**Newsletter term 4**

**Happy Easter**

Thursday 10th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Once again, a big thank you to everyone who has supported St John’s over the past term. Your efforts with the World Book Day tube characters were amazing. The 80s outfits and dressing up were fabulous – the school was a sea of colour.

Children have attended a range of sporting events over the past term including football, 10 pin bowling, dance workshops, a sports give it a go day and this week we have had Bikeability in school teaching our Year 5 pupils how to ride their bikes safely when out in the community.

Our Wellbeing Champions have been to the Viney Hill Christian Centre where they have been involved in outdoor activities.

Year 6 pupils now know where they will be going to start the next phase of their educational journey. We have pupils going to Five Acres, Monmouth Comprehensive, The Dean Academy and The Crypt School

Wednesday , we had our Easter Bonnet Parade. The bonnets and hats were amazing, it was very clear that much hard work and thought had gone into the wonderful designs, thankyou.

Yesterday, we were very pleased to welcome Matt Bishop MP to St John’s. He had a tour of the school, judged our Easter Bonnet competition and had a question and answer session with the School Council.

**SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY and VISITORS TO SCHOOL**

This is just a reminder for you to check out the new policy as section 9 relates to parents/Carers. [Microsoft Word - Social Media Policy FINAL](https://www.dgat.org.uk/pl/_files/ugd/5708ae_802d7909d6d34e95bfae4027ad7ba8b6.pdf)

I would also like to draw your attention to the Visitors to School Poster. Please find it at the following link <https://st-johns-academy.eschools.co.uk/>

**ATTENDANCE and FIXED PENALTY NOTICES**

There has been a growing concern regarding declining school attendance rates across the UK. In response to this the Department of Education introduced new statutory guidance in August 2024. Letters have been distributed to all parents across the school informing you of this and a copy of it can be found in the Letters section on our website.

The guidance explains how much time a pupil can have off and how much the penalties are if you take your child out of school for a holiday and end up getting fined. Removing your child for a week long holiday can initially result in a fine of up to £160.00 of each parent.

**PARENT PAY**

Please check your Parent Pay accounts and ensure that they are **fully paid up by Friday 6th June 2025**. Furthermore, as we will be moving to a new paying system it is important that all accounts on Parent Pay are paid , all debts will be transferred to Arbor. If you need any advice or help with paying outstanding debts, please contact myself via the school office, or email Mrs Armstrong sbm@st-johns.dgat.org.uk

**PTA News**

Thank you to everyone who supported our **‘Wonderful Person’** event in March. We raised £180.00. We hope you all enjoyed your ‘secret’ gifts.

Our **Easter Raffle** took place on Monday 7th April. Thank you to those who purchased tickets, the winners have been contached. We raised a fantastic £274.00.

On Thursday 10th April we have paid for the whole school to attend the **cinema** to watch Wild Robot. We do this as a annual treat – we do hope the children enjoyed themselves.

Check out our Facebook page (St John’sC of E Academy PTA) to stay up to date.

**STAFFING NEWS**

Mrs Cath Burgess has left St John’s Church of England Academy. We wish her well.

**ARBOR PARENT PORTAL**

Reminder – make sure you download your **Arbor Parent App** from the app store on your mobile phones and login. You will receive an email from Arbor with your login details. If you do not receive an email please check your junk and spam folders. We have used the email address that we have on file as the contact email for your login details. If your email address has changed and you have not updated this in school this could be a reason why you have not received your Arbor login details.



**From Monday 28th April 2025 this will be the only way that you can order and pay for school lunches. Visits, Breakfast Club and Cool Kids will also have to be booked and paid for via this app.**

**Dates**

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| Friday 11th April | Easter Service and Shining Star Worship in the school hall. 9.00am **Parents welcome** |
| Friday 11th April  | End of Term 4 **Collection at 1.15pm**  |
| Monday 28th April  | First Day of Term 5 |
| Monday 28th April  | Please ensure you have logged in the Arbor Parent Portal as we launch our new Lunchtime Menu – **please make sure you order your child’s meals on the Arbor App.** |
| Monday 5th May | Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 6th May | Skipping Day – Please wear PE Kits |
| Monday 12th May | SATs Week for Y6 |
| Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th May | Y6 Residential |
| Thursday 22nd May | End of Term 5 – **Pick up at normal time** |
| Friday 23rd May | INSET Day |

Kind Regards



Mrs Peaper

Headteacher