



Newsletter 3

18th September 2026

'Let us love one another, for love comes from God'

1 John 4:7



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for attending Meet the teacher events this week. It was lovely to see so many of you there. If you were unable to make it, you can find the presentation on Google Classroom and the [class pages](#) of our school website.

Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback in our rewards survey at the end of last term. Following the feedback from children, parents and staff, we are making key changes to Friday Sparkle Time. While children love this weekly reward, our review highlighted a few clear challenges with the current setup:

- **Thursday Night Anxiety:** Parents noted that children frequently felt anxious at home on Thursday nights, worrying whether they had secured their 30 minutes of Sparkle Time.
- **Mixed Age Setup:** Activities spanning ages 4 to 9, made it difficult to engage everyone, leaving older pupils bored or younger children struggling to keep up.
- **Busy Corridors:** School wide transitions created noisy hallways that overwhelmed our younger pupils.
- **Club Choices:** Group capacity limits meant children regularly missed out on their first choice club, leading to disappointment.

To address these challenges, Sparkle Time is transitioning to a class based model where pupils work together as a team to earn their Friday reward. The class will decide together on the activities they want to do for their Friday Sparkle Time, giving pupils shared ownership.

Throughout the week, classes will focus on meeting our three core expectations to earn their time together:

- **Ready to learn**
- **Respectful relationships**
- **Engagement**

This collaborative approach removes individual Thursday night anxiety, eliminates hallway chaos, ensures age appropriate activities, and gives every child a calm and positive end to the week. We are excited to see our classes build great teamwork through this new approach.

Please join us in St John's Church on Thursday 24th September at 9am, where we will be celebrating Harvest. We will be supporting Wimborne Food Bank and would appreciate any donations that you are able to give. Please see the list below for what the Food Bank requires at this time.

Best wishes

Miss Michelle Prince

Headteacher

Congratulations to these children who have gone above and beyond and **sparkled** this week:

Elephants: Theo M and Fianna
Giraffes: Bella-Rose and Seth
Dolphins: Mason
Pandas: Talia and Isabella
Snow Leopards: Nella and Micah



Half Term Value - Thankfulness

The children have been bringing this value to life through music as they practise their Harvest songs, exploring what it means to express gratitude for our food, community, and world. Singing together has been a wonderful way for pupils to reflect on everything we have to be grateful for, and we look forward to sharing these songs with you soon!



Communication

To help us streamline communications and ensure your queries are handled promptly by the right member of staff, we kindly ask that parents route all messages through the main school office rather than emailing teachers directly. If you would like to contact or speak with a teacher, please arrange this by phoning or emailing the main school office on 01202 883675 or office@stjohnsfirstschool.org. Teachers are also available for a quick chat in person at pick up time at the end of the day. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Your child is invited to try **one or both of High Pine Music after school clubs completely FREE!**



Both clubs run on **Wednesdays from 3:15pm–4pm in different classrooms.**

It's a relaxed, fun way to introduce your child to music, where they can play and sing their favourite songs, make friends and have a go with **no pressure to continue.**

All instruments and equipment are provided.

If they love it, they're welcome to continue - but there's absolutely no commitment to do so!

To book your child's free trial, email India at: info@highpinemusic.com

Clubs

We are pleased to offer a wonderful range of clubs this term, but we currently have a very low sign up rate across several of our activities.

Please be aware that if numbers do not increase, some of these clubs may unfortunately not be able to run. If your child is interested in joining, we encourage you to sign up as soon as possible via the links below so we can keep these fantastic opportunities open for everyone. Thank you for your support!

<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>
Fun Science	Tennis Rocksteady Ukulele Choir	Dorset Creative Dance (passcode STJOHNS26) Foundation Sports football

For children in Years 3 & 4 we also offer drum and guitar tuition delivered by Mr King during school hours. If you would like more information on this please contact the school office.

Updating information on Arbor

At St John's, we are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of your child. To achieve this, it's essential that we have the most accurate information regarding any medical conditions or allergies that your child may have. This information can be updated in ARBOR. Simply click on your child's name in their profile, where you can add any allergies, medical conditions and dietary requirements. You can also update any contact details among other essential information in this section. Please check and update your child's profile if necessary. If you require any assistance with this process, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Flu Vaccination

The Dorset School Age Immunisation Service are visiting us on Wednesday 23 September to administer the flu vaccination. To register and consent to your child receiving the vaccine please follow [this link](#), the school code is DT141821. The deadline for completing the online consent is Friday 18 September. If you have already completed a consent form for this session, or if your child has already been vaccinated, you do not need to complete another form.

Pupil Voice

It has been an exciting week as we have been recruiting for our roles of responsibility within the school.

School Ambassadors

Albert Y4
Y3 School Ambassador will be announced next week.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Worship Team	Millie Harry	Teddy Bertie	Charlie O'G Talia	Skye Ellie
School Council	Ida Aria	Emelia Sidney	Mo Freddie B	Benji Bradley

Friends of St John's

If you are ordering labels for your child's clothing, try Stikins. <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>
These are excellent sticky name labels for labelling clothes, shoes, bags, water bottles and everything else! If you quote our number **19988** when ordering, Friends of St John's gets a 30% commission so we can raise money for school with no additional cost to us - win!

Attendance



Well done Snow Leopards!

****New Dates Added****

Dates for your diary

What's on this week

Wednesday 23rd September

Flu Immunisations (subject to parental permission)

Thursday 24th September

Harvest Service in Church 9:00am (All Welcome)

Monday 28th September

Individual Photographs

Thursday 1st October

Year R Curriculum Meeting for parents/carers

Friday 2nd October

Open Morning for prospective new parents

Saturday 3rd October

The Extra Mile Event



Class Weekly Attendance
for Week beginning 14th September 2026

Elephants	95.7%
Giraffes	90.4%
Dolphins	94.7%
Pandas	92.1%
Snow Leopards	97.7%
Whole School	94.2%

Tuesday 13th October

Books at Bedtime 6pm - (CHANGE OF DATE due to clash with St Michael's Middle School Open Evening)

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Half Term Holiday

Monday 2nd November

INSET Day (No children in School)

Friday 20th November

Disco

YR and Y1 3:15pm - 4:00pm

Y2, Y3 and Y4 4:15pm - 5:00pm

Privacy Notice Initio Learning Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.

Harvest Shopping List

- ✓ Long Life Milk
- ✓ Bottles of Squash
- ✓ Tinned Peas
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Tinned Tomatoes
- ✓ Tinned Ham
- ✓ Tinned Custard
- ✓ Shower Gel
- ✓ Jelly
- ✓ Mini Packets of Raisins

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**Dorset Parenting Support
Service**



“Behaviours that challenge us” Information Session

**Free one-off session for parent/carer(s) living in BCP and Dorset
with children aged between 5 and 11 years**

Join our one-off information session to find out more about how you can support and understand your child's challenges and difficulties. Session is delivered by a Child Clinical Psychologist.

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

10:00am - 12:00pm

Face to Face session, venue in BCP area

Wednesday 1st July 2026

10:00am - 12:00pm

Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 22nd September 2026

07:00pm - 09:00pm

Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 3rd November 2026

10:00am - 12:00pm

Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

Tuesday 19th January 2027

10:00am - 12:00pm

Virtual session via Microsoft Teams

**To book your place, please visit our website:
actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset or scan the QR code**



WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP
WITH:



Action for Children, registered at 3 The Boulevard, Ascot Road, Watford WD18 8AG and registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee in England and Wales under number 04764232. Registered charity numbers 1097940/SC038092.

THE EXTRA MILE!

One Mile Obstacle Run

Saturday 19th September

Hampreston Lodge, Wimborne BH21 7LX

Families

Children

Beginner Runners

RUN – JUMP – CRAWL



BOOK ONLINE:

www.axisrdy.co.uk

