

School Newsletter

Summer 1 2025

In harmony we
Nurture, Inspire, Flourish



What a wonderful, warm welcome we have had to our Whitsun summer term which has meant that we have been enjoying our outdoor learning and been nurturing our plants and ourselves down on Jolly John's farm and in our grounds, building a healthy mind and body. Thank you to all parents for your positive responses to mid year reports and parent consultations - and a huge thank you to teachers for constantly inspiring our learning. Our Year 6 were exemplary in their positive attitude for their recent end of key stage assessments and were true role models to the rest of the school.

We have had some wonderful trips this half term - have a look at all the photos on the next few pages to see what we have been learning. In school Tri Golf lessons, cricket and athletics have been taking place and we have also completed our Body Awareness week. More exciting experience days and trips have made learning even richer such as visits to Wisley, Juniper Hall, Greenwich Royal Observatory as well as visits from some interesting animals from Zoolab and Manor Farm. In order to run our enrichment opportunities, the minibuses are vital and so we thank you for your support in raising funds through Mufti days and other fundraising events. With safeguarding at the forefront of all we do, we were also delighted to welcome Papaya for an internet safety workshop this half term.

We were delighted with over £500 raised from our Easter Walk and can't thank all our volunteers enough who continue to support our children with reading, swimming, Forest School, discos, cake sales and so much more. Please do get in touch with our Friends of St John's to help out for our summer fayre - extra pairs of hands would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, we would like to say congratulations to Miss Ebdon in Year 4, who is expecting her first child. We wish you a relaxing and wonderful half term.

Kind Regards
Mrs Fyson
Executive Headteacher



Nursery Happiness Class

This term Nursery were thrilled to have the experience of Manor Farm visit the school. So much fun and learning was had by all!

The children found out how to care for certain animals, what they like to eat and drink and what weather conditions they thrive in. Along with this we spoke about the textures and sizes of the different animals. We were lucky enough to have an albino hedgehog and discussed the meaning of nocturnal and hibernation.



Reception Kindness Class

Kindness class started of their farm topic with a fabulous trip to Bocketts Farm. We learnt so many facts about animals and how to stay safe around a farm. We enjoyed an animal petting and feeding session. We even got to finish off our day with a tractor ride and sometime in the soft play area.



Year 1 Love Class



We have had a fantastic time exploring the world of minibeasts and their unique features. Our classroom has been buzzing with enthusiasm as we looked at the different types of minibeasts that inhabit our environment. We were thrilled to welcome ZooLabs to our classroom, we were lucky enough to meet some amazing creatures, and we all had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Phillipson's pet snake, Nugget, which sparked plenty of curiosity!



Our Wednesday Forest School sessions at Jolly John's Farm have been a highlight of the term. The beautiful surroundings have provided an excellent opportunity for outdoor learning, and Love Class have enjoyed searching for minibeasts in their natural habitat. Their enthusiasm for exploring the outdoors this term has been wonderful to see!

Year 2 Trust Class

We have had a wonderful start to the summer term in year 2. The children have loved our topic of 'Farm to Fork' and thoroughly enjoyed learning more about their food and where it comes from.



The children were able to locate where a range of food items come from on a map of the U.K.

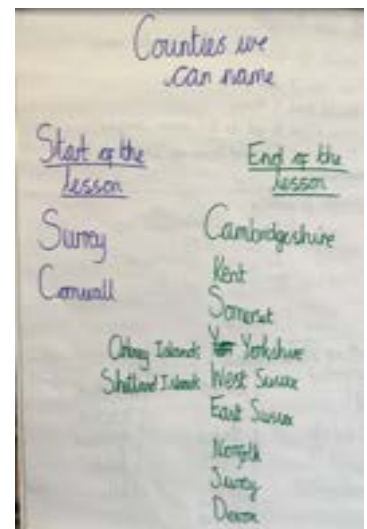


In D.T we have focused on the importance of food groups in view to making our own healthy balanced wraps by the end of the unit. We have learned how to safely work with the food technology equipment and have enjoyed practising skills such as chopping, snipping, cutting and spreading.

Year 3 Cooperation Class

This half term, cooperation class have finished their stained glass windows from the RE learning - 'How can artists help us to understand what Christians believe and do?' In science we have been learning about the functions of different parts of the plant and conducted an experiment to see how the size of the root affects the amount of water the plant can get.

English has seen us learning the *real* story of the three little pigs and not was all as it seemed... Was the Wolf really as bad as we had been led to believe?



The children have made a fantastic start to their brass lessons and will be learning the trumpet for 10 weeks. Geography has seen the children learning about the UK, looking at countries, counties, capital cities, cities and towns.

Year 4 Resilience Class

This half term Resilience Class have been learning about how rivers are formed and how they carve our landscape. To deepen our learning we have a wonderfully sunny and warm trip to Juniper Hall before travelling down the Abinger Hammer stream, where we discovered the depth, width and velocity of the stream before discovering all the creatures that lived in the water.



We became very good fishermen, discovering sticklebacks, bull head fish, lamprey eels and even escapee trout from the trout farm. We had so much fun wading in the water and discovering the world around us, even if it meant our boots were filled to the brim.

Year 5 Courage Class

Year 5 have been working extremely hard on their space projects over the last few weeks and they put together a very successful and informative exhibition. Thank you to all of the families who helped out and came to see our incredible work! Here are just a few pictures of the projects...



Year 5 Courage Class

In year 5, we went on a trip to The Royal Observatory in Greenwich. Here, we travelled into space and watched a spectacular show in the Planetarium. The observatory also provided a workshop where we learnt about the Sun, Earth and Moon.



E-Safety workshop

In the last week, Sammie came in and provided us with a very eye-opening workshop about screen use. Our class were very honest about their screen use and learned a lot about the advantages and disadvantages of using different screens.



Year 6 Respect Class

For Year 6s, this has been a term of classroom learning as they have prepared for and then sat their SATs in reading, SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and in maths. We have been so proud of the effort that they have put in - attending booster groups, completing revision homework and challenging themselves to address any misconceptions or gaps in their understanding. Their learning has been focused and their revision targeted and they can be proud of themselves.

After so much classroom-based work and a week of silent assessments, there was only one option for our SATs party : an outdoor learning day.

Vicky provided the class with opportunities to explore outside : chickens were gently cuddled; Dubai chocolate was created out of mud and grass and then baked in the sun; Jedis trained in the dappled sunlight; dens were created; pizza was cooked and enjoyed.

This is a milestone moment in the children's learning journey and now we move to thinking about transition and leaving St John's for a new start in secondary school.



Celebration Assembly Golden Awards

Well done to all of the children who have received a Golden Awards Certificate this term. Keep up the good work!



Diary Dates 2024/25

26th-30th May

Half Term

June

2nd -6th June

Year 6 Isle of Wight Residential Trip

6th June

Reception Outdoor Learning Day -TBC

9th June

Girls Kwik Cricket Tournament 12-3pm

10th June

Boys Kwik Cricket Tournament 12-3pm

12th June

NSPCC Workshop Year 2, 5 & 6

16th June

Year 2 Squires Potato Harvesting

16th June

Year 5 Outreach Visit

18th June

Rocksteady Concert

20th June

Year 1 class assembly

24th June

Year 5 Wisley Gardens Trip

25th June

Year 5 Trip to Priory -Taster Morning

25th June

Year 6 Outdoor Learning Day

26th June

Mufti Day- Come dressed as something you want to be when you are older

26th June

Year 2 Godstone Farm Trip

27th June

Sports Day

July

2nd July

Year 4 Outdoor Learning Day

Diary Dates 2024/25

July

2nd July

Move Up Day

3rd July

Nursery Health Workshop

4th July

Mufti Day Donations for the Summer Fayre

9th July

Nursery Outdoor Learning Day

9th July

Year 3 Natural History Museum Tring

10th July

Year 6 Awards and Production Evening
5.00-7.30pm

11th July

Summer Fayre 14.00-16.00

14th July

Year 6 Leavers Service at St John's Church

16th July

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

16th July

Nursery Last Day of Term

17th July

End of Term - 13.15 Finish/Mufti Day

18th-22nd July

Inset Days

23rd July-2nd
September

Summer Holidays

3rd September

Inset Day

4th September

Start of Term

23rd & 24th
October

Inset Days

27th-31st October

Half Term



Illness and School Attendance



Attendance at school is vital if pupils are to reach their full potential. Often, children stay at home when they have a minor illness and they miss out on learning and social experiences.

If your child is very ill, it is important that you seek medical advice – either through your GP, Pharmacist or by contacting NHS Direct on 111.

If your child has a minor illness, often they can manage in school and actually feel better being in school, learning with their friends. Please remember that we have lots of qualified First Aiders in school and a first aid room where your child can go if they feel unwell during the day.

If your child is unwell during the day, we will contact you and discuss with you if they need to go home, or whether to administer some medication to help relieve their symptoms (for example, Calpol or Piriton). Staff are also trained to be able to administer medications which have been prescribed by a Doctor. If you need us to support with the administration of medications during the day, please pop into the school office to see a member of staff.

Remember, if your child is unwell in the morning, they can always come into school later, or after lunch if they feel better.

Are they well enough for school?

We know that children are sometimes too ill to come to school. To help you to decide if your child is too ill to attend, ask yourself these questions:

1. Is your child well enough to go out and play?
2. Is your child well enough to carry out their normal daily school activities? *If you answered No, then we would advise you to seek medical advice.*
3. Does your child have a condition that can be passed on to other children?
4. Would you take a day off work if you had the same symptoms or condition? *If you answers Yes, then we would advise you to seek medical advice.*

What to do if your child feels better during the school day?

If your child has:

Headache	Earache
Stomach Ache	Cough
Cold	Sore Throat
Period Pain	

Try giving your child over-the-counter medication in the morning (for example Calpol). If their symptoms improve, bring them into school and we can monitor them during the day and call you if necessary.

Attendance expectations

- Telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, try sending them in as they often perk up on arrival.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help.



Common Conditions:

Colds & Flu

If your child has a cough, cold or sore throat, they can be sent to school. If your child has a high temperature, you could provide paracetamol or equivalent, and plenty to drink. If your child feels better after that, bring them into school.

If your child's high temperature continues for 3 days or more, seek medical advice. If your child is asthmatic, remember that they may need their blue inhaler more often. If your child has flu (diagnosed by a GP), they should stay home and return to school when they are recovered.

Sickness / Diarrhoea

Is the sickness a diarrhoea/vomiting bug? If so, then pupils must stay off school for 48 hours following the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. If symptoms persist for 3 or more days, seek medical advice. Is the sickness a one-off? Perhaps due to worry or eating something bad? If so, then it may not be necessary to keep them off school. Please call the school office to discuss.

Chickenpox

Pupils must stay off school until the spots have all crusted over (usually around 5 days). If your child has Chickenpox, please make sure the school office is aware so that they can notify any pregnant staff.

Scarlet Fever

Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment.). If your child has Scarlet Fever, please make sure the school office is aware so that they can notify any pregnant staff.

Headlice

Pupils can return to school as soon as their hair has been treated, to prevent further spreading. Please notify the school office if your child has nits, so that we can inform other parents.

Impetigo

Children can return to school 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment or once the lesions are crusted over.



Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Internet Safety

Roblox and Parental Controls - South West Grid for Learning

Roblox, the popular minecraft 'style' game has announced a new raft of parental controls. The website which ranks among the most popular games for children in the e-space, has previously been accused of possessing weak child protection tools. Their new raft of adaptations is important due to the game's position among school aged children. The new features have been adopted to allow parents to take control of their children's game time in a more comprehensive manner.

Parents will now be able to block individuals who communicate with their children, as well as have more detailed oversight over their usage of the programme. Real-time awareness measures have been increased and these changes represent a big step forward in making popular multiplayer games more secure for underaged users. If interested, the South-West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) has produced a comprehensive run down of these changes. Please follow the link below for more:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-launches-new-parental-controls/>

RELATE self-help-tools

RELATE have developed AI self-help tools aimed at supporting separated, co-parents, couples and carers to communicate more effectively, **see things from the child's perspective**, and stop unnecessary arguments before they happen. The tools are **designed to empower families** to make informed decisions and maintain **positive relationships** for the **wellbeing of their children**.

One tool –[the Sounding-board bot](#)- acts as a supportive sounding board for messages exchanged with an ex or current partner. It analyses language to suggest clearer, more empathetic wording, reducing the risk of miscommunication and conflict.

Another tool called '[In-the-middle-bot](#)', offers valuable insights into a child's perspective across various co-parenting scenarios, helping caregivers understand and respond to their needs more effectively.

“Often parents are thinking about things from their own perspective. The ‘in-the-middle bot’ can help parents see things through the child’s eyes, leading to informed decisions which put their child’s needs first. Relate believe that by leveraging advanced technology, they can provide co-parents with the resources they need to navigate their journeys with greater ease and confidence.”

**Are you aged between
5 & 18 years and
finding things difficult?**

**Learning Space
can help!**

We provide solution focused individual support for children and young people from 5 years to 18 who are struggling to manage big feelings, have low self esteem or who are going through a difficult time.

If you are registered with:

**Brockwood Medical Practice
Leith Hill Practice
Medwyn Surgery
Dorking Medical Practice**

*You are able to self-refer to us by using the QR code
or visit our website learningspace.org.uk
or email pcn@learningspace.org.uk*

