# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST NEWSLETTER

## Headteacher's Note

**Friday 21st November 2025**

Welcome



*Dear Parents and Carers,*

Although we've moved away from weekly newsletters and now use the app for updates, I felt it was important to share a newsletter this half term. It has been such a busy and joyful time, and as we move quickly towards the Christmas season, I wanted to reflect on all we've achieved together.

Christmas songs are already filling the corridors as the children prepare for their Christmas plays—such a special time in our school family!

**Celebrating Our PTA**



We offer our sincere gratitude to our wonderful PTA for the incredible Summer Fair on 21st September. It was a truly child-centred day, filled with varied activities and a lovely family atmosphere. Special thanks to **Joanne Brelsford** and **Liv Blunn** for coordinating the event and leading the team of volunteers. The fair raised over **£2,000** for PTA funds, which are used exclusively for the benefit of our children.







The **Disney Disco** was another fantastic event, full of laughter and community spirit. It raised an additional **£868**—thank you to everyone who supported these events! The PTA have kindly agreed to purchase a class set of tablets for the children to utilise in school which will greatly enhance our IT access and enable the children to practice key skills such as times tables, Grammar and knowledge recall. Thank you for your amazing work and support.

## Supporting Children in Need

On Friday 14th November, we held a non-uniform day for **Children in Need**, raising **£211**. Thank you for your generosity—your contributions make a real difference.




## Remembrance Service

On Tuesday 11th November, our Year 5 pupils represented St John's at the local schools' Remembrance Service at St Leonard's Church. They delivered a thoughtful presentation about honouring the legacy of those who gave their lives for peace and pledged to contribute to a peaceful society.

## Staffing Updates

- **Mrs Melvin**, our School Business Manager, has moved to a new role with LCC. We warmly welcome **Mrs Porter** as her successor—please introduce yourselves when you see her!
- **Mrs Slattery**, our Business Support Officer, will leave on 3rd December to join the Care Finance Assessment team at LCC. We wish her every success.




Finally, we say farewell to **Mrs Glynn**, who is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service. She is deeply loved by our school family, and we wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

## Sacramental Programme

On Sunday 16th November, our sacramental programme children were presented to the parish. Please keep the 26 children in your prayers as they prepare for **Reconciliation** and **Holy Communion**.





## Disney Week Magic

Before half term, we enjoyed a Disney-themed week, creating magical memories for the children. Thank you for your creativity and support with costumes—the children loved dressing up, and your efforts never fail to amaze us!

## The Jubilee Anchor



In September, we welcomed the diocesan anchor as part of the Jubilee Year of Hope. During its visit, children walked through a symbolic "water path" and added prayers of hope to our prayer chain—a beautiful reminder that God's love steadies us in troubled times.



## Thank You for Your Support

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our recent Parents' Evening. It was a wonderful opportunity for staff to share and celebrate the children's achievements with you. Your partnership in their learning journey is invaluable, and we truly appreciate the time and effort you give to engage with us.

## Forest school

The children have been thoroughly enjoying their Forest school sessions this term despite the weather. The have been exploring seasonal changes, autumn festivals and remembrance. Any class who missed a session will be caught up. Year 6 (pm) and Nursery (am) will be on Monday 15th December. Sadly at the end of term we will say farewell to Hedgehog from Woodland Trust as she is returning back to teaching full time.

## Music Concert

On Wednesday, 20th November, we proudly hosted our first music concert of the year—and what an incredible evening it was! The children delivered outstanding performances that showcased a wide range of musical talent. From the harmonious voices of the school choir to captivating solos on guitar and piano to class performances on the violin, recorder, and guitar, the concert truly had it all. A special congratulations to our courageous soloists—you were fantastic! It was a true celebration of creativity and skill, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in attendance. Thank you to all parents and grandparents for your wonderful support. The hall was packed to the brim—we even had to bring out extra chairs! Finally, our heartfelt thanks go to Mrs. Miskell for coordinating such a memorable event, and to Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Sethi, and Mrs. Miskell for their dedication in preparing the children so beautifully.

## Closing Blessing




As we enter Advent, let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in nurturing faith, learning, and love at St John's.

*God bless,*