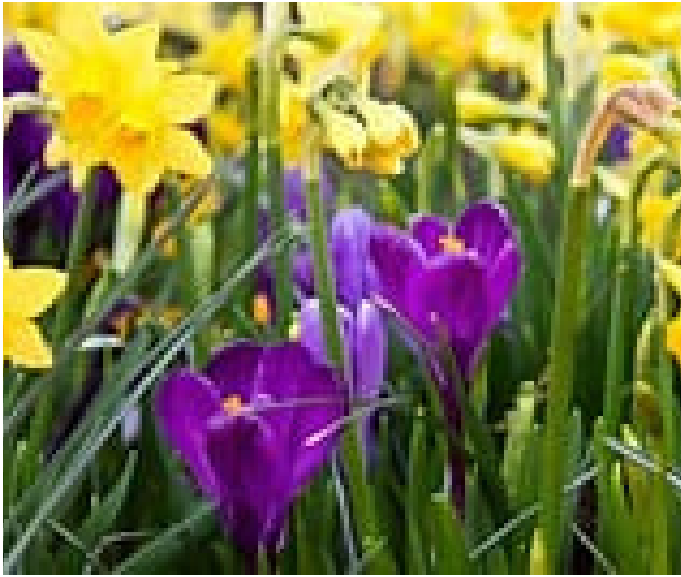


Sherborne St John C of E Primary School Newsletter

Friday 28th February 2025



Bishop David attending Service this Sunday

Bishop David will be visiting the parish for the last time this Sunday morning before he moves to become the Bishop of Truro. All are welcome to come to a special service at St Andrew's, starting at the usual time of 10.30am (with Creche & Sunday Club for 4-11s during part of the service).

Could you have a board up for us?

The School Association are in talks with a local estate agent to sponsor our Summer Fayre (Saturday 14th June.) As well as being a significant help with the cost of putting this event on, it is a great opportunity to strengthen our community links with a friendly and local business... but we do need your help!

We need 25 households to display a sponsorship sign outside their house for the month before the Fayre (the boards will be taken down within a matter of days afterwards.)

The boards are a typical estate agent style but used to display the date and time of the Fayre as well as highlight the estate agents as a sponsor. If you would be willing to have a board displayed or would like any more information, please email the office or school.association@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk by 21st March.

This is not exclusive to School families so if you know of anyone in the local community or a neighbour who would like to help out too, please let us know! It is a great way to advertise our event around the village and make it a friendly and successful event for the School and local community. Thank you!

A message from Mrs Rennison

I hope you all managed to have some rest and relaxation over the half term week. It's been a busy first week back! I enjoyed joining our PTA for a meeting this week to hear all about plans coming up - and there are plenty, including I understand, something about Easter bonnets - more to come soon! And of course the disco at the village hall next week, on Friday 7th March.

Y5 have had their first session of Squash coaching up at May's Bounty this afternoon, so I'm looking forward to hearing how they got on.

Yesterday our Year 5/6 tag rugby team played in their second round of league matches. Despite it being extremely wet and muddy underfoot, the children were amazing. The teamwork was excellent and they succeeded in winning 3 matches and drawing in a very close final match. Thank you to everyone who braved the mud and came to support the team!

In other news, you'll have seen further up this page that Bishop David is attending Sunday Service at St Andrews Church this Sunday. As a school, we wanted to wish him well, especially as many children have fond memories of when he visited the school last year. So, every child has made either a small picture or written a short message to Bishop David, that the church team are going to make into a goodbye and good luck card from all of us at Sherborne St John.

Finally, my picture of choice this week is of crocuses and daffodils - spring bulbs are so welcome after winter. A big thank you to Mrs Brown and Mr Price who are both working to wake up our school grounds whilst we work on sourcing a new grounds company. Thank to you both for your hard work!

Mrs Mel Rennison

Key Dates:

3.3.25 Year 2 to QMC
5.3.25 SENCo Surgery (please book)
5.3.25 Sports Hall Athletics final!
5.3.25 Class 3 trip to The Vyne
6.3.25 Class 3 trip to Tower of London - leaving
8.45am, returning 6pm
7.3.25 Basingstoke Soccer Centre Football
7.3.25 School disco – School Association
14.3.25 The Vyne Football festival
26.3.25 Class 3 trip - Henry on Tour
26.3.25 Y6 The Hurst Transition meeting
2.4.25 Year 3 and 4 gymnastics
2.4.25 2.15 pm Easter church service
4.4.25 Last day of term – finish at 2pm

Collective Worship



In Collective Worship this halfterm, our topic is 'The Apostle's Creed'. I will be honest and say that I explained this through talking about Taylor Swift fans and what important things 'The Swifties' would say about her, so if your child is now comparing the Apostles to Taylor Swift, that's my fault and I'm sorry! This week we listened to the bible readings John 18:38b-19:5, John 19:16-30 and John 19:38-42 and talked about the creed as a whole. We will be breaking it down into smaller sections and learning about each section in detail across the half term. We linked it to prior worship topics on creation and the birth of Jesus.

Buy a book and help our school!

I am pleased to let you know about a new scheme all about reading, especially when we are one week away from World Book Day! **We have signed up with LoveReading4kids.co.uk, who say:**

'LoveReading4Kids exists because reading matters, and books change lives. Support local schools through the LoveReading4Kids bookshop. 10% off RRP's, and 25% of the cover price will be given to a school of your choice. Sharing book love with children's book reviews and book recommendations right across the ages, from toddlers to teens.

When you make a purchase at LoveReading.co.uk or LoveReading4Kids.co.uk, 25% of your order is donated by LoveReading4Kids to a nominated school of your choice. At the checkout stage of your purchase, you will see an option to search and choose a school you wish this allocation to be funded. The school will then be notified of a donation to their school account.

We have so far donated over £50,000 to UK schools, and with customers like yourself we will continue to help and support schools in need.' We hope that many of you might purchase a book and help raise some funds for school! Thank you.

NEW
FOR 2025



Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Services

HAMPSHIRE CAMHS INFORMATION & ADVICE SESSION YOUNG PERSON'S MENTAL HEALTH

10am - 2pm

Wednesday, 5 March 2025 and then every
first Wednesday of the month

The Arc, Jewry Street
Winchester, SO23 8SB

This is an opportunity
for parents/carers,
professionals or young
people to come and chat
to our CAMHS clinicians,
ask questions, get advice
and resources.



hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk

Adventure, fun and skills for life...

You're invited to join us at Sherborne St John Cubs



Cubs are young people age 8 to 10.5 who:

Master new skills and try new things

Have fun and go on adventures

Are curious about the world around them

Help others and make a difference, on their own doorsteps
and beyond

Our Cub Pack meets on Thursdays, 18:30 - 20:00

**If you're interested in your young person joining, email-
ellie.selwood@hampshirescouts.org.uk**

New attendance rules!

There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise. Don't get caught out!

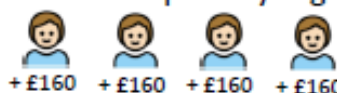
1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for 5 days.

Make sure you use the absence request form. Your holiday will not be authorised. Let the school know before you book anything. As your child will miss 5 school days, you'll be given a penalty notice fine.

1 parent & 1 child = £160
Reduced to £80 if paid in 21 days

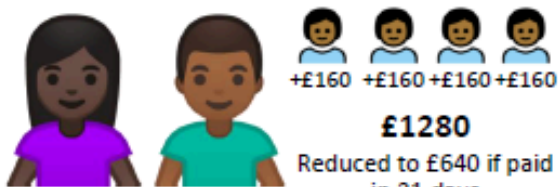


For each child a penalty is given...



1 parent & 4 children = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children



What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?
Home visit shows no-one at home?

Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

2 What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised, then...

2nd TIME
2 parents and...
1 child = £320
2 children = £640
3 children = £960
4 children = £1280
NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3rd TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2,500 for each child.
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents and 4 children = £20,000

3 What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice? **YES**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.



So, half a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

4 What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday	Sickness of parent or sibling
Shopping for uniforms	Sibling's school closed
Inadequate clothing for school	Refusing to attend, but able to
Child being used as a carer	Poor family organisation
Problems with transport	Family holidays
	No absence request completed

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.



EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW