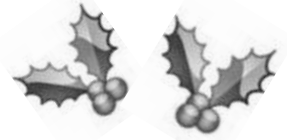




# St John's CE Primary School

## Newsletter December 2025



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)

### December

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> – Class 2 trip to Fireground Rochdale
- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> – Class 1 trip to Fireground, Rochdale
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Star of Stars assembly 2pm
- Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Choir performance at Ripponden Christmas market
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup> St John's Church – Christmas Tree festival 9.30am
- Fri 12<sup>th</sup> PTA Elfridges Secret Shop
- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Nativity (pm) for KS2
- Tues 16<sup>th</sup> (pm) & Wed 17<sup>th</sup> (am) - KS1 Nativity
- Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> - Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
- Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Christmas parties (pm)
- Fri 19<sup>th</sup> pm Carols around the tree – St John's Church
- **Fri 19<sup>th</sup> - School closes for the Christmas holiday**
- Sun 21<sup>st</sup> 6.30pm St John's Church – service of readings and carols including crib dressing by the children
- Wed 24<sup>th</sup> 5.30pm Christingle Service – St John's Church
- Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> – 9.30 am St John's Church – Christmas Eucharistic Service

### 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
- 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
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> KS2 WW2 day
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Football comp – RVHS (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
- Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Y3 meet Parkinson Lane at Bankfield
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> School Council Valentine bun sale
- **Fri 13<sup>th</sup> - School closes for half term**

### 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.

### Reception intake 2026

If you are aware of any siblings or children due to start school in **September 2026**, please ensure that the school office has their details so they may receive the Calderdale application information. We are conducting **tours through December** for prospective parents, if you know anyone who is interested, please ask them to call the school office to book a space.

### Year 4 Cooking

Year 4 will continue to 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.

### Christmas cards

We look forward to dusting off our very own Christmas card letterbox. Children will be able to post their Christmas cards from **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December** for free, same day delivery in school! Please remember to put the **recipient's full name and class on the envelope**.

### Star of stars

We will be holding our first termly star of stars assembly on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm** when teachers choose their overall superstars for the term – of course, they are always spoilt for choice! Parents will receive a text if their child is going to get an award so they can make a special effort to attend. However, we like to keep these rewards as a surprise for the children, **so please don't tell them!**

### St John's Church – Christmas Tree Festival

St John's Church will be hosting their Christmas Tree Festival on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am**. Everyone is welcome to provide a Christmas tree but please ensure these are no more than 3ft. For more details please speak to Mrs Kowal.

### Secret shop

The PTA "Elfridges" secret shop will be held on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** where children will be given the opportunity purchase Christmas presents during the school day. All items will be priced between £1 and £4.

### EYFS & KS1 Nativity play

This year EYFS and KS1 will be performing **A Midwife Crisis!** We look forward to inviting parents/carers into school to watch the performance. Ticket will be issued shortly for the 2 performances. Please note there will be one morning and one afternoon performance. KS2 will be watching the dress rehearsal to allow siblings to watch their younger brothers and sisters.

### Christmas lunch, Christmas parties and Christmas jumper day

Christmas lunch will be served to the whole school on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. If your child normally has packed lunches, but would like to order a Christmas lunch please make a booking and payment of **£2.75 via Schoolcomms**.

Pupils are also invited to come to school in their favourite Christmas jumper on this day – but please remember to wear a thinner 'party top' underneath so children can remove a layer to ensure they don't get too hot at the parties in the afternoon.

### Carols around the tree

We look forward to being able to invite parents/carers/grandparents to join us for Carols around the tree at St John's Church on the afternoon of **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** starting at **approximately 1.30pm**. We hope this will be a wonderfully festive way to end the school term. After the service, the staff will walk the children back to school and dismiss them in the normal way.

### Miss Wasyliv/Miss Shaw

As you may be aware Miss Wasyliv 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Staff gifts

Parents are often very generous with Christmas cards and gifts for staff; just a polite reminder that, in line with the staff code of conduct, staff are unable to accept gifts of cash.

### Tea-time talk - SHINE

Tea-time talk- the value of Friendship. Are you a good friend? Do you show how to be a good friend? What is the recipe for a good friend?

### 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).

**Merry Christmas and best wishes for the festive season from all at St John's!**