**Term 3 Newsletter**

I would like to say thank you to you all for all the help and support that you have given St John’s over the past term. It is very much appreciated.

**New Social Media Policy**

Here is a link to the Trust’s new Social Media Policy. Section 9 relates to parents/carers.

[Microsoft Word - Social Media Policy FINAL](https://www.dgat.org.uk/pl/_files/ugd/5708ae_802d7909d6d34e95bfae4027ad7ba8b6.pdf)

**Parent Pay Accounts**

Please check your Parent Pay accounts and ensure that they are paid and up to date before the beginning of Term 4 so that debts are not carried forward. Furthermore, as we will be moving to a new paying system it is important that all accounts on Parrent Pay are fully paid up. If you need any advice or help with paying outstanding debts, please contact myself via the school office.

**Attendance**

If you have a child in Keystage 1 and they are off school for a day they miss the following 7 lessons.

* 1 Morning reading session
* 1 Phonics lesson
* 1 Mathematics lesson
* 1 Arithmetic lesson
* 1 Writing lesson
* 2 Wider curriculum lessons

This means in 2 days they miss 14 lessons, 3 days 21 lessons, 4 days 28 lessons and in a week 35 lessons. As you can imagine, it is very difficult for your child to catch up.

If you have a child in Keystage 2 and they are off school for a day they miss the following 9 lessons.

* 1 Arithmetic lesson
* 1 Guided reading lesson
* 1 Writing lesson
* 1 Writing on track lesson
* 1 Mathematics lesson
* 1 Spelling lesson
* 1 Reading session
* 2 Wider curriculum lessons

This means in 2 days they miss 18 lessons, 3 days 27 lessons, 4 days 36 lessons and in a week 45 lessons. As you can imagine, it is very difficult for your child to catch up.

Each day your child is absent from school they also miss opportunities to socialise and build friendships.

**Parking**

When dropping off and picking up your child/children please do not park on the double yellow lines opposite the school entrance or on the zigzag lines that are either side of the drive. I know when it is raining or when you are in a hurry it is tempting to drop off right outside school. However, it puts your children and other children at risk. Please park responsibly.

**Internet Safety Week**

This week has been internet safety week and we have had PCSO Tom Oliver in to talk to the children about their use of the internt and staying safe when using it. The children were surprised to learn that to use Snapchat, WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, and XXXXX you have to be **13 years old**.

As parents it is vitally important that you check your child’s phone (if they have one) at least weekly to monitor their activity on the internet, especially social media platforms and websites visited. Just to make you aware the Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty series have an age rating of 18 years old as they contain violent material that is inappropriate for primary school age children.

**World Book Day**

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March 2025. We will be having a “Big Bedtime Story”, please send your child to school wearing their pyjamas. We will also be holding a book swap as a way of recycling and reusing preloved books. Please send you child to school with a book to exchange. The Book Swap Hut in the playground has plenty of books available and ready for a new home!

**Dates**

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| Friday 14th February 2025 | End of term normal pick up time |
| **Monday 24th February 2025** | **Inset day** |
| Tuesday 25th February 2025 | Beginning of term 4 |
| Thursday 6th March 2025 | World Book Day |
| Week Beginning 17th March 2025 | Science Week |
| Week beginning 24th March 2025 | SEND Parents’ Evening |
| Sunday 30th March 2025 | Mothering Sunday |
| Week Beginning 2th April 2025 | Parents’ Evening (Non SEND) |
| Week Beginning 7th April 2025 | Year 5 Bike Ability |
| Wednesday 9th April 2025 | Easter Bonnet Parade |
| Friday 11th April 2025 | Shining Star and Easter worship at Coleford Baptist Church |
| Friday 11th April 2025 | End of term - Pick 1.15pm |

Enjoy half term and we will see you back in school on Tuesday 25th February.

Kind Regards



Joanne Peaper

Headteacher