

School Newsletter

Summer 1 2026

In harmony we
Nurture, Inspire, Flourish



It has been another busy term at St John's with Reception starting the term with a visit to Bocketts Farm and finishing with Year 5 on a trip to Hampton Court to learn all about Henry VIII and his six wives.

It is also the time of the school year when assessments take place. Year 6 deserve a big shout out for the way they approached their Year 6 SATS tests. They have been really focused and during the week they were amazing. Thanks must also go to Mrs Anderton, Mr Moody and the rest of the Year 6 teaching team for preparing and supporting the children so well. To celebrate, the children had a well deserved celebration day last Friday. After half term it will be the turn of our KS1 and Year 4 children who have phonics and multiplication checks to take.

The end of this term was also tinged with sadness as we bid Mrs Conway in the School Office a fond farewell. Mrs Conway has been with us for almost eleven years and I am sure that everyone in the school community has been helped or supported by her in some way during this time. We wish her all the best with her next adventures.

The final half term of the school year is always a busy one. Please support us and your child by continuing to ensure that they are in school on time every day. Children who miss the end of year events and the sessions which prepare them for the next school year are often the ones who struggle to settle in September.

Enjoy half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in school on Monday 1st June

Kathryn Saunderson



Nursery Happiness Class

Nursery have been embracing their minibeast topic this term where they have been witnessing the life cycle of a butterfly. The children have loved this magical experience to observe the change with their own eyes. They had been able to learn and understand in many ways...

-Growth and change

-Visual learning

-Curiosity and engagement

-Fine motor skills, as they engage activities set up in the classroom and chosen names for the caterpillars and attempted to write them

-math, as they have developed an understanding of length and measurement, time as they have guessed how long it would take for the change to happen

- cognitive development- as they process matching stages of the life cycle with real life examples encouraging their critical thinking
- Understanding the World-as it fosters a sense of nature awareness and encourages the children to connect with the world around them.



Year 1 Love Class



We have had such a wonderful term in Year 1, and we are so proud of everything we've achieved together. We have been working incredibly hard in our phonics as we get ready for our phonics screening. In English we've loved learning all about bees and writing fact files to show off our new knowledge. Our Wednesday forest school sessions on the farm with Vicky have been a real highlight, we have had great fun building dens, cuddling the chickens, making compasses, and singing songs around the fire. In science, we've been learning all about plants, and we are amazed at how tall and healthy our bean plants have grown in the beautiful sunshine. In PE, we've been practising and preparing for sports day, and we can't wait to see what our final term in Year 1 brings us as we keep learning, exploring, and having fun together.



Year 2 Trust Class



Year 2 have had a fantastic half term full of creativity, exploration and exciting learning across the curriculum.

In Geography, the children completed their topic What a Wonderful World. They enjoyed learning about amazing places and landmarks all over the world.

In Art, the children worked hard to create maps showing their journey to school and the local area. They worked carefully to include roads and landmarks showing great observational skills and creativity. The children then designed some lovely prints taken from sections of their initial map drawings (see above).

In English, Year 2 were inspired by the beautiful story Lila and the Secret of Rain. The children explored the themes of hope, kindness, and perseverance through reading, discussion and their own story writing. They particularly enjoyed practising expressive sentences and using punctuation correctly. One of the class favourites was our exciting exclamation mark game, where the children had great fun identifying and creating sentences with expression and excitement!



Year 3 Cooperation Class

Year 3 have had a busy term and have enjoyed all our learning.

In RE the children have been learning how artists can help us to understand what Christians believe and do. They produced some beautiful artwork when asked to choose a word from our discussion and illustrate it. They looked at artwork about Jesus and discussed what they thought it portrayed and listened to music, noting how it made them feel. They designed their own Ethiopian cross and produced some amazing pictures to portray Jesus. This term we have started learning about Sikhs and what they value.

In English, we have explored poems about the seasons using personification, metaphors, onomatopoeia, verbs and adjectives. The children have been so inspired with the poetry, some of them have written their own season poems at home!

In History the children have been learning about the Romans and had fun pretending to be a Roman army practising the formations they used going into battle. They have learnt about Boudica and the Iceni tribe and how the Roman army was so successful.



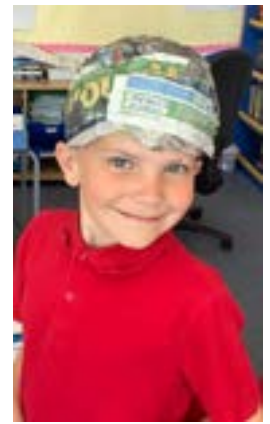
Year 4 Resilience Class

Year 4 ended last half term with an amazing trip to PGL. The children showed such courage and resilience, trying lots of new activities and food! Here are just a few highlights from our trip.



Year 4 Resilience Class

What a busy half term we have had! Year 4 were inspired by the book "Arthur and the Golden Rope", to create their own Arthur story and then create a biography about Thor. We had an amazing trip to Dorking Library to immerse ourselves in all different styles of biographies. We have been learning about living creatures and their habitats, looking at how we can organise these creatures and other living things into different groups. We have also been thinking about what changes we can make to our lives that will ensure living things in our local area are able to survive. This also led into our Geography unit, where we learnt about rivers and the importance they play to the lives of everyone and everything, even creating our own water cycles in the classroom. We have also investigated the effects that natural disasters have on everything. We had some very distressed fish! In DT we thought about structures and created our own helmets from papier mache and other strengthening materials and techniques. This half term has been filled with smiles and laughter!



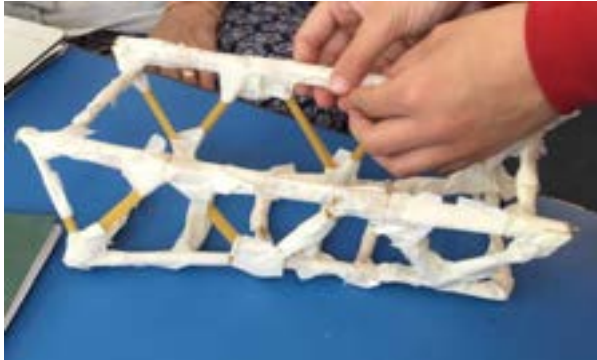
Year 5 Courage Class

Year 5 visited Hampton Court Palace as part of their learning about Henry VIII and the Tudors. We explored the kitchens and the Tudor apartments, we sat in his throne in the even Great Hall and we managed to escape the maze!



Year 5 Courage Class

Back in class, we have learnt all about structures in DT. We made beam and arch bridges out of card and then tested their strength. We then made truss bridges out of spaghetti before making a bridge out of wood. We used the saws and the hot glue guns very responsibly! We may have discovered some future engineers!



Year 6 Respect Class



This term is all about SATs – as Year 6 work on honing and improving their knowledge and understanding in time for these important tests. Luckily for us, this year it coincided with Mental Health Awareness Week where we took part in activities every day that made us think about our health, our focus ... and the importance of doing something to make you laugh and smile!

After SATs were over, we were lucky to have a whole day in Forest School where we enjoyed being outside and active in the fresh air (after being inside and silent for our assessments.)

We are blessed as a class to be supported by some many people in this important week and so special thanks must go to : Mrs Lee for our daily breakfast; Donna for not minding the morning disruption; Phil, Peter, Mrs Giles and Mrs Quinnell who gave up time to ensure that the tests were run correctly; Mrs Akter who supported with access arrangements and of course our parents who have helped us to revise after school and at the weekends.



Mole Valley Community Fridge

Our Eco-Committee with the help of Mrs Russell have been busy learning about food waste and how we can help reduce it. They were amazed to find out that food production produces lots and lots of carbon. They invited Michaela from the Mole Valley Community Fridge to come and share one way we can all reduce food waste. During our assembly, Michaela told everyone that by visiting the Community Fridge and taking some of the food they collect from supermarkets and manufacturers it will help stop it going to landfill. We are fortunate enough to have a Community Fridge site near school (at the Harvest Church) so please do make use of it.



Open 5 Days a week

We collect good food from supermarkets and manufacturers that would otherwise end up in landfill and distribute it around the community.

You can help us by collecting food from one of our 15 locations and making a donation to help us continue to operate.



To find our locations and opening times, visit our website

www.msfridges.org

Every Day in May 2026

Jade Thompson is raising money for Dravet Syndrome. Please follow the link to see her story and donate.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/jade-thompson-42?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Diary Dates 2025/26

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 25th- 29th May | Bank Holiday/ Half Term |
| June 2026 | |
| 1st- 5th June | Year 6 Residential Isle of Wight |
| 9th June | Year 3 Wisley Trip |
| 16th June | Year 1 Wisley Trip |
| 17th June | Year 6 Leavers Service at Guildford Cathedral 9am-1pm |
| 19th June | Year 6 Trip to Wintershall |
| 25th June | Mufti Day-Donations for the Summer Fayre |
| 26th June | Sports Day |
| July 2026 | |
| 1ST July | Transition/Move Up Day |
| 3rd July | Year 1 class assembly Summer Fayre 2-4pm |
| 9th July | Year 6 Awards and Production Evening 5-7pm |
| 13th July | Year 6 Leavers Service St John's Church 9am- 1pm |
| 16th July | Nursery End of Term |
| 17th July | Leavers Assembly 9am-9.45am/ End of Term Finish at 1.15pm |
| 20th, 21st & 22nd | Inset Days |
| 23rd July- 31st August | Summer Holidays |

Diary Dates 2026/7

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sept 2026 | |
| 1st-2nd September | Inset Days |
| 3rd September | Start Of Term |
| October 2026 | |
| 19th-30th October | Half Term |
| Dec 2026 | |
| 18th December | End of Term 1.15pm Finish |
| 21st Dec -1st Jan | Christmas Holidays |
| January 2027 | |
| 4th January | Children return to school |

Dear Parent/Carer

If you consider that there are exceptional circumstances relating to your request, please let the school have full details. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis.

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Inclusion Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.
2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

Please be aware that the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024

state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer.

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.

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517874

North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the ***first five days of each exclusion***. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

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 s 444 Education Act 1996.