



The SJV Daily News

30th January 2026

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

Kind Beats Smart!

Y2 Storytelling Teaches Life Lessons!



St John Vianney Catholic School

School Newsletter

Edition: 354 30th January 2026

"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Kinder, not Smarter

Authors (including those of the Gospels) have tried for centuries to define the quality and importance of 'kindness' My favourite is in the book 'Wonder', where a wise teacher teaches his children, "In a world where you can be anything, be kind." It really highlights both the importance and the effort needed to actually do so many kind things that you **become** kind. I say it was my favourite. It was...until today! Year 2 treated us to a storytelling delight at assembly on Friday when they re-told the 'Smartest Giant in Town' by Julia Donaldson. What a beautifully performed version of a beautiful story – they sent us off into the weekend with the message that it is better to be kind than it is to have all the possessions in the world! SO true. Kindness creates happiness! Have a lovely weekend!

Mr. McNicholas

Notices & Reminders

We are a NUT FREE Zone – we have children and adults with NUT allergies. Please be mindful with your child's packed lunch and after school snacks.

Key Dates for your diary - Please keep this information for reference:

- **Parent / Teacher Meeting** – appointment sign up boards will be available outside classrooms every afternoon until Thursday 5th February, Class 5's board until Friday 6th.
- **Speak Out, Stay Safe Week** - 2nd February
- **Y5 visit to Parliament** - Tuesday 3rd February 2026
- **NSPCC Numbers Day** - Friday 6th February Non Uniform Day – a voluntary contributions of £1 to be paid via the School Money website
- **FOSJV Valentines Day Cake Sale** - Friday 6th February 3.30 - 4.30pm
- **No Class 4 after school sports club** due to the cake sale on Friday 6th
- **Parent Teacher Consultations week** - week commencing 9th February
- Class 4 Parent Teacher meetings will be held after half term.
- **National Child Measurement Programme** -Y6 and Reception Class - Friday 13th February
- **Friday 13th February** – school finishes at the normal time of 3.30pm for the school half term holiday
- School reopens to pupils on **Monday 23rd February**

Parent Teacher Meetings:

These will take place week commencing 9th February (Monday to Thursday). The sign up boards will be available outside the classrooms every afternoon from Friday 30th January until Thursday 5th February. Please sign up to see your child's class teacher.

Non Uniform Day:

Next Friday, 6th February. The children can wear their own clothes, please bear in mind that Classes 1,2 and 3 have PE next Friday so should dress appropriately given they will still be doing PE.

Friends of SJV:

Are holding a cake sale next Friday after school. See the poster in the newsletter for more information.

Please note there is no Class 4 after school club next week because of the cake sale.

After School Clubs:

Please be prompt in collecting your child after the after school clubs. ALL clubs finish at **4.30pm** with the exception of the Year 6 Maths Booster Class which finishes at **4.45pm**.

Absence from school:

If your child is absent, for any reason you MUST call the school office (0208 889 8421) and leave a message on the absence line (option 1) EVERY DAY when your child is absent. When your child returns to school please hand in an absence note to the Class Teacher explaining why your child was absent.

After School Fashion club – reduce, reuse, recycle:

We have a new after school sustainable 'fashion' club – if you have any reels of thread, embroidery threads, buttons, fabric swatches, balls of wool, etc that you no longer need please feel free to donate them to the school office for use at the club. Thank you.

Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts...



VALENTINE'S CAKE SALE

Friday 6th of February at 3.30pm

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Love is in the air!

Come and celebrate Valentine's Day with us in the school hall. We would be delighted to receive any donations of cakes, savoury snacks, or pastries—especially homemade ones!

Please bring your bakes to the office on the morning of the 6th February, however no cake will be refused whatever time it arrives! We would like to remind you to clearly label the containers with your name and cake's ingredients, remember is a NUT FREE ZONE!

Let's bake, share and celebrate together!

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you there!

Best Wishes,
The Friends Association

"In our school children, staff, parents and carers, governors and parish will work together to create a caring, learning environment with Our Lord as the focal point in which each child is valued as an individual, nurtured and encouraged to fulfil his/her potential."

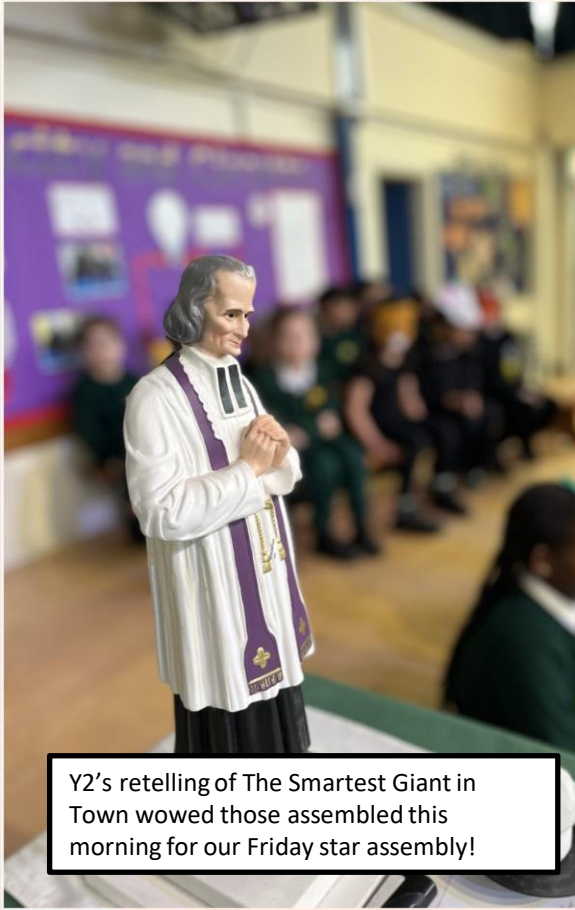
SJV Nursery 2025/2026 – 15 hours / 30 hours entitlement

- Places are available for this spring term if your child has turned **3 years by 31 December 2025**.
- If your child is due to turn **3 this spring term, up to 31 March 2026**, we have an intake in the summer term 2026, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available after the February 2026 half term holiday for this intake.
- We also have an intake in the summer term for children turning **3 by 31 March 2026**, in the spring term, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available in February 2026 for this intake.

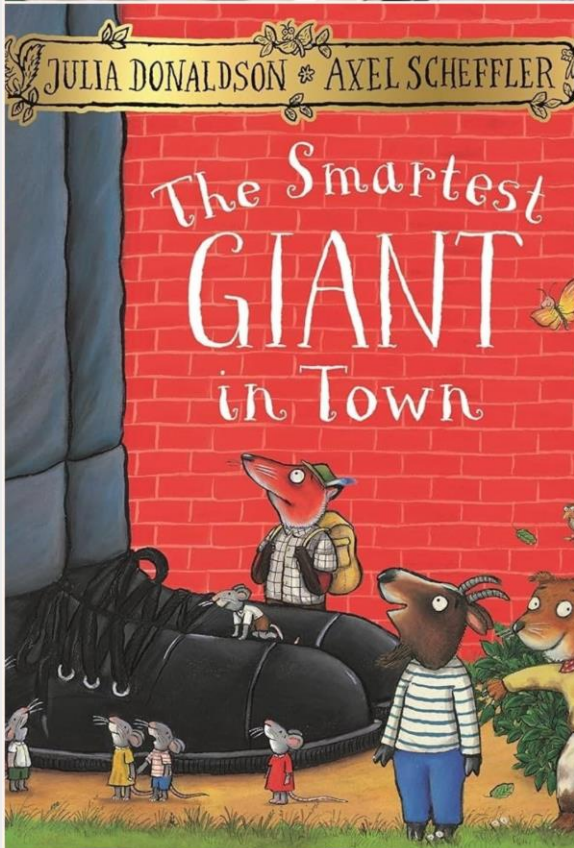
Please call into the school office to collect an application form or to speak to Mrs Alfonso if you have any questions.



Y2 Assembly – Be Kind!



Y2's retelling of The Smartest Giant in Town wowed those assembled this morning for our Friday star assembly!



Y2 Assembly – Be Kind!



Y3 Visit the British Museum



We are SO lucky to have the treasures of the ancient world right on our doorstep to help bring History to life – Y3 visited the Egyptian galleries to see some of the things they have been learning about in class.



Y3 Visit the British Museum



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Creating Texture in Art



This week Y4 have been using paint to create texture. They experimented with techniques such as pointillism and stippling. They worked with a variety of tools such as cotton buds and spatulas.



Tinting and Shading



STARS OF THE WEEK

THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THESE ONES...

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Reception:

This week, I would like to choose **V** for his fantastic hard work in phonics. Both Mrs Yerrill and I agree that it feels like something has really clicked for him. He has been giving 110% effort when sounding out and reading words. He can confidently think of an object for every sound in the alphabet and is always eager to share his ideas, shooting his hand up on the carpet. Keep it up, **V** - we're so proud of you!

I would also like to choose **Z** for her wonderful love of, and curiosity about, poetry. While listening to Robert Burns' "My Love Is Like a Red, Red Rose", she was completely captivated and clearly moved by the poem. When discussing how it made us feel, she said, "I feel love like he is saying it to me." She then thoughtfully compared it to a song she knows in Polish about a boy who loved a girl, immediately trying to write the song out for me and even recording herself singing it for her friends. Not only that, but she showed impressive insight by discussing the deeper meaning of the words used in the poem. Perhaps we have a future poet on our hands!

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Class 1:

Well done **M** for all of your hard work this week. Anytime I look over at you, you are getting on with your learning tasks straight away and always doing the right thing. This week we have been looking at statements and questions as part of our writing tasks. You were able to decide which sentences were statements and sentences. You then had to look at a series of jumbled up sentences, un-scramble them and also decide if they were statements and sentences which was a tricky task but you managed to do this independently. You are so kind and helpful around your classroom! Whether that is helping to keep your classroom tidy by tucking in chairs or picking up rubbish from the floor or helping your class friends if they need any help with their learning. What a kind, thoughtful and hardworking boy you are. We are so lucky to have you as part of Class one!

Great work from you this week **S**. This week we were looking at Holocaust Memorial day as part of our PSED and RHE lesson. We looked at Holocaust Memorial day which is a sad day that we remember every year. We all decided to write down some thoughtful thoughts about how we can make our society a better place and you wrote such lovely words. If everybody did this **S** our world would be a much better place. Thank you for being so caring and showing such great respect during this lesson.

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Class 2:

This week the star is going to the whole class. They have worked incredibly hard learning all of their lines for the assembly and performed brilliantly, speaking loudly and clearly. They also learnt all the words to the song along with the actions and performed with great confidence. We are extremely proud of them this week, well done, Class 2!

Well done too, to their parents, family and friends!

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Class 3:

A – He has been making fantastic progress, and we are all so proud of him. He works incredibly hard both in class and at home and is always trying his best to improve. He has learned all of his times tables and each week he challenges himself with the next sheet—answering more questions and tackling harder ones with confidence. On top of that, he consistently achieves **15 out of 15** in his spellings! Well done for all of your hard work!

M - He has been an excellent friend to others, always making sure everyone is included in games and kindly checking on anyone who might be on their own in the playground. His caring nature really makes a difference and helps everyone feel happy and welcome. He is also extremely polite and well mannered, setting a wonderful example to others every day. We are very proud of the kind and thoughtful person you are.

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Class 4:

This week, our Stars of the Week go to two of our 'always' children. They are always trying their best, always kind and helpful, and always willing to share their ideas. Both T and E put their hands up, give things a go, and show real courage in their learning. They take great care with their work, which is always beautifully presented and show enthusiasm in everything they do. What makes them especially special is their generosity with their time, and their spirit. They are wonderful role models for everyone around them and make our classroom a happier and kinder place.

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Class 5:

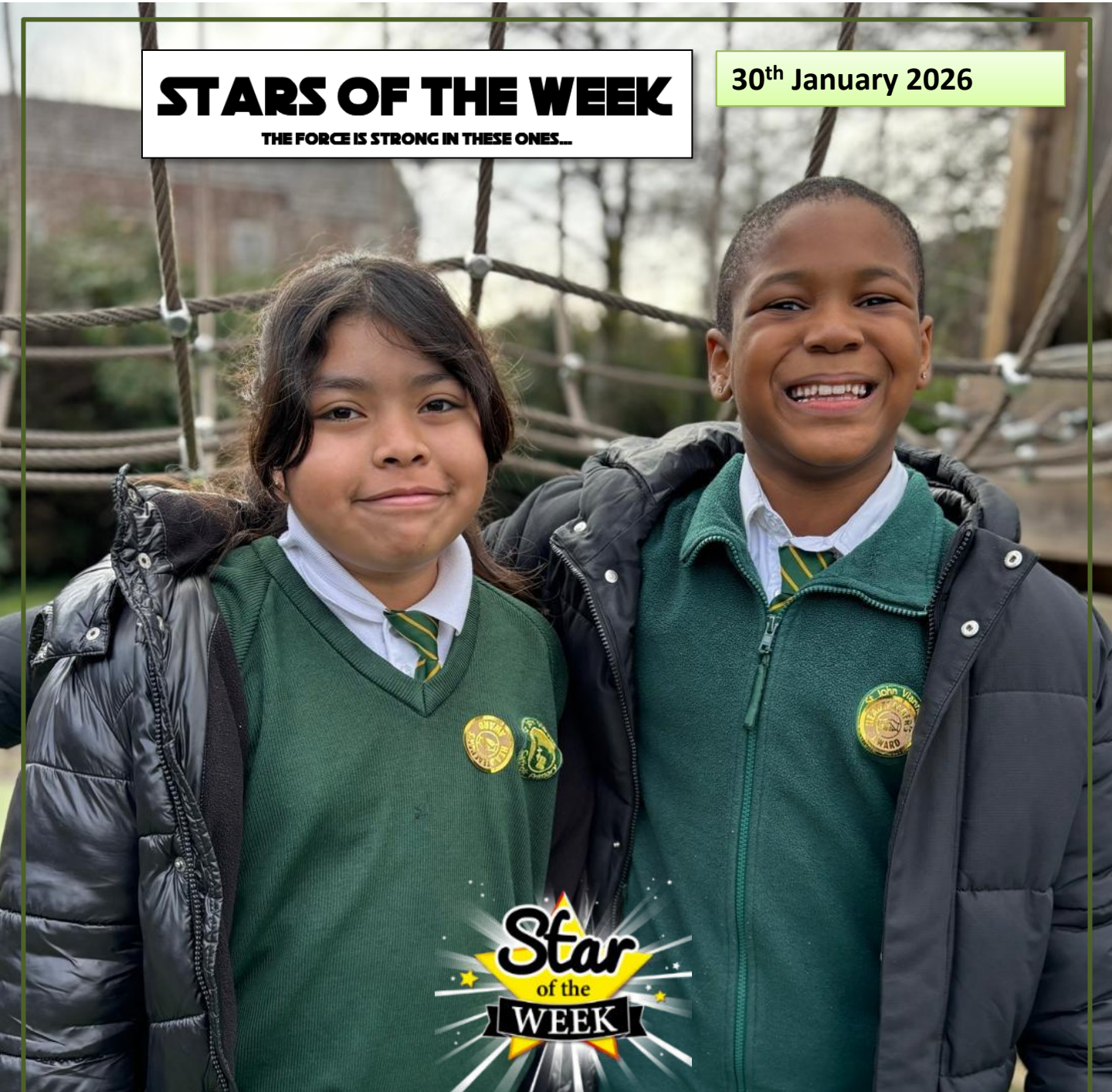
Our first star this week is receiving recognition for being a fabulous guardian angel. In class, on a daily basis, he helps those around him whenever he can, discretely and subtly. He has shown himself over and over again to be kind and patient with those in need and this was demonstrated beautifully at swimming this week. He saw that someone was a bit lost and confused so, without being asked or prompted, he immediately came to the rescue with his usual compassion and sensitivity, which made a huge difference to that child's day. Well done A.

Our second star is someone who shines brightly every day in Class 5. I have been so impressed by her diligent work ethic, always ready to give that little bit more to get the very best out of herself. Her obvious enthusiasm for learning marks her out as an excellent role model as she displays those crucially important behaviours of looking and listening at all times. Thank you and very well done to A.

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Class 6:

R - The first star goes to R this week for being brave and courageous as a learner. Sometimes we have to take risks in our learning to grow and R has done this in abundance in recent weeks. Last week, with adult encouragement he shared a sentence he had written with the rest of the class, and this week, with no adult support, he volunteered himself to share not one but ten answers with the rest of the class! Superb effort R! Very well done R!

C - The second star goes to C this week for her genuine curiosity and thirst for learning. She learns spellings diligently, completes work fully, asks and completes extra work, and always looks to push herself further in her learning. A great example for us all in such an important term in Class 6! Very well done C!

celebrate!



