

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is no coincidence that our school value for this term is Respect.

In our school vision we state that we aspire for the children to be inspired by possibilities and experiences beyond their everyday. We want our children to confidently communicate with other people developing a sense of citizenship for the school and the wider community.

Remembrance allows the school community to reflect on service to others and the sacrifices made on behalf of future generations. Many of our pupils, staff, families, and governors marked Remembrance Sunday. Members of our school community were a visual reminder of our school values, not only representing St Johns, but community organisations such as -Scouts, Brownies, Foot Teams, Rainbows.

This week is Anti-bullying week – Make a Noise About Bullying! In wearing 'odd-socks' on Monday 13th November, we are reminded that we are all different and should not be treated differently for it.

Please know, that if there are any issues or concerns that you have about school life, you will always find a member of the School Leadership Team and Pastoral Team on the gate in the morning.

As ever, I thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes

Marie Wargent

Acting Headteacher

Newsletters are published to the school website. The easiest way to receive newsletters is to subscribe to the newsletter through the school website, <http://www.st-john.oxon.sch.uk/news/newsletters> - this way you will be notified when a new letter is uploaded. In addition, our school website has all the recent newsletters and class letters on it, as well as lots of other information such as dinner menus. Add us to your favourites: www.st-john.oxon.sch.uk

We also use a text message service to send reminders to parents and Facebook to communicate school events and notices.

Find us on Facebook



at: @stjohnsschoolcarterton

VALUE OF THE TERM

RESPECT

We care for ourselves, each other, the
environment and our community



*'So in everything, do to others what you would
have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12*

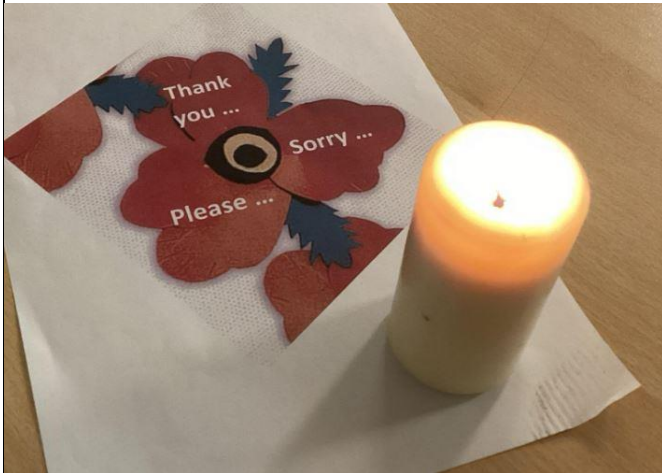
Recent Events

From Mr Mackie & Miss Rhodes in Maple Class:

The children have spent time this week reflecting on Remembrance in collective worship and in class too. In our weekly reflection, the children wrote Thank you, Sorry, Please prayers. The depth of some of the responses is excellent.

The children reflected on the meaning behind wearing a poppy and what they represent. We took the time to remember and appreciate those who gave up their lives in battle.

Well done to the children for the reflective and meaningful prayers written.



Remembrance Sunday Service



Upcoming Events

 **ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE**

With the support of 

This ANTI-BULLYING WEEK we are holding


ODD SOCKS DAY on MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

Odd Socks Day 

Come to school wearing your odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique!

Book Fair – From 8th – 13th November

Scholastic Book Fair




Wreath Workshops

The PTA are excited to be hosting two sessions of Christmas Wreath Workshops provided by Rachael, from Flowers You'd Love.

Two workshops will be running, the first will be on the evening of Friday 8th December from 6pm to 8.30pm and will be open to adults only. The second session will be a family friendly session running from 9am to 11am on the morning of Saturday 9th December.

Spaces are limited and on a first come, first served basis, once the session is full you will have the opportunity to join a waitlist.

tickettailor.com/events/stjohntheevangelistpta/1017516

Calling all small businesses and stall holders...

Would you like a stall at the St John the Evangelist school Christmas shopping evening?

Friday 24th November
6.30 till 8pm
Contact pta@st-john.oxon.sch.uk



Only £15
Plus, a raffle prize donation

Spaces are limited so please be quick!

Christmas Jumper Day for Save The Children – Thursday 7th December 2023



SAVE THE CHILDREN'S **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**



Elf Day - Friday 1st December 2023
To Support Alzheimers UK - Cherry Nursery &

Leading the fight against dementia

Alzheimer's Society

Elf Day



We would love for everyone to take part in this years Christmas Jumper Day in aid of the Save the Children charity, which is taking place on Thursday 7th December.

Children can wear their Christmas / festive jumpers with their normal school uniform trousers / skirts.

We would be very grateful if children can bring in a suggested donation of £1.

As always, we thank you for your support.

Reception Beech & Oak Classes

For a suggested donation of **£1** we would like the children in Oak, Beech & Cherry Nursery to dress up as an elf or to wear anything green and red in aid of Alzheimers UK. As a school we will be doing this on Friday 1st December.

The youngest children supporting the eldest in our community.

School Christmas Performances:

The school Christmas performances will take place on the following dates:

KS1 (Years 1 & 2)

Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am and 2pm.

Reception: Beech

Thursday 14th at 9.30am

Reception: Oak

Thursday 14th December at 2pm

Cherry Nursery Christmas songs

Friday 15th December at 9am and 2.45pm



Library News



Firstly thank you for all the books that have been donated.

Brand New Books

Last week we took delivery of 40 brand new books, the majority of these have been requested by the children.

Overdue Books

We have a large number of overdue books. Just a reminder that 2 books can be borrowed at any one time for 2 and a half weeks. Please help your children to return their books promptly. Reminders are sent to classes weekly and reminder letters are sent home regularly.

Water damaged books

We are still having the occasional books being damaged by leaking water bottles placed in books bags. Please keep books and water bottles separate.

Summer Reading Challenge presentation

Thank you to Andrew Bayliss, Librarian at Carterton Library, for visiting and presenting the children who completed their Summer Reading Challenge with their certificates and rewards.

Summer Reading Challenge

Unfortunately, despite numerous reminders, there are some pupils who have not returned their Summer Reading Challenge books. Please help your children to return their books.

Books and book vouchers for Christmas gifts

Stuck for a present – books are ideal for popping into a child's Christmas sack. There are great offers on books in supermarkets and online too. Book vouchers also make an ideal gift.

Margaret Hewitt
Librarian

General Reminders and Information

Morning drop-off:

The school gates will be open from 8.35am, with leaders welcoming the children at the gates.

The register will be taken at 8.45am and all children will be expected to be settled in class by this time. Lessons will start promptly at 8.50am.

Year 1, 2, 3 and 6 children enter via the side gate (opposite the play park) Nursery, Reception, Year 4 and Year 5 children enter via the front gate.

Reception parents will be invited to drop the children off at the classroom door via the reception garden.

After-school pick-up:

The school day will end at 3.15pm and parents are asked to pick children up from the outside classroom doors.

Beach Club After-school Childcare Provision:

The after-school Beach Club provision will operate from 3.15pm to 5.15pm from September 2023.

Family Holidays in Term Time

Attendance regulations make clear that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

We do not authorise family holidays in term time, long weekends, or special visits/trips/half days for example. At the end of the school year we have blocked INSET days to support families in booking holidays before other schools across the country break up.

Changes to national regulations (from September 2022) has meant that the county council will issue penalty notices (fines) where unauthorised absences or holidays are taken in term time.

Safeguarding Children

We take seriously our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements exist within our setting to identify and support those children who are suffering harm or are likely to suffer harm.

Find out more about our safeguarding procedures at:

<https://www.st-john.oxon.sch.uk/parents/safeguarding>

Pastoral Team News

Parents are very welcome to contact Alaina directly via email at atabern@st-john.oxon.sch.uk or her work mobile 07715 144381. Mrs Stainer can be contacted via the school office (office.2613@st-john.oxon.sch.uk, 01993 843124).

Over the course of the last school year, the Pastoral Team put together a series of videos detailing many of the topics covered in the Family Links Nurturing Programme. Those videos can be found via the following links:

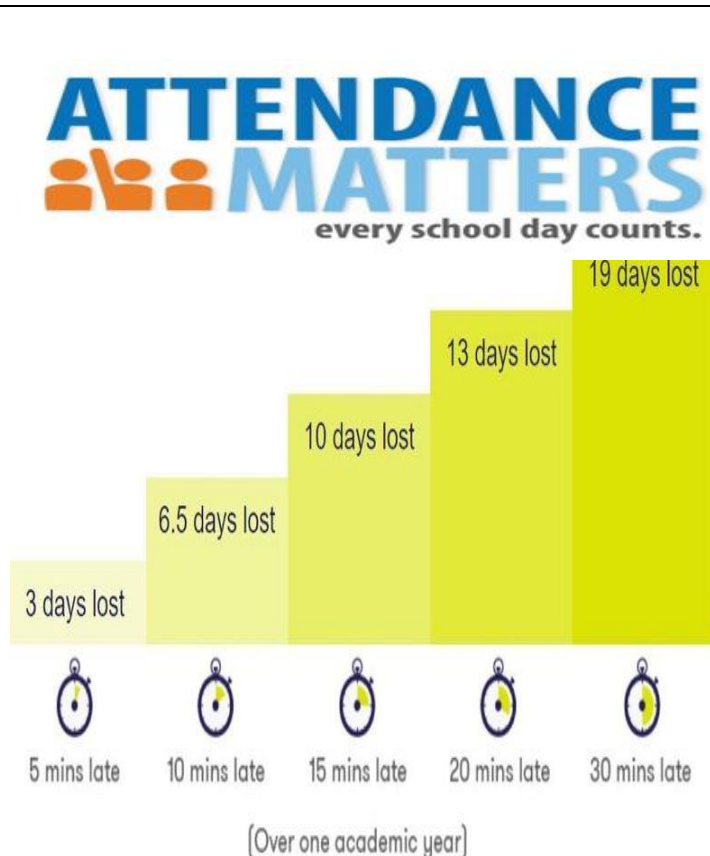
Overview of topics - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkxfgxbWt6w&t=2s>
 Praise is Magic - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kvgVCJVPhYq>
 Creating Boundaries - <https://youtu.be/HGs1VVqZXGo>
 Time to Calm Down - <https://youtu.be/8vPEf0XUydw>
 Using Rewards - <https://youtu.be/-iphIEq4HXU>
 Listening: <https://youtu.be/kWy7DYqvInM>
 Choices: <https://youtu.be/wADKfAbIBn0>
 Understanding Feelings: https://youtu.be/Fk88KH_cM3c
 Understanding the Feelings and Behaviour of Children - https://youtu.be/Z0lIyaK_QVY
 Taking Time for Ourselves - <https://youtu.be/0zpa8Ncrm6o>
 The Power of Play - <https://youtu.be/-VezCWn7wvo>
 Diversion and Distraction - https://youtu.be/FrMQ8_aNGDs

Attendance and Punctuality

Each week we promote and celebrate good attendance across the school. Research shows that poor attendance limits pupils' life chances, impacts on their academic success but more worryingly adversely affects children socially and emotionally. We understand that children are unwell from time to time and would not want a child to be at school if they really shouldn't be. We would also like to remind parents that a child should be kept off school for 48 hours after a case of sickness or diarrhoea. If you are ever unsure whether to send your child to school or not, call and talk to Aliana at the school.

The following is the attendance by class for the last two weeks.

Class	w/b: 16/10	w/b: 30/10
Oak	91.8%	94.0%
Beech	89.6%	88.3%
Elm	93.8%	93.7%
H Chestnut	96.7%	95.0%
Ash	94.2%	93.7%
Hazel	87.9%	96.0%
Cedar	95.0%	96.0%
Rowan	96.7%	99.3%
Holly	95.4%	93.0%
Silver Birch	97.5%	99.3%
Sycamore	97.5%	95.7%
Maple	97.5%	96.7%
Walnut	97.5%	96.3%
Willow	98.7%	97.3%
% Attendance Whole School	95.0%	95.3%



Admission for Secondary Schools for September 2024

From 4th September 2023 you can apply online for a secondary school place at

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/secondary-school>

The deadline for receipt of secondary school applications is **31 October 2023**.

Term Dates

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Term 1

Diary Dates


Tuesday 7th November: Scholastic Book Fair arrives

Thursday 9th November: Yr2 trip to Steam Museum

Thursday 9th November: Yr5 start swimming lessons

<p>Monday 4th September to Thursday 19th October 2023</p> <p>Term 2 Monday 30th October to Wednesday 20th December 2023</p> <p>Term 3 Monday 8th January to Friday 9th February 2024</p> <p>Term 4 Monday 19th February to Thursday 28th March 2024</p> <p>Term 5 Monday 15th April to Friday 24th May 2024</p> <p>Term 6 Monday 3rd June to Friday 19th July 2024</p> <p>INSET Days: Friday 1st September 2023, Friday 20th October 2023, Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th July 2024</p> <p>May Day Bank Holiday (school closed): Monday 6th May 2024</p>	<p>Monday 13th November: Odd sock day for anti-bullying week</p> <p>Thursday 16th November: Yr4 Dance Festival at CCC</p> <p>Friday 1st December: Cherry, Oak & Beech Elf Day</p> <p>Thursday 7th December: Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children</p> <p>Tuesday 12th December: KS1 Christmas Performance</p> <p>Thursday 14th December: Reception Christmas Performance</p> <p>Friday 15th December: Nursery Christmas songs with parents</p> <p>Friday 15th December: Yr3 trip to the Ashmolean Museum</p> <p>Tuesday 19th December: Church Service & Christmas lunch</p> <p>Wednesday 20th End of term. School closes at 1.30pm</p> <p>Thurs 25th January: Year 5 Young Voices</p>
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Caring for Others † Achieving Excellence



Children who read

Are more likely to be happier, healthier and experience better mental wellbeing and self-esteem

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They feel more secure and develop deep bonds with parents and carers
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They have better sleep and lead healthier lifestyles
- 

They have a better foundation for healthy social-emotional development
- 

They have better mental wellbeing and self esteem

Children who read are more likely to be happier, healthier and experience better mental wellbeing and self-esteem

They feel more secure and develop deep bonds with parents/carers

- Shared reading in their early years supports the development of a child's attachment (how safe, secure and trusting they feel around their parent or carer). Attachment is essential to a child's future happiness, social competence, and ability to form meaningful connections.⁹
- Shared reading creates opportunities for joint attention and emotional closeness between a child and their parent or carer. The availability of the parent or carer¹⁰ during shared reading contributes to their sense of safety.¹¹

- Children with secure attachments are more likely to show enthusiasm and attention during shared reading, which motivates their parent/carer to read with them more frequently and reinforces their opportunity to feel safe, secure and protected.¹²

- It is the emotional aspects of shared reading (cuddling, smiling, singing, and laughing) that boosts a child's brain activities needed to forge secure attachment, not the parent or carer's reading skill.¹³



Children who read are more likely to be happier, healthier and experience better mental wellbeing and self-esteem

They have better sleep and lead healthier lifestyles

- Children aged 3-5 who are read to at bedtime sleep longer.¹⁴ Sleep plays a crucial role in the development of children, impacting their growth¹⁵, motor skills¹⁶, attention, behavioural regulation, memory, mood, and resilience.¹⁷
- Children aged 11-14 who read for pleasure have healthier lifestyles. They are less likely to try cigarettes or alcohol and eat more fruit, irrespective of their family background.¹⁸

They have a better foundation for healthy social-emotional development

- Reading leads to children's improved social skills, attention, and fewer negative behaviours.¹⁹

- Shared reading increases parental warmth and reduces parental stress²⁰, enabling them to provide the sensitive and nurturing interactions their babies need to thrive.^{21, 22}

They have better mental wellbeing and self-esteem

- By providing escapism and relaxation, reading can act as a protective factor against the adversity some children face.²³
- Children who regularly read for pleasure have better self-esteem and lower levels of emotional problems (such as hyperactivity and inattention) than those who don't.²⁴
- Children who read have higher levels of mental wellbeing and happiness.²⁵