



Newsletter 14

18th December 2025

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

1 John 4:7



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Pandas and Snow Leopards visited Streets Meadows and Bennett Lodge this week to perform some of our favourite Christmas songs. Events like these are about more than just singing. They are a wonderful opportunity for our children to connect with the local community. It was truly heartening to see our children showing such kindness, confidence and respect while representing our school. Thank you to the volunteers who accompanied us.



On Party Day, we were visited by two very special guests: Geraldine and Nelly the Elves. The children were swept up in a whirlwind of excitement as the North Pole duo realized a terrible mistake—part of Santa's Official Nice List had gone missing! The hall was filled with laughter and cheers as Geraldine and Nelly led the children through a series of interactive challenges to track down the missing list. Thanks to the quick thinking and enthusiastic help of our children, the list was safely recovered just in time! Thank you to the Friends of St John's for organising this festive event for the children to enjoy.



Thank you for the lovely cards, gifts and kind messages you have given to the staff. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas holiday. Merry Christmas!

Best wishes

Miss Michelle Prince

Headteacher

Staffing Update

We say goodbye to Mr Gibson-Clarke as he is moving on to work at another local school next term. Mr Gibson-Clarke has been the site manager at St John's First School for almost five years. We would like to thank him for all his hard work, dedication and support during his time at St John's.





We say goodbye to Mrs Ford (for now) as she begins her maternity leave today. Miss Richards will be the Year 4 class teacher from January 2026. There will be an opportunity for parents to meet Miss Richards when we return after the Christmas holiday.



Attendance



Well done Pandas!



Class Weekly Attendance
for Week beginning 15th December 2025

Elephants	85.3%
Giraffes	98.8%
Dolphins	90%
Pandas	91.3%
Snow Leopards	87.5%
Whole School	90.6%

Dates for your diary

[What's on this week](#)

Friday 19th December

INSET Day

Monday 5th January 2026

INSET Day

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Children return to school

Friday 9th January 2026

Five Loaves Bakery

Tuesday 13th January

Year R Library Trip



St. John's Wimborne
New Life, Full Life



Messy Christmas

Crafts, games, snacks, Bible story, songs
and good fun for families

all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

Sunday 21st December

2.30 - 4.00pm

@ St John's Church

For more info and to book go to

www.stjohnswimborne.org.uk

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Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

Over
£60m
raised for UK good causes

£0
extra cost to anyone



**Join us to celebrate the opening of the exhibition
on Sunday 11 January from 1-3pm**

FREE Drop in painting workshops for ages 4+ must be accompanied
10 January 1-4pm and 18 January 12.30-3.30pm

A Splash of Colour

7 January to 25 January 2026

Walford Mill Crafts, Stone Lane,
Wimborne BH21 1NL

Kicking off the year with
vibrant artwork from
Witchampton and St John's
First Schools

WWW.WALFORDMILLCRAFTS.CO.UK

WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY 10-5PM,
SUNDAY 11-4PM



Inclusion

MESSAGE FROM MRS JONES

Dear families,

What a busy Autumn term we've had! All children have worked so hard and I am incredibly proud of the resilience and positive attitude we've seen around school! We held our first 'Tea and Talk' parent support group where it was a pleasure to meet some of you! I am super excited to continue to work with you to support your children, in the new year - I wish you all a lovely Christmas and happy start to 2026!



HOLIDAY SURVIVAL!

The Christmas holidays can be really challenging for everyone, especially neuro-diverse children. Here are some tips to help keep everyone relaxed and content during the festive period (as much as they can be!):

- Routines and predictability are key - prepare for inevitable changes with visual timetables or social stories.
- Plan for recovery days and downtime - everyone is different, but going for a walk, doing something crafty or just resting at home can help your child decompress!
- Prepare your child for the 'what ifs' - If it's loud, you can use ear defenders, if it's too busy, I can take some time in my room etc.
- Remember it's YOUR Christmas - we don't all have to do things the same way; who says chicken nuggets dipped in cranberry sauce aren't festive?!

CONTACTING MRS JONES

Mrs Jones

Email your school's office if you would like to arrange a call or a meeting to discuss your child.



For more support and advice go to: <https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/professional-practice/christmas-resources>