



WELCOME BACK

1st September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year. We hope that all our families have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our children back and seeing everyone as we begin an exciting new term together.

Today, our staff have been taking part in an INSET day, which has provided a valuable opportunity to reflect on our Self-Evaluation Form (SEF) and School Development Plan (SDP) priorities, as well as complete important safeguarding, health and safety, and curriculum training.

Throughout the day, our discussions and planning have been firmly centred on our shared vision: *"Every member of St John's should be known, noticed, valued and have the best possible chance to succeed."*

This commitment underpins everything we do and will continue to guide our work as we strive to provide the very best opportunities, support and learning experiences for every member of our school community.

We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to learning, growing and working together with all of our children and families.

Meet the teacher - Our **first parent event** for years 3- 6 is 'Meet the teacher' on **Tuesday 8th September** and on **Wednesday 9th September** for Year 1 and 2. There will also be a quick presentation

Following the success of last year's trial, Year 1 Hedgehogs and Year 2 Squirrels will once again hold a joint information meeting. As the classes share many curriculum themes and key pieces of information, this approach allows families to receive the core information together, while each class teacher will also share details specific to their own class.

The Year 1 and Year 2 meeting will take place at **9.00am on Wednesday 9th September in the Hall** and will last approximately 30 minutes.

The Key Stage 2 classes will hold their meetings in their classrooms on **Tuesday 9th September:**

3.25pm

- Year 3 Owls
- Year 4 Deer

4-4.10pm

- *Short Headteacher Presentation about School Priorities for the year ahead*

4.15pm

- Year 5 Falcons
- Year 6 Otters

These are short information-sharing sessions about the year ahead. Presentation slides will be made available for parents and carers who are unable to attend. We have planned the timings to enable as many families as possible, particularly those with more than one child in the school, to attend the relevant meetings.

Supervision for St John's pupils will be provided in the playground during the Key Stage 2 meetings; however, we are unable to provide supervision for pre-school-aged siblings.

For our new Rabbit Class parents and carers, we are inviting you to an evening meeting on **Tuesday 22nd September at 7.00pm** to talk through the EYFS curriculum and the school day.

If you would like to discuss anything specific about your child, please speak to the class teacher at the end of the school day or contact the school office, and we will be happy to arrange a convenient time for a conversation.

Parent Volunteers - We welcome parents into school to help in class and hear children read. All volunteers must have a DBS through the school before this can happen and must be prepared to give a regular commitment to attending.

If you were a parent helper last term there are 2 dates for the volunteer briefing sessions, which are necessary to attend, before you start helping this term. The dates are; 9-9.20am Friday 11th September and Tuesday 15th 2.40-3 pm, please contact the office to book a place. Do let the office know if you can't make either date or would like to start volunteering and we will follow up with you.

As we settle back into the new term here are a few important reminders:

- **As an allergy aware school, we are a nut and pineapple free school due to severe allergies where even air borne particles can trigger life threatening reactions. This includes nut or pineapple products such as juice and flavouring in yoghurts and drinks etc. and is important for all products brought on site.**
- Dogs are not permitted on site.
- If your child is going to be collected by someone different, please inform their teacher at the beginning of the day. The office must be informed of any changes about collection before 2.30 pm, otherwise it is very difficult to deliver messages to class in time.
- Children should not ride their scooters or bikes in the playground, but push them to the bike shelters.
- Junior children, years 3-6 may be left on the playground from 8.30am (please do not drop off before 8.30am) but infant children, YR-2, must be supervised by an adult.
- When waiting for the bell to ring in the morning we recommend infant children and families wait at the trim trail end of the playground so they don't get accidentally knocked over by older children playing.
- For safety reasons, no children are allowed to climb on the raised grass area in the top playground.
- Years 3-6 should bring a mid-morning snack, but this should be fresh/dried fruit or veg like banana, raisins, carrots etc. No snack, muesli or fruit bars. Infant classes have free fruit/veg provided.
- Packed lunches should contain a healthy lunch - sweets and chocolate bars are not permitted - a small sweet treat as part of a balanced lunch is fine. Packed lunches should contain a drink too.
- School lunches can now be paid for using Scopay in years 3-6 (free to all infant children and £2.90 per meal for juniors), please ensure accounts are kept in credit.
- Children are not able to wear earrings or any jewellery for PE and they should be removed at home on PE days. We cannot help the children with this. We would expect parents to wait until the beginning of the summer holidays if ears are going to be pierced; otherwise, their child misses 6 weeks of PE lessons.
- Long hair should be tied back at all times and must be for PE. Plain hair bands only – green, brown, black only.
- Children should not have painted nails in school

- All children should be in full uniform including black school shoes, NOT trainers, worn by every child. Don't forget we have a good range of quality 2nd hand uniform – only £1 an item, just email the office. Please name every piece of school uniform.
- On PE days children should wear their PE kits including the right colour T shirt for their house. While they don't have to have the school logo on them only plain T shirts, not sports tops, should be worn and no neon colours.
- We do not hand out any birthday sweets or cake in school or party invitations.
- Please make sure your child has a named pair of wellies on the Welly rack.

Breakfast club / afterschool club

We have started off the new school year with a high uptake of places for both clubs and are almost full. Please email the office (info@stjohns-redhill.surrey.sch.uk) with any requests and we will respond quickly.

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. If the office contact you to confirm eligibility, following a routine check, please then contact your child's class teacher to have an informal discussion about pupil premium provision opportunities.

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.

Upcoming Events

September	
11 th	9am parent volunteer meeting
15 th	2.40pm parent volunteer meeting
9 th	9am Meet the teachers for Year 1 – 2
8 th	3.25pm Meet the teachers for Years 3 – 4
8 th	4.15pm Meet the teachers for Years 5 – 6
22 nd	New reception parent's curriculum evening 7pm
October	
14 th	9.10am Harvest Festival at the Church, parents welcome
16 th – 30 th	Half term

More dates will follow in due course.