

# St John's CE Primary School

## Newsletter January 2026

Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven (Matthew 5:16)

### January 2026

#### **Mon 5<sup>th</sup> School Opens**

- Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Y5 swimming lessons begin
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> YR 2026 applications close
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Italian themed school lunch
- Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Y3/4 Camhs workshop – Difference & Emotional Wellbeing

#### **February 2026**

- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> St John's Church – all ages service 9.30am
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> KS1 China day
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> KS2 WW2 day
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Football comp – RVHS (3.30 pm)
- Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> U11 Sports Hall Athletics – RVHS (am)
- W/C Mon 9<sup>th</sup> SEND reviews
- Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Parents' evening
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Camhs workshop – Low Mood
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> 3.15-4.30pm PTA KS1 Valentine disco
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> School Council Valentine bun sale
- **Fri 13<sup>th</sup> - School closes for half term**

#### **March 2026**

- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> St John's Church – all ages service 9.30am
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> WY Cross country finals – Temple Newsam
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Y5 visit Rishworth school
- Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day
- W/C 9<sup>th</sup> science week
- W/C 9<sup>th</sup> RGT auditions begin
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> PTA Mothering Sunday secret shop
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup> St John's Church – Mothering Sunday service 9.30am
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Red Nose Day
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Star of stars (2pm)
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> 5pm RGT KS2
- Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Netball Comp RVHS (am)
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Easter bonnet parade
- **Fri 27<sup>th</sup> School closes for Easter**

#### **Payments**

Please log in to Schoolcomms to make payment for all outstanding items. If you haven't already done so, please download the "School Gateway" app from your app store to keep up to date with payments and communications.

#### **Year 5 Cooking**

Year 5 will cook on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure you send a container with a lid each Wednesday. A donation of £1.50 per week will be requested via Schoolcomms.

#### **Wellies and coats**

Please ensure your child has a pair of wellies, a waterproof, warm coat and mittens/gloves in school. It is very helpful if all these items are all named. We will continue to hold playtimes on the field for as long as possible.

### Welcome back to the New Year at St John's!

First of all, a very big "thank you" from all the staff for the lovely gifts and cards they received at Christmas. We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break and we wish everyone a very happy 2026.

#### Clubs

Clubs will begin w/c 12/01/25. Unless you have heard from the school office your child(ren) has been awarded a place at their chosen clubs. The only exceptions to this are Edstart Dodgeball (5/1/26), Edstart Gymnastics (7/1/26), Karate (8/1/26) and Dance (20/1/26)

#### Y5 swimming

Y5 will be having swimming lessons every Friday morning this term at Sowerby Bridge pool starting **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January**. Instructors and staff will be sensitive to the fact that some pupils are apprehensive of swimming lessons, but school regards swimming as a life-saving skill that needs to be developed, not avoided. Please remember your child's costume/trunks, swimming hat, towel and goggles if necessary.

#### Miss Wasyliw/Miss Shaw

As you may be aware Miss Wasyliw will be leaving in January to take up a civil service job. Her last day with us will be **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January**. We are pleased to inform you that we have appointed Miss Shaw as her replacement. Miss Shaw will start officially on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**, but she will visit school several times before her start date. Initially she will provide support in class 2 and Y5.

#### Student teachers

We are pleased to inform you that we have 2 student teachers in school and they will be undertaking their block teaching practice in the **spring term**. We are sure you will extend a warm welcome to Miss Sadiq and Miss Kay.

#### Mr Claxton

Congratulations to Mr Claxton and his partner who welcomed baby Albie in to the world on New Year's Day. Mr Claxton will be back from paternity leave next week.

#### Italian Lunch Day

We will be hosting an Italian-themed lunch day on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**. Please support this initiative if you can. We are hoping to offer a themed lunch each half term. If you have any suggestions for themed lunches, please let the school office know.

#### KS1 China Day

Apart of our curriculum activities KS1/EYFS will be holding a China-themed Day. Get your costumes ready for **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**! (Children can dress up in red or traditional dress for Chinese New Year).

#### **KS2 WW2 Day**

As part of our history learning in the spring term, KS2 children will be immersed in a day all about WW2. Remember to get your costumes ready to be transported back to the 1940s for a day on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**.

#### **Parents' Evening**

Parents' Evening will take place in the school hall on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February** – more details nearer the time.

Please note that KS1 and Year 4 parents' evening will start from 2.30pm and the rest of KS2 will start at 3.30pm.

#### **World Book day**

This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character.

The school council will be holding a 'book swap' in the school hall.

Children can bring in quality books in good condition, which they have read and no longer need. Each book brought into school, will be exchanged for a token that can be redeemed by choosing a book from the KS1 or KS2 table at the book swap. A maximum of 5 tokens will be issued per pupil. Books can be donated from **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – so have a good sort out over half-term! We would especially appreciate books appropriate for Y5/Y6.

#### **St John's Church – Mothering Sunday**

St John's church will be hosting a service of morning prayer, commencing at 9.30 at which spring flowers will be distributed to all mothers present.

#### **Tea -time talk - SHINE**

Tea-time talk SHINE – This month we will be asking you to discuss our SHINE value of Independence. What does independence mean? Would you like more independence? How can you show that you are ready for more independence?

#### **Y6 Robinwood residential trip**

Following the success of last year's visit, we are excited to be returning to Robinwood for our Y6 residential.

Please make a note of the dates in your 2024 diary: **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025**. The total cost of the residential will be £369 split over 8 payments (7x£40 and 1 x £89).

#### **Drop off & Collection**

Please remember to park with consideration when dropping off and collecting from school. In particular, do not park on the yellow zig-zags outside school, across driveways and gates, or at the bottom of Heathfield rise where people need to cross the road. We would also request that parents do not park in staff parking spaces.