

# Newsletter



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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Lorna Buchanan

**Friday 22nd September 2017**  
**Issue 2**

We see signs of summer's passing in golden leaves,  
shortening days, misty mornings, autumn glow.  
We sense its passing in rain that dampens,  
winds that chill, Harvest's bounty placed on show.  
Creator God, who brings forth  
both green shoot and hoar frost,  
sunrise and sunset,  
we bring our thanks  
for seeds that have grown, harvests gathered,  
storehouses filled,  
mouths fed.  
And, as your good earth rests  
through winter's cold embrace,  
we look forward to its re-awakening  
when kissed by Spring's first touch.



## New Website

Thank you to the PTFA for raising funds to enable us to revamp our website.  
New pictures will be added soon.  
Please take a few minutes to have a look and catch up on school news.

Thank  
YOU!

Thank  
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## Message from the Headteacher

It has been a very happy and positive few weeks back in school, and we have now settled back into the routines of school life. A special mention must go to our new Reception children who have settled extremely well and there have been lots of happy and smiley faces. We are enjoying getting to know their fun personalities.

### MORNING CHANGES

We are changing our morning procedures from next week to ensure all the children continue to remain safe and secure. From Monday the front gate will be opened at 8.40am by Mr Wills, children from Year 2-6 are expected to go onto the playground unaccompanied. They will be met by two members of staff.

Reception and Year 1 parents, for the time being, can accompany their children on to the playground, if they wish to. The bell will go at 8.50 am and children will line up in classes (as they do now). The gate will then be locked. Any children arriving after 8.50am will need to go to the school office.

Any Reception parents still in the building will need to leave via the office by 08.55am

If you need to get a message to your child's class teacher please do so via the office. If you need to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher this can also be done via the office.

It was lovely welcoming some of our Reception and Key Stage 1 parents to our first coffee morning. Thank you to all those who attended, I know our Year 6's enjoyed showing the parents around the school. The coffee mornings will be a regular feature and next time it will be the turn of our Key Stage 2 parents. Following on from this meeting it has been suggested that each class will have 1/2 class representatives to help organise events along with the PTFA; if you are interested please pop your details into the school office.

Congratulations to all the children who have been selected to be school councillors: Daisy W, Hollie C Jacob B, Bella C, Rafe H, Thecla K, Steven M, Gracie S, Sasha K, Wikoria P, Sophie M, Oliver C, Gabby E, Noah M, Ethan D L and Bea V.

The first meeting will be next Wednesday.

Good luck to all our Year 6 children who are applying to become school prefects and House Captains. The lucky candidates will be announced in next week's newsletter

## Governors Update

Firstly, welcome from the Governors to this new school year.

I wanted you to know that after many years of fantastic service to the school, Terri Teasdale has stepped down from the governing board and I have been appointed as the new Chair. I have been a foundation governor for St Johns for the last 9 years and have previously chaired the board for a year before Terri took over.

I have already visited the school a few times and have been blown away by how well the staff and the pupils seem to have settled in. We are all very lucky to have such fantastic teachers, TAs and support staff making St John's such a great place for the children.

I wanted to let you know some updates and that this will become a regular way for the Governors to get information to you.

Firstly, we are moving forward with the academisation process and will give you regular updates on this as we confirm timings etc. I thought I would share a few questions that not everyone heard the answers to at the end of last year. If there are other questions you have please send them into the Office (office.3550@st-johns-banbury.sch.uk) and we can include them with answers in the next update:

1. What is the timeline for change? The process has started and we will give regular updates and inform you of exact key milestone dates as we have them. It is likely to be concluded by Spring 2018.
2. Will the uniform change? – No, there will be no impact on uniform. All other schools in the MAC continue to wear their separate and original uniforms.
3. Will the school name change? – No, we will still be St. John's.
4. Will the staff change? – No, there will be no forced staff changes.
5. Will we be required to change staff so that we have a catholic head and deputy? – No, all current staff will keep their job status and roles.

Finally, we do have a couple of Foundation Governor vacancies on the board, these are catholic governors appointed by the diocese. If you are interested in being more involved in the school and would like to know more please contact Fr Richard to register your interest (stjohnbanbury@hotmail.com)

Here's to a great Autumn term.

Many thanks

**Gill Crowther**

**Chair of Governors**

**WELL DONE!' to the following pupils who received special awards this week:**

**Early Years- Scarlett G**

**Early Years- Nathalie H**

**Year 1-Alice Mae-H**

**Year 1/2 –Mikayla C**

**Year 2 –Dylan H**

**Year 3 –Elliott**

**Year 3/4-Dylan A**

**Year 4 –Emmett W**

**Year 5 –Oliwia D**

**Year 5/6-Caitlyn D**

**Year 6-William T**

### PTFA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent PTFA meeting, It was lovely to see some new faces and welcome back some old ones too.

We have some exciting events that we will be running between now and Christmas and we are sure the children will enjoy taking part in these.

The minutes from the meeting will be posted on the school website so please take a look .

The Next PTFA meeting will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at The Easington Pub at 19.00pm

**Please come along and join us.**

### Hot School Meals

A polite reminder school dinners should be paid on a **Monday** Morning of each week.

The money should be sent in with your child in an envelope specifying the days they have chosen to take hot meals. Dinner money should **not be sent to the School Office.**

We are unable to offer change so please could correct money or cheque be sent in.

### Swimming news

Some of Miss Lewis' class will be going swimming this term, a letter will follow shortly when price details have been confirmed by Spiceball.

Please can you prepare the children's swimming bags ready.

The children need to bring: swimming costume (girls-this must not be a two piece costume) or trunks (not too long – well above the knee and **not baggy**), hat and towel. Hats are available to purchase at the pool at a cost of 80 pence. If incorrect swimwear is provided this will result in your child sitting out of swimming. These are Oxfordshire County Council rules for school swimming health and safety and out of our control.

The children are not allowed to wear goggles unless there is a medical reason. If this is the case please come and speak to us about it. Your child will not require money for lockers. It is very helpful if girls with long hair wear it tied back. Earrings should not be worn for swimming – if your child has recently had their ears pierced they will need to bring plasters to cover them up.

Please ensure that all your child's clothes are named to reduce confusion when changing!

It is a statutory requirement of the national curriculum that all children take part in swimming lessons.

Any requests to withdraw children (apart from illness on the day) must be backed by a doctor's note.

Thank you

### After School Clubs

We are improving our after school provision.

A letter detailing information on clubs will follow shortly.

In-order to ensure top quality resources there will be a charge of £5 per half term for all clubs

### Permission Forms/Agreements

Could we ask that the Home school Agreements, E-Learning Code of conduct, pick up arrangement forms are sent back in to school as soon as possible. The children will also be bringing home a copy of a consent form for local trips.

We are required to have a signed copy consenting each child can leave the premises without these we would not be able to take your child on local walks, church visits or swimming.

Extra copies can be requested through the school office .

### School Choir

We have enjoyed our first rehearsal .The choir children in year 5 & 6 are busy preparing for our annual 'Children Singing For Children' concert on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November .

All those involved will be receiving a letter next week

You will have an opportunity to purchase tickets details to follow



### Autumn Days

Please can you ensure that your child has a coat with them every day, as the weather can now be very unpredictable.

Thank you.

## Dates for Autumn Term

Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Mrs McGeehan's class to St John's Church for Class Mass 10.00am
	BGN Opening evening 18.30
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Maths and Phonics Meeting 09.15-09.45 (Early Years Parents only)
	Year 3 / 4 Planting Afternoon at People's Park
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	NSPCC E-Safety Day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Miss Lewis Class Assembly 09.15 start
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Mass 13.45 (More details of Auction to follow)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual Photos
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Flu Vaccination (nasal spray) for Years 1,2,3,4
	Scholastic book fair Opens
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Mrs Pittman's class to St John's Church for Class Mass 10.00am
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole school Parents Evening
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Non-School Uniform £1.00 donation
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>23rd – 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Ms Jefferies class to St John's Church for Class Mass 10.00am
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Children singing for children St Mary's Church 7pm
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Early Years and KS1 Christmas Performance 1.45
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Early Years and KS1 Christmas Performance 1.45 KS2 Christmas Carol Service At St John's Church 6pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Finish for Christmas 12.10