



St John's News

Issue 05 - Wednesday 25th February 2026

Attendance

100%

National Target for Attendance	Percentage Attendance For the Period 02.09.25 - 13.02.26	
96%	Robins	92.7
	Hérons	93.2
	Kestrels	92.5
	Kingfishers	92.2
	Falcons	94.7
	Owls	95.6
	SCHOOL TOTAL	93.6

Attendance has taken a very slight dip since the last Newsletter. Please do your best to send your child into school every day and on time. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we are going to be focussing not just on attendance, but on punctuality as well. See below for the latest information.

PUNCTUALITY - BE IN TIME FOR 5 TO 9

Remember our school day starts PROMPTLY at 8.55 am so all children need to be in school at this time, not just arriving! It can be very disruptive for all when children come in late. Thank you to all who get their children here on time.

Each class has been given a Mr Potato Head! This is our new incentive for getting to school on time. If every child in the class arrives on time, the class can put a body part on their Mr Potato Head and when he is fully assembled, the class can have a reward of their choosing. Please help your child not to be late so that they can help their class to win!

Minutes late during week commencing 9th February 2026:

Robins: 75 minutes
 Herons: 80 minutes
 Kestrels: 95 minutes
 Kingfishers: 175 minutes
 Falcons: 130 minutes
 Owls: 125 minutes



The total minutes late for the week was 680 which is over 11 hours of learning lost!

Well done to Robin Class for having the least late arrivals – they have earned an extra playtime.



After School Club Provision

The Nest after school club is thriving! We are open every day during term time, from 3.25pm – 6.00pm – where your child can take part in lots of fun activities like painting, colouring and games in the hall, as well as lots of games outside using scooters, tennis, football – you name it they will do it! Those that attend really enjoy it and get to choose what activities they want to do too! All children are given snacks and drinks on entry and throughout the time they are there. At £8.50 per session, (payable in advance), this is a bargain. Ask in school for a registration form and details on how to book and pay.

SCHOOL VALUE

This half term our school value is 'Forgiveness'.

Help your children to recognise how to forgive others when wrongdoing is done.

This is a lovely time of year - Lent has started, and Ramadan too - both link with forgiveness and doing things for others.

*"Do not judge others, and God will not judge you; do not condemn others, and God will not condemn you; **forgive** others, and God will **forgive** you." Luke 6:37*

GOODBYE and WELCOME!

Last half term we said a sad goodbye to Mrs. Gawthorpe who has left us to relocate across the world in Australia. We wish her the very best of luck! This week, we welcome Mrs. Plowes, who has taken over the teaching in Robin Class. She has already settled in well and the children are having a great time! Later on this term, we will be saying farewell to Mrs. Ragen, who has left us to retire. We wish her luck as she embarks upon this.

School Nurse and SENCo Coffee Morning

The School Nurse and our SENCo will be hosting a drop-in coffee morning on Tuesday 21st April. If you have any concerns around your child and would like to speak with the school nurse, please do come along between 9 – 10.00 a.m.

GOD'S BIG STORY

Last term, we also had a really lovely day celebrating God's Big Story, where we learnt about the different parts of the Bible and did some impressive artwork for the back of the hall. Please have a look at this wonderful display next time you are in school.

Health and Safety

We had an amazing Health and Safety week just before we broke up for half term. The children learnt all about first aid and road safety. We had visitors in school and we had children going out – it was an amazing week for all! Please ensure you are careful driving around the school site as we are still having near misses as children navigate the busy roads outside school. Please park a little further away so that it helps keep everyone safe.





ONLINE SAFETY

Keep an eye on the school Facebook page as Miss Parker shares a weekly fact sheet about keeping safe online. If you aren't connected on Facebook, please do have a look – lots of information goes on the page and it is often the quickest way to see what's going on.

“Great Harwood St John's CE Primary School” – Find us on Facebook.

Quote of the day... “**Not everything you see or read is true**”. AI is now a real thing and we are all beginning to use it – it is an amazing resource. However, it is also terrifying and it's worth reminding children that not everything you see and read online is true! Verify, verify and verify again!

If you worried about something, please don't hesitate to talk to your class teacher or Miss Parker.

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

Events coming up: We have an action-packed, albeit short half term. Please have a look at the Dates For Your Diary section to make sure you know what is coming up. We've got Bingo, Class Assemblies, The Bishop visiting school, World Book Day, Let's Go Sing, Dance Competition and lots more.... So many things to look forward to!

Bishop Philip

We have the great pleasure of welcoming Bishop Philip, the Bishop of Blackburn, who is coming to visit our school. This will be a very special day for us. He is going to have a walk round and will have a chat with some children, as well as lead a Worship for us. Parents are warmly invited to join us in this Worship on Monday 4th March at 2.45 pm in the school hall, if you choose to do so.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March - we are encouraging children to dress up as their favourite book character but this does not have to cost any money - if you would prefer, they can simply come dressed as they are and be their own character in a book, or they can dress up in a costume that you have at home. (If anyone has any costumes that have been outgrown that they are able to donate to school, we could have some in school for children to change in to?).

We are also looking to hold a reading café between 9.00 - 10.00 a.m. where we are inviting parents and carers in for a brew and a biscuit and to have a read with your child - all are welcome, we'll fit you in either the hall or in the top classes. Then the children will have reading buddies and activities throughout the day. What a lovely day we have planned.

Girls Football Day

Wednesday 11th March – this is a special day dedicated to getting girls to play and enjoy football. Girls can come to school dressed in football kits if they have them or simply wear their PE kit for the day and enjoy some football at break and lunch time.

EASTER EGG BINGO

What fun this was last year, so much so that we are going to do it all again! Therefore, we are asking you to please donate an Easter Egg/s for prizes on Wednesday 18th March. Children can wear their own clothes for the day and bring in an Easter Egg or gift as prizes to give out on the Bingo Night, which will be held on Thursday 26th March. If you missed it last year, you missed an eggcellent night (see what I did there? 😊). Tickets will be limited and will be on sale soon, don't miss out. (Easter Eggs are quite reasonably priced at the moment – might be a good time to get one in readiness?) Thanks, as always, for your support.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Wed 4th Mar:** Bishop Philip, (Philip North - Bishop of Blackburn), to visit school and to lead a Worship at 2.45 p.m. Parents are invited to attend.
- Thurs 5th Mar:** World Book Day and Reading Café at 9.10 a.m. Parents invited for a brew and biscuit and to share a story with your child.
- WC: 9th Mar:** High School work experience students in school this week.
- Mon 9th Mar:** Glow Dodgeball event - selected children.
- Wed 11th Mar:** Girls Football Day - girls to wear football kit or PE kit to school that day.
- Thurs 12th Mar:** Science Day - a fun packed day full of 'Sciencey' things!
- Fri 13th Mar:** Outdoor Elements trip - selected pupils. (Please note this date has moved from 19th March).
- Mon 16th Mar:** Let's Go Sing at Planet Ice Arena, Blackburn. Owl Class pupils.
- Mon 16th Mar:** EID Worship presented by Kestrel Class at 9.10 a.m. Kestrel parents invited to attend and to enjoy a brew with the class afterwards.
- Tues 17th Mar:** Electricity Day for Y4, 5 & 6 children - activities presented by an outside agency.
- Wed 18th Mar:** Non-Uniform Day in exchange for an Easter Egg donation please.
- Wed 18th Mar:** Dance performance at Burnley Mechanics - selected children.
- Wed 25th Mar:** Easter Worship presented by Falcon Class - Falcon parents invited to attend and to stay for a brew afterwards.
- Wed 25th Mar:** Swimming Gala 6.30 - 8.00 pm - selected children.
- Thurs 26th Mar:** Easter Bingo 6.00 - 8.00 pm in the school hall - get your tickets fast!
- Fri 27th Mar:** Easter and Eid class parties in the afternoon.
- Fri 27th Mar:** End of Term - School closes at 3.25 p.m.
- WOW! All this in one month!!!**
- Mon 13th Apr:** School re-opens at 8.55 am for the Summer Term.
- Tues 21st Apr:** School Nurse and SENCo drop in 9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
- Thurs 30th Apr:** Pupil Parliament Meeting - selected children.
- Mon 4th May:** May Day School Closure.
- Wed 6th May:** Y3 trip to Eureka!
- Thurs 7th May:** School being used as a Polling Station - school open but entry via St John's Street entrance please.
- WC: 11th May:** Y6 SATs Week - free Breakfast Club for all Y6 children this week.
- Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd May:** Golf taster sessions for Owls and Falcons.
- Fri 22nd May:** School closes for half term at 3.25 p.m.

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 is up to date on our records so that we can text you.