

ST JOHN'S NEWSLETTER



13.02.2026

As we reach the end of a very full half-term and head into a well-deserved break, it's hard to believe how quickly the weeks have flown by. I don't know about you, but this half-term seems to have disappeared in a flash.

This week, **Year 4** attended **Superstars** and were fantastic ambassadors for the school — more on that later in the newsletter. Talent show auditions have also been taking place, and it has been wonderful to see children confidently sharing their gifts with their classes and truly **letting their light shine**. The final promises to be a fantastic occasion.

In Collective Worship, we reflected on **Psalm 103**, thinking about **kindness** in our everyday choices. The children considered two simple questions: *What is one kind thing I can choose to do this week?* and *What is one wise choice I could make to be kind to myself?*

We look forward to welcoming everyone back after half-term, rested and ready for the next chapter of the term ahead.

Mr Power

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Stars of the week

**LEARN TOGETHER
ACHIEVE TOGETHER
CELEBRATE TOGETHER
AND 'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'**



Reception - Marley and Ronnie for always producing beautiful creative pieces of artwork!

Year 1 - Cassian for smashing his phonic assessment scoring 100% in all areas!! He always puts in so much effort and it is paying off!!

Ethan for always works his socks off in every lesson! I am so proud of all the progress he is making.

Year 2 - Flo for always being focused and ready to learn!

Nelson for always working with enthusiasm and pushing yourself to do your very best!

Year 3 - Poppy for producing some super writing in English. You thought carefully about your vocabulary and presented it so neatly!

Lilly for being a kind, caring and helpful member of our class! Thank you 😊

Year 4 - Mileigh-Bo for representing St John's and Topaz Class by being responsible for our school mascot at Superstars.

Heidi for representing St John's and Topaz Class by showing great responsibility reading out the pledge at Superstars.

Year 5 - Esmay for outstanding effort and focus with your work this week - AMAZING!

Joel for settling in so quickly. It has been wonderful to see how naturally and confidently you have become a member of our class!

Year 6 - Millie for showing HUGE amounts of focus and determination to make progress in her maths. Also, for producing sketches in Art and using watercolours skillfully.

Rose for demonstrating really reflective thinking during our recent RE session.



Sophie (Y2) for completing the **Winter Reading Challenge**

Harry S (Y6) for achieving **3rd place** in his **Karate**



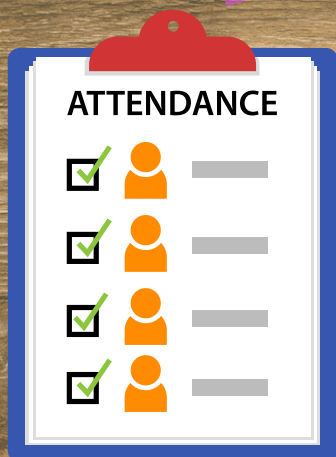
Joshua B (Y5) for receiving his **3rd Blue Peter Badge (Music Badge)**

Willow (Y4) for achieving **1st place on bars, 2nd place on floor and 2nd place overall** at **Chelmsford Gymnastics Club**

ACHIEVEMENTS

around **SCHOOL**

LEARN TOGETHER
ACHIEVE TOGETHER
CELEBRATE TOGETHER
AND 'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'



Well done to Year 6
98.2% attendance
Whole School - 95.5%

Any communication regarding attendance will no longer be sent via letters. It will be emailed from the following account: attendance@st-johns-danbury.essex.sch.uk

Please do not use this for when your child is absent from school.

House Points

Well done to
St David House
for winning this week's
House Cup



Team	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Running total
St Andrew	2			8151
St David	3	4		8691
St George	7			8659
St Patrick	1	2		8237

ACHIEVEMENTS around SCHOOL

LEARN TOGETHER
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Did you know... over the past 12 months the children have made **6704 progress steps** as learners on Doodle!

AMAZING!

(A progress step occurs each time a pupil has mastered a concept)

A quieter week on Doodle this week but we have so many pupils really close to achieving their next milestone so I can't wait to hand out all those certificates after the half term!

This week I would like to say a huge **WELL DONE** to **Alexander** (Y5) for achieving his **800 day streak**!!
What an absolutely amazing achievement.

Congratulations also goes to **Elliot** (Y5) who has hit his **750 day streak** (another FABULOUS achievement!). Also to **Clara** (Y1) for achieving her **400 day streak**. We are all so proud of you all!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

WHAT'S YOUR ROCK STATUS?

We have no movement on TTRS this week. CONGRATULATIONS continues for our existing ROCK HEROES: **Ezra and Isaac** (both Y5), **Henry H, Ben, Lily, Alfie, Seb, George, Theo and Jean** (all Y6) and **Rory and Ralph** (Y4).



Well done to the following children who have maintained their **ROCK LEGEND** status....

Year 4: Rory, Cohen, Teddy S, Logan, Evan, Sam, Mia, Heidi, Freddie, Lucas, Hudson H, Lily, Savannah, Andrei, Jude, Alisa and Monty.

Year 5: Elliot, Leo, Oliver, Hetty, Quinn, Sofia H, Ruby, Anakin, William R, Cassius, Reuben, Sofia W, William S and Fred.

Year 6: Isla, Jess, Jemima, Brody P, Harriet, Lizzy, Harley, Elounda, Emily, Holly, Henry D, Aidan, Freddie, Dexter, Henry S, Rose, Alice and Phoebe.

TOP 5: Still no change in our top 5 at the moment!

Our top 5 is: George (Y6), Theo (Y6), Henry H (Y6), Isaac (Y5) and Seb (Y6).



Year 4 SUPERSTARS



We are incredibly proud of our **Year 4 pupils** who attended **Superstars** this week. They were impeccably behaved throughout the event and demonstrated our school values in abundance, truly letting their light shine in both attitude and effort.

Their hard work and determination paid off with an outstanding **2nd place overall** finish. A special congratulations to **Lily** and **Teddy** for achieving gold medals, and to **Andrei** for earning silver. Our Year 5 Bronze Ambassadors who attended were also fantastic role models, and we are proud of all the children who represented St John's so positively.

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PARKING REMINDER: SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS

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We are very fortunate to be part of a supportive local community, and we are grateful for the positive relationships we have with our neighbours.

Recently, we have received reports of vehicles being parked across driveways on **Butts Lane** at drop-off and collection times. We know mornings and afternoons can be busy, but we kindly ask all families to park considerately and legally at all times.

Blocking driveways or causing obstruction can have a significant impact on residents, some of whom have their own childcare or work commitments to manage.

Our school values of respect and responsibility extend beyond the school gates. The way we park and drive reflects who we are as a community.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure that St John's remains a positive presence in our local area.





We're celebrating World Book Day & you're invited!

Date: Thursday 5th March

This year for World Book Day, our theme is "Heroes and Heroines from Books." We are inviting children to come to school dressed as a character from a story who shows bravery, kindness, determination or resilience — and not just superheroes! This could be someone who stands up for others, overcomes challenges, or makes the world better in their own way. From Matilda and Harry Potter to Handa, Traction Man or characters from traditional tales, there are lots of wonderful choices. We can't wait to celebrate the inspiring book characters who show us what it really means to be a hero.





Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to invite you to a School Bingo Night to help raise money for the school.

Date: Friday 27th February

Doors open: 7.00pm

Starts: 7.30pm

Venue: School Hall

This is an adults-only event (18+ only) and promises to be a fun and enjoyable evening. Tickets are £10 per person, which includes entry, a bingo book (6 games) and a dabber; please send your ticket money to the office, clearly marked with your name and how many tickets you would like.

You are very welcome to bring your own drinks and nibbles. We would also recommend bringing plenty of £1 coins, as these will be needed for extra games and activities during the evening.

There will also be a raffle on the night, with all proceeds going towards our school fundraising. If you are able to help, we would be very grateful for any small raffle prize donations (for example bottles, chocolates, toiletries etc.). Thank you for your support.

We hope you can join us for a brilliant night and to help support fundraising for the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
Emma Samuel & Lois Barrett



Essex Family Forum SEND drop in

Come along to our friendly drop-in session where you can get information and signposting tailored to your SEND child. We're here to help you navigate services, share guidance, and make your voice heard as we work together to influence positive change for SEND families.

Location - Maldon Family Hub (Carmelie Way, Maldon, CM9 5FW)

Date & Time - 1st Friday of the month, starting Feb 6th, from 9:30am to 11:30am (Term Time only).

About Essex Family Forum

Essex Family Forum (EFF) is the parent carer forum in Essex for families whose children and young people have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). We need to hear your views and experiences to represent your voice. Visit our website at www.essexfamilyforum.org or via the QR code to find out more about what we do, to access our 'Supporting your Neurodivergent Child' resource pack, to sign up to our mailing list and to share your experiences and feedback via our virtual graffiti wall.

SCAN ME!

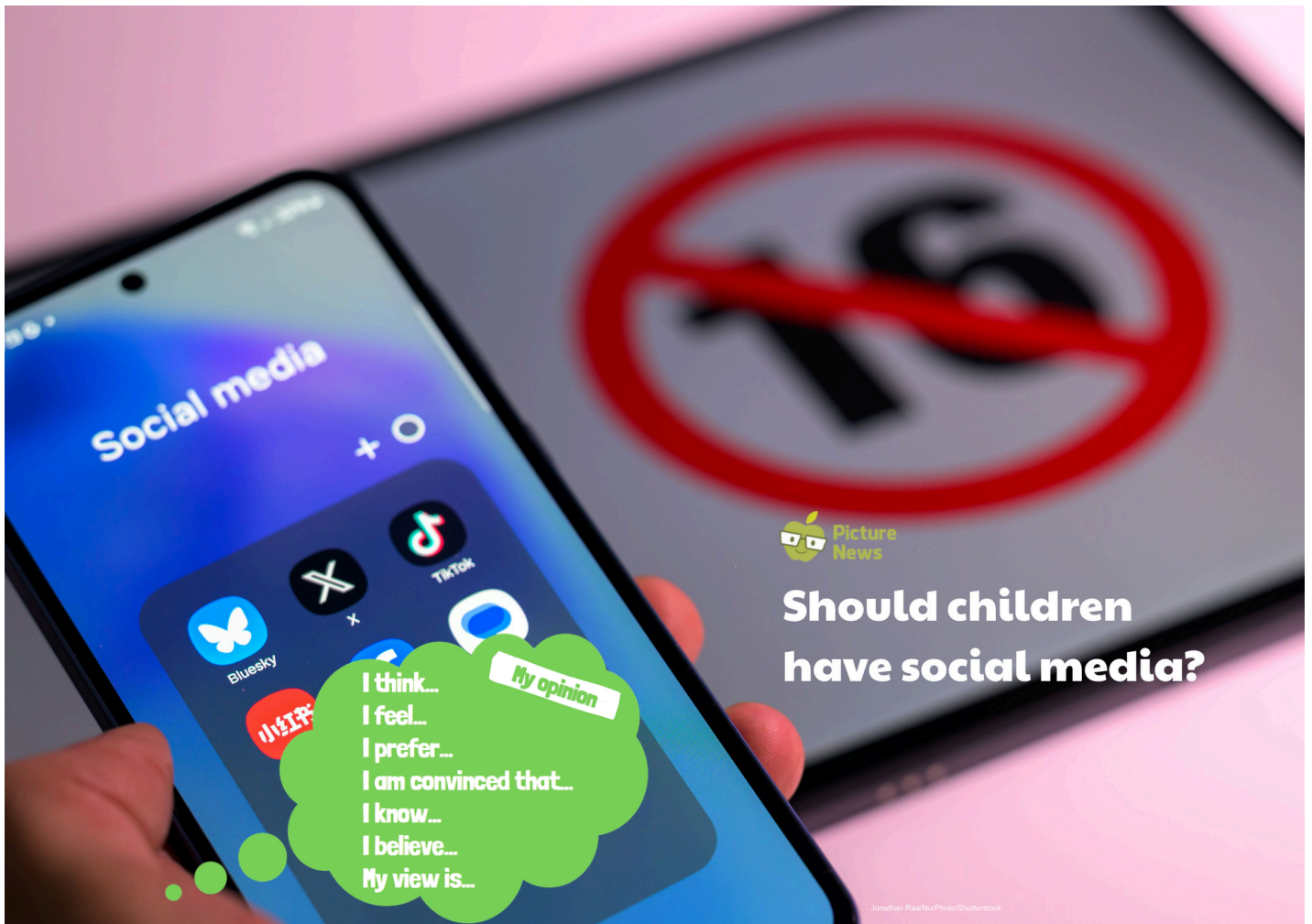


EFF Website

This week's story and big question

In the news this week...

Adults in the UK are talking about whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media, as the government is considering new rules to help keep children safe online. Some people believe social media helps children stay connected, while others worry it can affect wellbeing and mental health. During Children's Mental Health Week, the story reminds us how important it is to look after our mental health both online and offline.



**Should children
have social media?**

Things to talk about at home...

- What rules or agreements can help us feel safe when using technology at home?
- Can you think of ideas for families to help balance screen time and other activities?
- What are some of the activities that you do online? Do you do different things online to others at home?



PE & Swimming



PE days – Children to wear PE Kit to school
Swimming days - Children to wear uniform to school
 These days will run for the entire year

Day	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday		PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
Tuesday	Swimming			Swimming	PE	PE	
Wednesday	PE	Swimming	PE		Swimming		PE
Thursday	PE	PE	Swimming	PE		Swimming	Swimming



Reminder that earrings are **not to be worn** for PE or Swimming



SCHOOL DINNERS

WEEK 2

Home-cooked hot dinners with locally sourced food for just **£2.70**
 School meals are to be ordered and paid for on ParentPay

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pasta & Pepperoni Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	Pepperoni Pizza Salad Bar, Sweetcorn and Coleslaw	Roast Chicken Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Chicken Chunks Potato Wedges, Peas or Beans	Fishfinger Baguette Chips and Beans
Option 2	Pasta & Cheese/Tomato Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	Cheese Pizza Salad Bar Sweetcorn and Coleslaw	Quorn Fillet Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Quorn Dippers Potato Wedges, Peas or Beans	Omelette Chips and Beans
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Mandarin and Pineapple Fruit Salad	Apple Sponge Cake and Custard	Vanilla Ice cream with Orange Slices	Strawberry and Grapefruit Salad	Chocolate Muffins with Orange Slices
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pasta & Pepperoni Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	All day breakfast – Butchers Sausage, Bacon Egg, Beans, Hash Browns and Mushrooms	BBQ Chicken Kebabs and Rice Roasted Peppers and Onions, Sweet Chilli Sauce and Flatbread	Beef Burger in a Bun with Sweetcorn, Tortilla Chips and Tomato Sauce	Bubble Cod with Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 2	Pasta & Cheese/Tomato Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	All day breakfast - Vegetarian Sausage Egg, Beans, Hashbrowns and Mushrooms	Quorn Fillet and Rice Roasted Peppers and Onions, Sweet Chilli Sauce and Flatbread	Vegetarian Burger in a Bun Sweetcorn, Tortilla Chips and Tomato Sauce	Cheese Puff Triangles Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Strawberry Ice Cream with Orange Slices	Fruity Flapjacks	Jelly and Pineapple Pieces	Cinnamon Cookies with Apple Slices	Fruit Smoothies
Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Homemade Chicken Korma Curry Rice and Naan Bread	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Pasta, Garlic Bread and Runner Beans	Roast Chicken Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Chicken Burger Lettuce, Mayo, Sweetcorn and Tortilla Chips	Butchers Sausage Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 2	Homemade Vegetable Korma Curry Rice and Naan Bread	Quorn Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Pasta, Garlic Bread and Runner Beans	Quorn Fillet Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Quorn Burger Lettuce, Mayo, Sweetcorn and Tortilla Chips	Veggie Sausages Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Chocolate Ice Cream with Orange Slices	Cherry Sponge Cake and Custard	Vanilla Traybake	Pancakes and Chocolate Sauce with Banana Slice	Fruit Platter or Yogurt

Key Dates 2025-2026

Below are some of the key dates for the upcoming academic year as well as more detailed events for Spring & Summer Terms 2026.



New dates added in red.

Spring Term	
16.02.26-20.02.26	HALF TERM
27.02.26	Bingo Night
05.03.26	World Book Day
12.03.26	Music Celebration Evening
17.03.26 & 19.03.26	Parents' Evening
18.03.26	Year 3 Trip
19.03.26	Infant Music Festival
20.03.26	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
23.03.26	Whole School Cross-Country
24.03.26 & 25.03.26	Band It Performances
26.03.26	Year 1 Trip
26.03.26	Easter Service @ St John's Church
27.03.26	INSET DAY
30.03.26-10.04.26	EASTER BREAK

Summer Term	
11.05.26-14.05.26	SATs Week
20.05.26	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala
25.05.26	HALF TERM
03.06.26	Year 5 & 6 Swimming Gala
08.06.26	Year 6 Residential
19.06.26	Year 5 Trip
25.06.26	Year 4 Trip
26.06.26	Sports Day
03.07.26	Arts Festival
08.07.26	Triathlon
17.07.26	Leavers' Service & Last Day
20.07.26	INSET DAY

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