

The Early Bird



'I have come in order that you might have life – Life in all its fullness.' John 10:10

Dear parents and carers,

Although a hot week we have to be proud of all we have achieved. The sport days were excellent, and again we have to thank Mr Buckley and the team for preparing these. The best runners and audience we have had yet! The summer fair was great fun. Mrs Bettany and Miss Pickerill need a shout out for setting this up, along with the wider team. We also can't forget Mrs Inskip who was happy to get soaked...she seemed to enjoy this on such a hot day!

We have had a number of trips and outings, and we were told on a number of occasions how well behaved our children have been. Our children were exemplary at Northwood stadium and they took time to clear their space up afterwards. We also have 7 children who have successfully got through to the next round. This is the most we have ever had! Our staff, pupils and families go above and beyond and this is what makes St. John's.

We have three full weeks left in school and there is no moment where the curriculum won't be taught, so make sure you are in every day. Lots of work to complete!

Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday.

Mrs Bowyer
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

June

Monday 29th - Y1 class worship - families are invited to come in and watch

July

Thursday 9th - Y6 Leavers' Show and Awards

Monday 13th - Family Picnic (if bad weather it will be changed to 16th July)

Thursday 16th - Y6 Leavers' Party

Friday 17th - school finishes

Dedication - Courage - Joy

ELECTRICITY

Year 4 have been learning about the dangers of electricity. This poster, showing what we should not do around electricity, was created by one of the pupils in the class.





READ to the BEAT

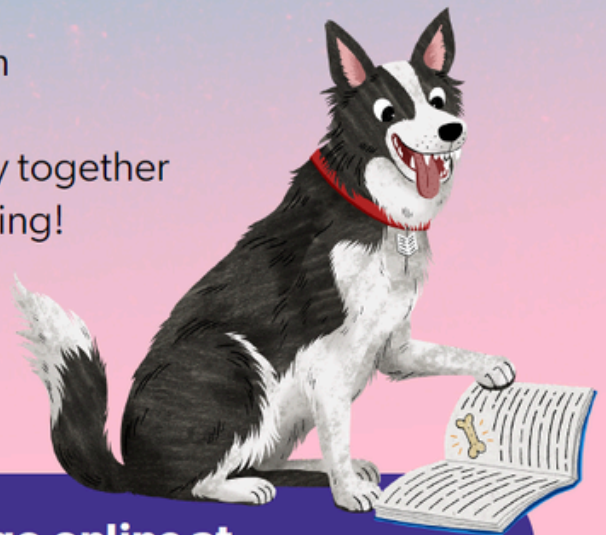
Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme, **Read to the Beat**, and is powered by Universal Music Group UK. The Challenge will celebrate the joy of music and the power it has to move, inspire, and connect us – all through the magic of reading. The Challenge is being brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate.

Why join?

- It's FREE! Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a lifelong love of reading
- Boosts confidence, creativity, and imagination
- Earn rewards, certificates, and prizes
- Fun for the whole family. Visit your local library together
- 95% of children said they read more after joining!
- Children choose their own books to read, collect rewards over the summer and receive a certificate or medal when they complete the challenge.



Visit your local library or go online at
summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
to get started from 4 July 2026.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

Tales in the Park

2026

Taking part in six local parks, these accessible storytelling festivals make the perfect day out for families with children aged 0-13 (but everyone's welcome!). That means the fun is right on your doorstep this summer holiday.

You'll be treated to storytelling, pop-up sports, crafts, circus skills, a bouncy castle, and so much more. Hopefully, your family will make some happy memories to cherish together this summer and beyond.

Every child will also be gifted a free book to take home and enjoy, kindly gifted by Harper Collins!

When is Tales in the Park?

From 11am – 3pm, Tales in the Park will take over:

- **Tunstall Park** on Tuesday 28 July
- **Hanley Park** on Friday 31 July
- **Yeaman Street Recreation Ground** on Tuesday 4 August
- **Fenton Park** on Friday 7 August
- **Longton Park** on Tuesday 11 August
- **Burlsem Park** on Friday 14 August

Tales in the Park has been organised in partnership with Stoke-on-Trent Libraries and YMCA North Staffordshire to inspire children to enjoy reading and encourage families to share stories together all year round. The library service will also bring their Little Library Van, where you can register to become a member and children can sign up to The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge.



Father's Day Garden Games

EYFS Children had a fantastic afternoon spent with Dads and Grandad's for our Father's Day Garden Games event. There was fishing, bat and ball, penalty shoot-out and boccia for Dads and their children to have a go at. We had a welcome ice lolly break and back to business for our annual tug of war. Dad vs children, the kiddies won again! Thank you all for supporting the event, the children loved it. Look forward to it again next year and we are already thinking to include more great games.



FREE SCHOOL MEAL CHANGES



THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY:

From 1st Sept 2026, FSM will include ALL Universal Credit households earning over £7,400.



NO AUTOMATIC PROTECTION:

Protection has ended; children who no longer meet the criteria will lose their FSM.



Parents can apply for Free School Meals using the following link:

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

NURSERY & RECEPTION:

A new application will be required. Parents can apply from **1st AUGUST 2026** or complete the paper form from the office.

RECHECK ELIGIBILITY:

All current FSM will be rechecked.

Applicants who were previously not eligible for FSM should reapply to check their eligibility under the new expansion

St John's CE(A) Primary
School

SEND Coffee Morning

We invite all parents, families and friends of children with SEND or concerns of SEND to join the school's SENCO - Mrs Hill and special guests



FRONTLINE
dance

PERFORMANCE. HEALTH. COMMUNITY



Family Focus



**Monday 29th June
2026**

8:30am- 10am

Topics to Discuss:

- SEND concerns and queries
- External agency support
- Support at home - sleep and communication
- Q&A
- Wellbeing
- Summer holiday support
- Sensory processing

**Working
together so
every child
can achieve,
belong, and
thrive**

OPEN DAY

**Free
Entry**

Saturday 11th July 2026
Longton Fire Station
11am-4pm

Demonstrations

Activities

Food

Fairground Rides



11am-12pm
Sensory Friendly hour

There will be no flashing lights
or sirens to accommodate
neurodivergent members of
the community.



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



**The
Fire Fighters
Charity**



**Staffordshire
Fire and Rescue Service**
preventing • protecting • responding

Prayer

Dear God,

Today we come with grateful hearts. Thank You for the gift of life, for our families and friends, and for the many blessings we receive each day.

Thank You for the opportunities to learn, to grow, and to help others. Thank You for the food we eat, the homes we live in, and the people who care for us.

Help us to remember all that we have and to be thankful in both good times and challenging times. Teach us to share our blessings, show kindness to others, and live with grateful hearts. May our words and actions reflect our gratitude each day.

Amen.

