93.4
	Falcons	97.2
	Owls	98.1
	SCHOOL TOTAL	96

Attendance is still good but is slipping a little due to all the bugs that are currently going around. We are still achieving the National Target overall so keep this up. Please keep school updated about any illness and absences – thank you.

Owls remain at the top of the leader board with 98.1% attendance – WELL DONE!

Don't forget our great incentives for good attendance such as, our monthly raffle for each child who maintains 100% attendance throughout the month. Their names go into a draw to win a prize from the Attendance Treasure Chest! Plus our weekly Bird Token award for each class with 96% attendance or above – all the tokens will go into a draw at the end of each term for a chance to win a non-uniform day and a VIP Afternoon Tea! Any class achieving 100% weekly attendance will be awarded 2 Bird Tokens, thus improving their chances of winning the VIP tea.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Remember, our school day starts PROMPTLY at 8.55 a.m. so all children need to be in school already at this time, not just arriving. Be in line for 5 to 9! Thank you to all parents who do get their children here on time.



SCHOOL VALUE

Our school value for the term remains 'Trust'

However, we have now entered Advent - this is a very special time for Christians as we prepare for the time when Jesus was born on that very first Christmas Day. It is a time for getting ready and lighting the way for Jesus in our lives. Over the next 4 weeks, we prepare our hearts and minds for this celebration through the themes of Hope, (first week of Advent), Peace, Joy and Love. I just love all the twinkly lights at this time of year and it serves as a reminder that Jesus is the light of the world. Have a wonderful Advent time.

School and Academy Admissions 2025/26

Do you have a child due to start Primary School or Academy in September 2025 and living in Lancashire?

Apply for a place on line at

www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/

or phone 01254 220718

Applications are open NOW!

Closing dates for applications: 15th January 2025

LET'S GO SING

Don't forget to get your tickets if you haven't already done so – it is going to be a wonderful event.

Owl Class parents, please remember to send your child's permission slip back to school.

Thank you.

CHURCH EVENTS

I was super pleased with the children who came to our Christingle Service last Sunday – what a wonderful start to December. We have another Service on 26th January for Education Sunday, where some of the children will be leading some of the Worship. I will send out details at the beginning of January but hope that you can join us again in Church.

Thank you once again to those that came. It really is appreciated.



St John's Got Talent!

What an amazing show! If you missed it - you missed out! All of the acts were absolutely fantastic and did themselves proud. Arlo G being a very worthwhile winner with his rendition of 'Dance Monkey'! We hope this event gets bigger and bigger - it was truly a fantastic night of entertainment. Get practising for next year!!!

Admission Policy 2026

Every 7 years we have to consult on the school's Admission Policy or if there is a change of wording. Therefore, we are consulting this year. Our policy is on our school website and over the next 6 weeks you are invited to have a look at it. If you have any comments about it then please let me know. All the information you need is on the school website.

Thank you.

Pride and Presentation Week

This has been a really good week and some children have shown some amazing improvements in their work! There has been a VIP, 'Very Impressive Presentation' table in one class where children with improved presentation have had a chance to sit and be 'Very Important People' too! Although we have had a week of focussing on pride and presentation, we are going to continue with our new expectations of having pride in ourselves and in our work.

Keep up the good work everyone!

SCHOOL EVENTS

Over the last couple of weeks, we have seen many different school events, either in school or out of school – from bowling to the panto. We have many events coming up too, so please take note of what's listed further along in this Newsletter. I am always so proud to take the children out of school to the various events as they are always well behaved and polite. As we were leaving the panto this week, theatre staff complimented our children on their behaviour and good manners – what lovely feedback from outsiders! Keep up the good work children!

Friends of St John's Christmas Fair

This will be held on Friday 13th December between 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. Please do come along and support this event as all monies raised goes directly back to the children in school. There will be games, stalls, things to buy that your children have made. There will also be the chocolate tombola, bottle tombola and of course a fantastic raffle. Prizes include some football tickets for the Blackburn Rovers game against Plymouth on 15th February, vouchers for: Finch Bakery, a valeting voucher, Clayton Street Chippy and Greek Retreat and more.

There will be an Aldi Hamper up for grabs and of course, a special visit from 'You Know Who' (tickets for which, need to be purchased in advance from the office for £2 each).

Raffle tickets will be sent out with a separate letter on Monday.

If you need to clear out any bric-a-brac or good quality toys that are in working order, please bring them to school for the Fair. Thank you.

Infant Nativity

For one performance only, on Tuesday 17th December at 2.00 p.m. Robins and Herons are presenting 'The Wriggly Nativity!' It is very wriggly... and we can't wait... please purchase your tickets by Monday 16th December as we really need to know how many people will be attending. We cannot sell tickets on the day of the performance and NO tickets will be available on the door. This is a health and safety policy so that we don't over fill the hall. Please don't be disappointed, get your tickets in advance – they are already on sale at the office, just £1 each.

SANTA DASH

Every year we do a sponsored Santa Dash when children come to school in their PE clothes and wear a Santa hat, (we have spares so don't worry if you don't have one), and run a mile around the playground whilst listening to Christmas music. This year, in light of Mr Lancaster's son's operation, Mr Lancaster has suggested that all monies raised could go to Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Some of our other staff have had to use this special children's hospital over many years and we would like to give something back. Jack is recovering well from his operation – keep getting stronger and stronger Jack, and soon you'll be running rings around your dad again!!!

I am sure you will agree that this is a wonderful, worthwhile cause. Sponsorship forms and further information will be sent out next week.

Friends of St John's Christmas Disco

Polish up your dance moves children, as Wednesday 18th December will be our Christmas Disco night. Don those party clothes and come and dance the night, (well... an hour or so really), away! Tickets will be on sale soon.

CHOIR ACTIVITIES

There are a few events for the choir this year. Sadly Tesco has had to cancel their event but we will still be singing at the Great Harwood Lights Switch On this evening and at the Rotary Carol Service at Accrington Stanley and at Dukes Brow. We will also do a spot performance following the Carol Service.

Online Safety

Keep an eye on the school Facebook page as Miss Parker shares a weekly fact sheet about keeping safe online.

When was the last time you checked your child's phone or internet use? Do you know who they are chatting to or what they are sharing? Please check!

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 6th Dec: Great Harwood Lights Switch On - Choir performing.

Sat 7th Dec: Carols at Church.

Fri 13th Dec: Stars of The Term Worship - selected parents to attend.

Fri 13th Dec: Friends of St John's Christmas Fair from 2.00 p.m.

Please come along and support our fair.

Sun 15th Dec: Rotary Carol Concert at Accrington Stanley.

Mon 16th Dec: Kingfisher Class Ukulele Concert 9.05 a.m. - Kingfisher Class parents are invited to attend.

Tues 17th Dec: Robins and Herons Nativity Performance at 2.00 p.m.

Wed 18th Dec: Santa Dash.

Wed 18th Dec: Choir at Dukes Brow.

Wed 18th Dec: School Christmas Lunch (St John's Street pupils)

Wed 18th Dec: Kestrel and Kingfisher Christmas Party Day (own clothes).

Wed 18th Dec: Friends of St John's Christmas Disco - more information to follow.

Thurs 19th Dec: School Christmas Lunch (Nuttall Avenue pupils) - (Yes Miss Parker gets two! ☺)

Thurs 19th Dec: Nuttall Christmas Party Day (own clothes).

Thurs 19th Dec: Falcon and Owl Christmas Party Day (own clothes).

Fri 20th Dec: Junior Carol Concert at 9.15 a.m. Junior class parents invited to attend.

Fri 20th Dec: End of term.

Mon 6th Jan 2025: School re-opens - Breakfast Club open as usual.

Fri 10th Jan: In School Christian Values Day.

Wed 15th Jan: Friends of St John's Annual General Meeting at 5.15 p.m. in the main hall.

Sun 26th Jan: Education Sunday Service at Church.

Please keep an eye on these dates as they are added to and changed sometimes at short notice. We do our best to keep you informed so please make sure your mobile number and email address is up to date on our records so that we can text/email you.