

## Message from the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers

### Welcome Back!

Welcome to the fifth newsletter of the school year and the first of 2018. Although Christmas is now a distant memory, on behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you for your support, good wishes and gifts received at the end of last term. We wish all our families a happy and healthy 2018. As you will see, we have also introduced a new format for our school newsletter; any comments/feedback would be gratefully received.

### Attendance

As you are aware, attendance is a priority for St John's. I would like to share with you our latest attendance figures, together with comparisons from last year. These figures show significant improvement.



- St John's overall attendance was 96.5% for Autumn term 2017 [last year for the same period it was 95.6%.]
- The national average was 96.4% for 2016-17, so St John's was just above National.
- Our figures for persistent absenteeism [children who fall below 90% attendance] was 2.7% for the Autumn term 2017 [last year this figure was 10.9%.]
- 3.2% of absence in the Autumn term was due to illness or medical appointment. 0.5% is unauthorised absence.

I would like to remind parents that pupils are registered twice each day for the morning and afternoon session. If your child is unwell in the morning but improves during the day, you can always bring them in for afternoon registration at 1.15pm.

On the last day of term, the following children were presented with certificates for 100% attendance during the Autumn term:

St John's CE First School				
100% Attendance - Autumn Term 2017				
Elephants	Giraffes	Dolphins	Pandas	Snow Leopards
Anna	Harrison B	Freddie	Oliver	Robin
Jude	Tyler	Felix	George	Harry
Theo	Oscar	Finley	Sophia	Max
Lauren	Olivia	Harley	Harrison	Abigail
	Lara	Jacob	Jessica H	Isobel
	Eleanor	Edward	Keziah	Linus
	Marley	Zach		Isabella
		William		Silvana
		Florence		William
		Martin		Kianah

I would like to thank you for your continued support with attendance. We value our partnership with families in ensuring that all our pupils have the opportunity to achieve their maximum potential.

Yours sincerely

**Katharine Anstey**  
Head of School

## School Council

School Council members have now been elected for the Spring term and the representatives for each class are as follows:



Giraffes	Dolphins	Pandas	Snow Leopards
Riley	Felix	Jessica H	Leah
Maddison	Finley	Ruben	Nathan

\* Isabella and Nell are our Rights Respecting School Ambassadors.

## Worship Team

The following children have been elected to the Worship Team for Spring term:

Giraffes	Dolphins	Pandas	Snow Leopards
Olivia	Liam	Max	Daisy D
Jessie	Florence	George	Lauren

## Year 4 Sports Ambassadors

Our Year 4 Sports Ambassadors for this term are Max, Jenny, Charlotte and Charlie.



### PE Kit

Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school. The children may bring in a pair of navy, grey or black joggers to wear for outdoor PE.

## Wimborne Academy Trust

There are a number of network meetings taking place this half term for English, Maths, Early Years and SEN. Moderation will also be held for English and Maths.

**WIMBORNE**  
Academy Trust



### Outdoor Classroom

During the February half-term holiday, an outdoor classroom will be erected in the grounds where the outdoor stage is currently located. This will be used primarily by Nurture Group and Eco Group and will provide a useful additional space. Some preliminary construction may take place prior to half-term and we will advise you of any restrictions/access to playground when known.

## Staffing

- As you may be aware, Mrs Janice Turvey will be leaving us at February half term. Mrs Turvey has been part of the St John's "family" for almost 16 years. I would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to the school. I am sure you will join with the staff & pupils in wishing Mrs Turvey & her family well for the future.
- We are pleased to announce that Mrs Catherine Almond has been appointed as Teaching Assistant in Year 1 to replace Mrs Turvey
- We welcome Mr Callum Hayes, a School Direct trainee, who has a teaching placement in Year 3 with Mrs Weir this term.



## Forthcoming Diary Dates

All dates can be found in the News & Events section of the school website.

### January

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January Year 1 Visit to Priest's House Museum [morning]  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January Year 3 WASP Gym/Orienteering Festival

### February

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February Reception class - School Nurse Height & Weight Checks  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2.45pm Celebration of Learning  
*Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February - Half term holiday*  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February Year 4 WASP Tag Rugby event  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 8.45am Celebration of Learning

### March

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March Year 2 Visit to Streetwise [morning]  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March Farm visit - Reception and St John's Pre-School  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 9.00am Year 3 Class Assembly  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Year 4 Cluster Football final  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 1.45pm Easter Service  
Last day of term

