

Friday 12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this, I am looking forward to heading to Osmington Bay with our Year 6 children, on Sunday. Residential visits are an essential part of the primary school experience, providing our children with an opportunity to develop their independence and organisational skills, in preparation for moving on to secondary school, all alongside taking part in fun and challenging activities. I have always enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with our children in a different context to school and I am sure that this year's cohort will make me proud.

Dangerous Parking at St John's School

I was extremely concerned this week to hear about a very dangerous situation that occurred on Paddock Road. Some of our families, including some very young children were walking out of the school gates, when a large dark coloured SUV reversed into the school drive and was very close to hitting two four-year-olds. The car seemed to be unaware that children might be behind it.

If this was you, or if this is something that you sometimes do, please reconsider and do not use the school drive to reverse. It is a relatively short loop around Wendan Road to avoid having to reverse at all and would help our children to be safe.

On a similar note, at the end of the day yesterday, I stood out on Paddock Road and saw 2 cars on single yellow lines outside the school, as well as others blocking driveways. Our preference is always for children to walk to school, but if this is not the case, please ensure that you park in a safe position. I would suggest parking a few minutes further away from the school and walking, particularly as children would be able to say that they have used Park and Stride rather than simply being driven to school.

Please also remember that children should not be riding their bikes or scooters on school grounds. We had an incident this week where a couple of children were riding their scooters in the car park at the end of the day whilst a member of staff was trying to leave. The member of staff stopped and waited for them to move out of the way but then both children followed this staff member as they drove out, quite close to their bumper. This is not safe. Please remember that access to school is via a car park, and keep children close to you at all times on the pavement.

Kitchen Assistant Job

We are currently looking for a kitchen assistant for St John's. The role would be for 1 ½ hours per day for 5 days per week, working from 12pm until 1.30pm, in our friendly school kitchen. If you are interested in the role, please contact the school office. Details are available on the federation website: <https://st-john-and-st-nicolas-schools-federation.secure-primariesite.net/vacancies/>

Year 1 and 2 Share and Celebrate

St John's Share and Celebrate for Year 1 and 2 classes will be taking place on the week beginning 15th June as follows:

- Monday 15th June 8.45am: Parents are invited into school to share work with their children from 8.45am until 9.15am. Ms King and other staff will look after other children on the playground during this time. If you are not staying for share and celebrate at this time, please drop your child to the top playground.
- Monday 15th June 3.30pm: This is another opportunity to share your child's work with your child, if you were unable to make the morning session.
- Monday 15th June 6pm: If you are unable to make the other two sessions, you are welcome to come into school with your child at 6pm on Monday 15th June to share their books with them.
- Reception and Nursery children should come into school as normal.

Plea for Socks – St John's

St John's School is getting short of socks to give to children, if they have an accident in school. If you have some suitable child-size socks that you could donate to the school, we would be really grateful.

Summer Fair

The Friends of St John's & St Nic's are looking for donations of good quality second hand toys, games and books for the stalls at the Summer Fair. Please drop donations off at either school office.

Sports Days

I am repeating this information from last week to ensure that everyone knows about it. Our annual sports days will be taking place during late June and early July and will take place as follows:

Year 1 and 2: This will take place on the playground at St Nicolas School on Friday 19th June. Year 1 and 2 children should be dropped at the back gate of St Nicolas School at 9am (we will let the children in just after the St Nic's children have gone in for the day). The event will start at approximately 9.30am and will take between 1 and 1.5 hours.

The event will be a carousel of different sporting activities for the children to enjoy. Parents are welcome to attend and support their child. Please ensure your child comes in their P.E. kit on the day, wearing sun cream. They should bring a hat and water bottle. After the event, the children will be walked back to school and we would be grateful for any volunteers that can help with walking back. Please let the office know as soon as possible if you are able to help.

St Nicolas: The St Nic's Sports day will take place on Tuesday 23rd June at St Nicolas School, starting at 9.30am. We would anticipate that the event will finish at around 12pm. Parents are welcome to attend and support – we would ask parents to bring a chair with them to sit on to spectate.

The sports day will be a competitive event, with children representing their coloured houses. There will be a number of different races and points will be awarded based on children's positions in each race, with the winning team being awarded the sports day trophy at the end.

Children should wear their P.E. kits on the day and, if possible, should wear a T-shirt that is the colour of their house – red, green, yellow or blue to help people to identify them. If this is not possible, a

white T-shirt will be fine. Children should wear sun cream on the day and bring a water bottle with them.

Friends of St John's and St Nic's will be providing cold drinks during the morning which will be available to purchase.

Reception and Nursery: Our Reception and Nursery sports morning will take place at St John's School on Friday 3rd July starting at 9.30am. Parents are welcome to attend and support their child. Please wait just outside the black gates once you have dropped your child at school, and we will let parents back through to the playground at around 9.20am, once the children are ready.

The children will be split into groups and will rotate around a carousel of activities. The event should last around an hour. Children should arrive in their P.E. kits on that day and should be wearing sun cream. All children will need a hat and a water bottle.

City Arts Display

The children's art work from Arts' week will remain on display at City Arts for another week. Please do go and see it sometime this weekend if you can. Entry is free and City Arts will be open from 10am to 4pm both Saturday and Sunday. City Arts Newbury (Community Art Hub), 10 Hampton Road, Newbury RG14 6DB

The Big Future

The Children's Commissioner for England is asking for the opinions of as many children and parents as possible for the national survey – The Big Future. We would ask you to encourage your child to contribute and to do so yourselves if you can. The link for the survey is here:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TheBigFuture/>

SEND Coffee Morning



Stress and Anxiety Workshop for Parents and Carers

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are pleased to invite you to a free workshop for parents focusing on stress and anxiety in children and young people.

The session will explore:

- The difference between stress and anxiety
 - Why we experience these feelings
- Common thinking patterns that can increase anxiety
 - Anxiety disorders
- Practical strategies to support your child

The workshop will be facilitated by Ellen Clinch your Family School Support Worker, and will provide an opportunity to learn helpful techniques and ask questions in a supportive environment.

Booking is essential as places are limited.



Workshop For Parents

Stress & Anxiety
Tips to support parents & children

FROM THIS TO THIS

Wednesday 1st July 9.30am – 12pm
Venue: Community Room
St John Evangelist Infant & Nursery School Old Newtown Road

The course will be facilitated by Ellen Clinch - Family School Support Worker
To book a place call : Ellen 07788 235 586

Fisherman's Tail at St Nicolas Church



FRONT THEATRE St Nicolas NEWBURY
Being Good News. Bringing Good News.

Come & See
St Nicolas Church

FISHERMAN'S TAIL

Wed 17th June @ 6pm
St Nicolas Church,
Newbury, RG14 5HG

Adults £2.50
Children £1.50

Book using QR code

4FRONT-THEATRE.COM

FOUR HUMBLE FISHERMEN: SIMON, ANDREW, JAMES AND JOHN, HAVE GOT A TALE TO TELL: IT ALL STARTS WITH A FISHING COMPETITION AND A STRANGE MAN WHO BLOWS EVERYONE'S EFFORTS OUT OF THE WATER.

WITH A HOST OF HEARTY ORIGINAL SONGS AND INTERACTIVE STORY-TELLING, FISHERMAN'S TAIL IS A FAST-PACED, FUNNY, WHIRLWIND ADVENTURE EXPLORING THE LIFE AND MIRACLES OF JESUS, AS FOUR FISHY LADS FIGURE OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JESUS' FIRST DISCIPLES!

THE LONG FAMILY MUSICAL!

Adults £2.50
Children £1.50

FRONT THEATRE

"The songs are heart-warming, life-affirming foot stompers!"
★★★★★
Review at the Edinburgh Fringe

St Nicolas NEWBURY
Being Good News. Bringing Good News.

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Benefice Office Manager – South Newbury Benefice

Are you passionate about making a positive impact in your workplace? Do you have exceptional organisational skills, a keen eye for detail and understand the importance of confidentiality? If so, you could be the perfect person to join our team using your skills and experience to make a difference in our communities.

The South Newbury Benefice of St George, St John and St Michael is seeking a highly organised and personable Benefice Office Manager to support the smooth running of our three Anglican churches. This varied role combines administration, premises coordination, communications, and support for worship and ministry.

It is not a requirement to be a practising Christian for this role but empathy with the values and ethos of the church is essential.

We would consider a job share. The post is subject to a Basic DBS Disclosure.

Part-time: 30 hours per week Monday to Friday 9.30-3.30 but with flexibility.

Salary: £14 per hour

Contract: Permanent

Location: Newbury, Berkshire

Role Description and an Application Form are on our website:

<https://southnewbury.org/job-vacancy-benefice-office-manager/> To apply: please complete the application form and email to bbevan.vicar@southnewbury.org

Closing date: 25th June 2026

Attendance

Congratulations to Cherry Class at St John's with 98.2% attendance and 4S at St Nic's with 98.1% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 94.6%
- St Nic's: 97.1%

There were 48 children late across the two schools last week. This is equivalent to more than 9 children each day. Please ensure that your child arrives in time for the beginning of the school day. For St Nic's this is 9am and for St John's it is 8.45am. Children that are late can often struggle to settle in school and this can cause problems for them, as they get older. Children should be in school, on time, every day.

Year 2 Homework

This week our focus has been data handling.

National Curriculum links:

- Interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables.
- Ask and answer simple questions by counting the number of objects in each category and sorting the categories by quantity.
- Ask and answer questions about totalling and comparing categorical data.
- Below are some useful game you may wish to play or alternatively ask your child to gather some data- eg count the number of coloured Lego blocks in a pot, sort different coins and create a tally chart and block graph to show the information.

[Bar Charts - Mathsframe](#)

[Pictograph Games](#)

[Tally Chart Games](#)

Challenge Cards – Interpret pictograms (1-1)
Problem solving and reasoning cards:

What does this pictogram show?

What can you see?
What can you work out?

Use the clues to complete the pictogram.

There are 10 birch trees.
There are 3 fewer ash than birch.
There are 5 more birch than fir.
There are 25 trees in total.

Tree

Tree	
Ash	
Oak	
Birch	
Fir	

This pictogram represent the tally chart. True or false? Explain your answer.

Flower	Tally
Rose	
Daisy	
Tulip	
Snowdrop	

Flower	
Rose	○○○○○○○○
Daisy	○○○○○○○○
Tulip	○○○○○○○○
Snowdrop	○○○○○○○○

Tick (✓) the box that represents the tally chart. Explain how you know.

Fruit	Tally
Apple	
Banana	
Orange	

Fruit	
Apple	🍏🍏🍏🍏🍏🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌
Banana	🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌🍌
Orange	🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊🍊

Spellings

Guide the children to notice the spelling pattern they are seeing. Explain that these words have the same sound but a different spelling pattern: nature/stretcher, fixture/creature, moisture/snitcher, dispatcher/catcher, bewitcher/furniture, departure/temperature, denture/switcher, snatcher/sketcher, butcher/puncture/mixture

Remind the children about near homophones (words that sound similar but are spelt differently).
Model- groan/grown

Phonics Books for the Week

Reception: [https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S28 It- s Cool in the Pool&d=It%E2%80%99s%20Cool%20in%20the%20Pool](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S28%20It%20Cool%20in%20the%20Pool&d=It%E2%80%99s%20Cool%20in%20the%20Pool)
<https://vimeo.com/692012920/67aac55771>

Year 1: [https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S64 First Light&d=First%20Light](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S64%20First%20Light&d=First%20Light)
<https://vimeo.com/731076652/c1a2e7d430>

Drawing Club

Drawing Club is a way of igniting joy and a love of stories with the early years and follows Greg Bottrell's beliefs and passions. Your child will be using their imagination to create new characters, settings, and events for this story. They will be adding marks, codes, labels, and messages to their work and realising that they are writers! Each week we will choose a different story or an animation, this week our animation is Bananaman.



They will also be learning some exciting new vocabulary with actions. This week's vocabulary list is:

GLOOMY; UNCONVINCING; TRANSFORMATION; GULP; MUSCULAR; SEARCHING; BEFUDDLED; VICTORIOUS

See if they can teach you the actions!

Upcoming Dates

Sunday 14 th June:	Year 6 leave for Osmington Bay
WB 15 th June:	Key Stage 1 Share and Celebrate
Wednesday 17 th June:	Year 6 return from Osmington Bay
Friday 19 th June:	Year 1 and 2 Sports Day
Friday 19 th June:	Junior Music Festival
WB 22 nd June:	Sustainability Week
Tuesday 23 rd June:	St Nic's Sports Day

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey
Executive Headteacher