



St John's News

Issue 07 - Thursday 1st May 2025

100%

Attendance

National Target for Attendance	Percentage Attendance For the Period 03.09.24 - 25.04.25	
96%	Robins	91.7
	Hérons	93.5
	Kestrels	93.8
	Kingfishers	91.8
	Falcons	95.5
	Owls	96.4
	SCHOOL TOTAL	94.0

Attendance has remained below the National Target overall so this still requires improvement. Please keep school updated about any illness and absences – thank you.

Owls remain at the top of the leader board with 96.4%, remaining above the National Target – WELL DONE Owls!

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. It can be very disrupting for all when children come into class late. Thank you to all parents who do get their children here on time.



SCHOOL VALUE

Our school value for this half term is 'Service'

"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you".
John 13:14-15. Even Jesus served his people in the humblest of ways. May we learn from his example and offer service to others.



LET'S GO SING

Owl Class parents are invited to join us in the school hall on Wednesday, 7th May at 2.45 p.m. for our own special performance of the songs that the children sang in Blackpool. We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs Sarah Smith

You may be aware that Mrs. Smith gave birth to a beautiful bouncy baby boy last month. Welcome to the world little Luke Smith, you are much loved already!

AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

This is now in place every day after school from 3.25 – 5.45 p.m. during term time. We have kept costs to a minimum and are charging just £8.50 per session, which must be paid in advance or on the day. Please ring the school office to book a place. We are also registered for tax-free childcare vouchers to enable you to pay for this provision (if you are eligible to receive them), otherwise please pay with cash at the moment until we get the option to pay via ParentPay up and running. Cash must be received in the school office before 3.25 pm on the day of attendance at the club. We have begun a competition to come up with a name for this club. This competition closes tomorrow! If you have any ideas, email Miss Parker or send it in with your child tomorrow. The only request is that it is 'bird' related, so anything to do with birds.

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S

We had a fabulous time at the Easter Egg Bingo before half term, and all participants went home with lots and lots of eggs and tasty chocolate! Yum! Thank you so much for your attendance - you helped us raise just over £242 which will go directly back to the children. We also held a 'naughty tuck shop' after school last term, which in a very short space of time, raised a fantastic £53.70 - Wow! I think we should do this more often, LOL! The Y6 Leaver's Hoodies have arrived in school and we look forward to giving these out after the SATs. We will let you know of any future events in good time. Thank you, as always, for your support.

SATs

The Y6 SATs are starting on Monday 12th May. All Year 6 children are invited to free breakfast club each day during that week. Please ensure that **all** children are in school on time during SATs week, so that the Y6's are not disturbed whilst taking their tests in the hall. Latecomers walking through the hall to their classrooms is very distracting when children are trying their best to concentrate. Your support in this matter is really appreciated. Thank you.

The SATs themselves are nothing the Y6 pupils should worry about; they are fully prepared and we, as a school, do not put pressure on the children – all we ever ask of every child in the school is to 'do your best'. That is always the best you can do and the best you can be!

Good Luck Year 6, we are so proud of you!



Other Tests

The Year 2 children will be completing their SATs during the week commencing 19th May.

Please ensure that all Y2 children are in school that week.

Year 4 children have their Multiplication Test during the weeks commencing 2nd and 13th June and our Year 1 children have their Phonics Test between 9th – 13th June. It is a busy time for tests in school so please keep any medical appointments to a minimum over the next few weeks, as we struggle to catch the children up if they miss any of their tests.

Again, thank you for your support.

VE DAY

We couldn't let VE Day pass without marking this special, historic event – but we are also very busy at this time of year so we are asking for the children to come to school dressed in Red, White or Blue next Thursday, 8th May, to mark the occasion, (no charge or donations required). Later in the year we will be having a VE picnic to further celebrate the occasion. Please check this webpage for events that are going on. <https://ve80.com/>

The Beacons will be lit also at 9.30 p.m.

TT-Rock Stars Day!

Friday 23rd May - we're giving you lots of notice to get the costumes sorted! (Anything will do, you don't need to go out and buy something). We are having a Rock Stars Day to heighten up the use of TT-Rock Stars. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite Rock Star! The TT-Rock Stars site helps your children learn their times tables and strengthens their knowledge of quick maths. It is a brilliant site but so under-used! So, we will be launching a 'Battle of the Bands' competition for the child and class who uses it the most! Come on - challenge started! If you do not know your password, please ask the class teacher.

Online Safety

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

I understand that you may struggle to stop children using apps that aren't age appropriate – BUT what you can do is ensure that they are safe if and when they use them! The way you can do that is to talk to your children!

Before your child uses any new app or something like TikTok, talk to them about what is appropriate to share on the app. Remind them to never give out identifying or private information like their full name, address or date of birth. Also remind THEM to keep their content appropriate – would they want Miss Parker to read what they wrote or see what they posted? If the answer is No? Then don't post it!!!! If you are 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>



SPORTS DAY

We are trying something a little different this year – we are splitting the KS1 and KS2 sports day, as we are struggling to staff whole-school events.

KS1 (Robin, Heron and Kestrel Classes), will be on Tuesday 3rd June in the morning.
KS2 (Kingfisher, Falcon and Owl Classes), will be on Tuesday 3rd June in the afternoon.
I appreciate this may mean a second visit to school for some of you, but at least you will be able to see each child and not miss a race!

Pupil Parliament

At the beginning of this year, all 5 primary schools in Great Harwood, got together to discuss having a pupil parliament and two children from each school were selected as school leaders. Ammara and Olivia are fabulous ambassadors for our school. The pupil parliament has met several times and come up with a plan to clean up Great Harwood. There will be an event on Thursday 12th June for the children to get involved in. More details to follow.

Our New Little Robins

Welcome to our school if you are a new little Robin starting in September! We can't wait to meet you – here are some important dates for you:

Wed 18th June: New parents meeting at 6.00 p.m. Please join us to find out all about your child's first year and 'meet the teacher' evening.

Thurs 26th June: New starters Parent and Child visit to school – more information will be sent via email.

Thurs 3rd July: New starter transition afternoon.

Thurs 10th July: New starter transition afternoon.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 1st May: Hall being used as a polling station.

Thurs 1st May: Earth Day.

Thurs 1st May: Festival of Sport 10.00 - 2.30 p.m. (selected KS2 children).

Fri 2nd May: Animal Olympics event 1 - 10.00 - 11.30 a.m. (selected KS1 children).

Mon 5th May: Bank Holiday - school closed.

Tues 6th May: Animal Olympics event 2 - 10.00 - 11.30 a.m. (selected KS1 children).

Wed 7th May: Let's Go Sing performance at 2.45 p.m. Owl Parents invited.

Thurs 8th May: 80th Anniversary of VE Day - Red, White & Blue Day.

Fri 9th May: Inclusive Multi-Sports event at Oakhill (selected children).

WC: Mon 12th May: KS2 SATs Week - free Breakfast Club for Y6 children.

WC: Mon 19th May: KS1 SATs Week.

Wed 21st May: Fantastic Book Awards Ceremony - selected children.

Fri 23rd May: TT-Rock Stars Day - be a Rock Star for the day!

Fri 23rd May: School closes for half term.

WC: Mon 26th May: School closed.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY CONTINUED

Mon 2nd June: School re-opens.

WC: Mon 2nd June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Checks.

Tues 3rd June: Sports Day - KS1 in the morning, KS2 in the afternoon.

WC: Mon 9th June: Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks

WC: Mon 9th June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Checks.

Tues 10th June: Sports Day reserve date (if poor weather on 3rd June).

Wed 11th June: Year 6 trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

Thurs 12th June: Litter Picking Pupil Parliament.

Fri 13th June: Spirituality Day.

Mon 16th June: Assessment Week - rest of school.

Wed 18th June: Y2 Fire Safety Talk.

Wed 18th June: Y6 Road Safety Talk.

Wed 18th June: New Starters Parents Meeting - 6.00 p.m. at Nuttall Avenue.

Fri 20th June: Year 6 Prayer Spaces trip to Clitheroe.

Thurs 26th June: Years 4 & 5 trip to Blackpool Circus.

Fri 27th June: Robins and Herons trip to Thornton Park Farm.

WC: Mon 30th June: Year 6 Transition Week for those going to Hyndburn Academy.

Wed 2nd July: Year 2 & Year 3 trip to Lytham St Anne's Beach.

Thurs 3rd July: Transition session for all classes and new starts.

Fri 4th July: VE Celebration and Summer Picnic Day.

Mon 7th July: Wellbeing Warriors Celebration Event after school - selected children.

Thurs 10th July: Transition session for all classes and new starters.

Fri 11th July: Stars of the Term/Year & Golden Box Worship.

Fri 11th July: School Reports go out to Parents.

Wed 16th July: Year 6 Leavers Meal at Checco's (time and date to be confirmed).

Fri 18th July: Leavers' Worship (time and date to be confirmed).

Fri 18th July: School closes for summer.

Wow! And that is another year over - have an amazing summer!!!

Tues 2nd Sept: School re-opens.

Obviously dates may be added to and changed at short notice so please keep an eye on them and ensure your mobile number is up to date in school as we will text regarding events and endeavour to keep you informed.

Please keep these dates handy – we will do our best to remind you!