



Newsletter

13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

At St John's, we pride ourselves on the extra opportunities we find for the children across the curriculum, but recently there have been lots of exciting things happening for music.

Years 5 and 6 are all taking part in Redhill Rising, which is a new youth arts project led by Franklin Music CIC (<https://franklinmusic.net/>) in partnership with Include.org, Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, with support from the Mayor, Rich Michalowski, and the Belfry Centre. They will be singing in a concert, in the Belfry on Thursday 16th April at 11am where anyone is welcome to come along and watch. It is hoped that it will become an annual event. The children had special workshops within school to learn the songs and makaton actions, and we think it will be a great experience for them all. The legacy of this project will be the starting of a new choir, Franklin Voices Youth Choir for young people aged 8–18 who love to sing and would like to develop their musical skills in a supportive and inspiring environment. The choir launches on the 14th April, with rehearsals taking place on Tuesdays from 4:30pm to 5:45pm at the Community Stage at the Belfry Centre in Redhill.

Then, as part of the Reigate & Redhill Festival programme of activities offered to schools, all the junior children had a chance to try playing a brass instrument including trumpets, trombones and tubas, and many were really inspired by the experience. These free class workshops were funded by Reigate & Redhill festival and the skilled music teacher, Ian Stott, had them all playing a fanfare together by the end of their workshops. He was so impressed with the children that one class might be asked to perform what they learned, at the opening of the Reigate & Redhill Festival. Their long-term aim is to get more children playing instruments and Ian has secured some funding from the Pilgrim Trust Charity to support with this.



Finally, our KS2 choir are currently busy rehearsing for their performance at Dorking Halls as part of the Surrey Primary Singing Festival where they will have the opportunity to sing with a live band alongside lots of children from other schools. Our school will also be singing a solo song with the band on the day and we wish them luck for this.

Sporting Update – Mr Lewis

With the change in fortunes on the weather front, the pupils of St. John's have been able to enjoy many sporting events this term. In the last two weeks the school have been busy taking part in cross country, netball and football competitions. All school sport is broken into two groups of 8 schools (small school and big schools). A selection of year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils took part in an annual Reigate and Redhill schools cross country race at Priory Park and did incredibly well. Taking part in the small school competition, the girls team came in 2nd place and the boys team came 1st. This is a wonderful achievement by the pupils who took part. Special mention to Harry in Yr6 for coming 3rd, Arthur in Yr4 for coming 6th and Jessica in Yr3 for coming 12th in their respective races.

This week saw the netball league start and St. John's got off to a great start by winning both games against RAA. An 8-1 WIN and a 4-2 WIN were fantastic results to start the season. The boys and girls who played have been working tirelessly at training during the winter weeks and this was evident by how they played. Their performances were of the highest standard and some of the play was wonderful to see.

The girl's year 5/6 football tournament took place at St. Matthews on Tuesday, with all schools from the borough in attendance, this is a combined schools event so there is no small schools large school divide. Out of the 16 teams there the girls finished 4th which was fantastic. St Johns were put in a tricky group and qualified for the knockout rounds. Two great wins in the knockout phase put them in a good position to try and win the competition but in spite of the wins they somehow didn't qualify for the final which was a real shame. The girls didn't let this dampen their day and they enjoyed the tournament greatly.

A huge thank you to the parents and carers for supporting the pupils who have represented the school. We should be very proud of the children who represent our school.

World Book Day



World Book Day saw lots of character costumes and comfy clothes ready to snuggle up with a book. The highlight was each house getting together to share their favourite stories, with siblings and children from Reception to year 6 reading together.

Attendance

Please see attached the class average attendance percentages, well done to Squirrels!

The school's attendance policy can be found at; [Attendance Policy September 2025 StJ](#)

Punctuality is an important part of good attendance and we are seeing a rise in families arriving after 8.55 am. The children should be in class for registration by then and will have missed the valuable early morning activities that each class plans, to support learning and engage the children ready for the day. Please aim to have your child/ren in school for 8.45 am when the doors open so they do not miss out. Children arriving after the register often find they have missed important learning information and can disrupt lessons that have begun. We have written to families who are regularly late to offer support.

Data Sept 25 to present

Group	% Attend
Squirrels	97.7
Falcons	97.5
Deer	97.1
Owls	97.1
Otters	96.2
Hedgehogs	96.0
Rabbits	94.9

Arbor Parent Portal

Thank you to everyone for successfully logging into the Arbor parent portal, if you ever have any problems with accessing it please do contact the school office who will be able to help you. We sent a further email to all parents and carers this morning explaining the process for booking a parent evening slot, via the portal, on Monday morning at 10am.

A few important reminders:

Nail Varnish

Nail varnish should not be worn to school and we expect that it will be completely removed for school days.

Collection changes

Please ensure that you notify the office before 2.30pm if your child is going to be collected by someone other than yourself, we may not see an email in time if it is sent later. If there is a need after 2.30pm to make a change, please call the office on 01737 763804.

Morning drop-off times

Please be aware that the school gates do not open until 8.30am and it is from that point that the playground is supervised by staff, please do not leave children unsupervised outside the gates before 8.30am. Infant's parents/carers must wait in the playground until their children are passed to the infant teachers at 8.45am.

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium eligibility

If you believe that your child may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office for a form to complete.

Sickness and diarrhoea

Children should not return to school until **48 hours** after the last bout of illness. Please also remember to provide the school office with copies of hospital or doctor's appointment letters.

Greensand vacancies

Please see details of vacancies across the Greensand Trust [here](#).

Upcoming Events

March	
17 th	Drusilla's trip – Yr1 & Yr2
20 th	Yr5 Easter experience
20 th	Quiz – Friends event
22 nd	Yr5/6 Redhill Rising Sunday workshop (at Donyngs)
23 rd	Parents' evening 3.30-6pm
24 th	Parents' evening 3.30-6pm
25 th	KS2 Choir Dorking Halls
27 th	Easter Service in St John's Church 9.10 am
27 th	Last day of term – early finish Infants 1.20pm, lower KS2 Y3&4 1.25pm, upper KS2 Y5&6 1.30pm
April	
13 th	Back to School
14 th	YrR Bocketts Farm trip
16 th	Yr5/6 Redhill Rising event (at the Belfry) 11am
22 nd	Yr5 Falcons class assembly
29 th	YrR Rabbits class assembly
May	
6 th – 7 th	Yr3 High Ashurst residential
11 th – 14 th	Yr6 SATS week
15 th	Summer disco – Friends event
20 th	Yr3 Owls class assembly
25 th – 29 th	Half-term
June	
4 th	Class photos
13 th	Summer fair – Friends event
19 th	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
22 nd – 26 th	Yr6 Brenscombe residential
30 th	Yr6 Secondary school visits
July	
1 st	Yr1 Hedgehogs and Yr2 Squirrels class assembly
17 th	Yr6 Leaver's assembly
17 th	Last day of term – early finish Infants 1.20pm, lower KS2 Y3&4 1.25pm, upper KS2 Y5&6 1.30pm

School Governor's Meetings

The meetings for this academic year will take place on the following dates;

18th Mar 2026

20th May 2026

1st July 2026

If you would like any further information, please contact the Clerk on clerk@stjohn-redhill.surrey.sch.uk