

Sherborne St John C of E Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th June 2025



Summer Fayre - a week tomorrow!

Save the date - Saturday 14th June- be there or have a much less fun Saturday!

Thank you message from the PTA

"The School Association would like to say a huge thank you for all the generous donations that came in this morning for the Summer Fayre.

The team are busy behind the scenes organising and setting up but we do need some help! If you can spare any time on the day of the Fayre to run a stall (even if it's for a 1 hour slot 12-1pm or 1-2pm) we would be so grateful. Please send an email or return your volunteer slip that came home with the raffle tickets.

We're really looking forward to see everyone next Saturday from 12-2pm. Keep your fingers crossed for a dry day and a bit of sunshine!"

From the PTA

A message from Mrs Rennison

I know I know - the picture above says Hello Summer and it doesn't really feel like it - but I figured, if we say it enough, it might stop raining and the summer weather might actually begin!

It's been a busy first week back after half term. We WON the Tag Rugby league - wow what an amazing result! We had the Jungle Rumble Drama Workshop for Infants, which was thoroughly enjoyed, if the screams and giggles that came from the hall was anything to go by. And rehearsals kicked in for our upcoming junior production. That's all on top of our usual learning!

I wanted to say thank you to those of you who have wished me well in being appointed as Headteacher (no more acting!) at St Martin's, where I am currently 'borrowed' from, in September. Whilst I am thrilled to have been appointed, it comes with a sense of sorrow as well, as I have loved becoming part of the SSJ community and will be very sad to say goodbye to you all at the end of July. The timing was difficult, as by the time we knew that SSJ was going to be looking for a new HT, I had already committed to the interview process at St Martin's. But I know the governors will find the perfect person to take over the reins at SSJ. we'll keep you updated as and when we can. Mrs Rennison

Key Dates:

12.6.25 Tag Rugby festival all day
14.6.25 Summer fayre!
18.6.25 Leavers service @ Winchester
20.6.25 Sports Day
23.6.25 Year R to QMC
24.6.25 The Priory Quad kids comp
25.6.25 Quad Kids comp Years 5/6
26.6.25 Class 3 to Hampton Court Palace
26.6.25 Hampshire School Games
26.6.25 B.Challoner transition day
27.6.25 Hurst & B.Challoner transition day
30.6.25 New YR Teddy Bear's picnic
3.7.25 Henry Beaufort transition day
4.7.25 INSET day
8.7.25 KS1 trip to Marwell Zoo
15/16/17.7.25 Play performances!
16.7.25 Leavers' Service at the church
22.7.25 - Last Day of Term!

Collective Worship



In Collective Worship this halfterm, our topic is 'Go Go Joseph!'. This week, we thought about Big Dreams (Genesis 37: 1-11) and thought about how God had a plan for his life and a great future planned, and just like us too all Joseph had to do was to trust in God; perhaps that is easier said than done! We linked that to our hopes and dreams for our own futures, as we begin to start thinking about the transition into a new year group in September.

Whole School photo!

We had Cardwell in to take class photos this week and, as it's our 175th Anniversary year, we decided to also have a whole school photo taken as well! I was sooo impressed by the children's behaviour and how sensible they were, waiting on the stand for quite a long time, whilst we got everyone positioned.

The exciting thing is that this year, a mini video will be embedded in the photograph. So, if you purchase one, once it's arrived, when you hold your phone over it, it will show the whole school doing a mexican wave! Cue much amusement as not all children knew what one was - but they do now! you do have to have a copy of the photo to see the video, which is only seconds long, but does add an extra bit of fun to the photo, and it was free to add as well. Hopefully this whole school photo will help us to generate additional tickets sales and therefore revenue for the school. But we also had fun making the video!



Wanted for Summer Fayre

Cakes - best sellers include whole cakes, cup cakes, biscuits or homemade sweets or fudge. Please remember we are a nut free school.

Plants – Any donations of plants for the plant stall.

School Uniform – School uniform (SSJ Logo) in good condition.

Your kind donations can be dropped into school on the 13th June or the morning of 14th June.

Many Thanks.



THREE WEEKENDS PACKED WITH FABULOUS STREET PERFORMANCES

Basingstoke
Festival



Summer
starts here!

Friday 20 June to

Sunday 6 July 2025

Basingstoke's
award-winning
outdoor arts
festival
returns.



www.BasingstokeFestival.co.uk

STREET THEATRE | CIRCUS | MUSIC | ACROBATICS | DANCE



**29th July
Brilliant
Biology**

**31st July
Wacky
Weather**

**5th August
Bubble-
ologists**

**7th August
Noisy Science**

**24th July
Extraordinary
Engineering**

**12th August
Summer
Holiday
Experiments**

Fun Science

www.fun-science.org.uk

**Summer Holiday Clubs
Froyle Village Hall**

<https://tinyurl.com/FroyleSummerScience>



CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF SHERBORNE ST JOHN SCHOOL

Save the date - Saturday 27th September

We will be having an event to mark the anniversary, more details to follow.

Do you know someone who went to SSJ School?

We are compiling a book. Please send

- Your memories of the school.
- What you have gone on to do.

Please send any contributions to ssjschool175@outlook.com by

29th June or contact Lynda Harding on the email above or

Becky on 07759930439

*Please only send pictures of yourself/ your own children



Free* Courses for Parents this Summer Term

Course	Location	Date	Time
Positive Parenting	Online	Tuesdays 22 April - 20 May	7:30pm - 9pm
Emergency First Aid	Alton Library	Saturday 26 April	9:45am - 4:45pm
Emergency First Aid	Tadley Library	Saturday 3 May	9:45am - 4:45pm
Emergency First Aid	Basingstoke Discovery Centre	Saturday 10 May	9:45am - 4:45pm
Raising Resilient Children	Online	Mondays 2 - 30 June	7:30pm - 9pm
Emergency First Aid	Andover Library	Wednesday 11 June	9:45am - 4:30pm
Introduction to Paediatric First Aid	Online	Tuesdays 17 June - 8 July	6:30pm - 9:15pm
Emergency Paediatric First Aid	Bridgemary Library	Friday 20 June	9:15am - 4:30pm
Emergency First Aid	Waterlooville Library	Saturday 28 June	9:45am - 4:45pm

*Free tuition, some courses may have a certification or materials fee



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

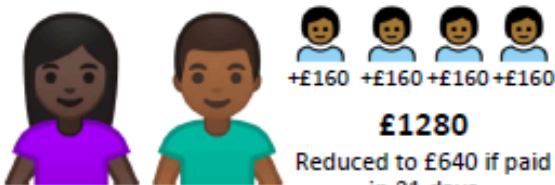


For each child a penalty is given...



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
Shopping for uniforms
Inadequate clothing for school
Child being used as a carer
Problems with transport

Sickness of parent or sibling
Sibling's school closed
Refusing to attend, but able to
Poor family organisation
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