



THE SCHOOL BELL

KEY DATES

INSET DAYS

Monday 1st June 2026
Wednesday 22nd July 2026

27th January- Class 1&2 Milestones trip
29th January - Class 4 - QMC
3rd February - Class 4 Butser Farm Trip
9th & 11th February - Parents Evening
16th February -Half Term
23rd February - Return to School
27th March - Break up for Easter Holidays
13th April - Return to School

A NOTE FROM MRS ALVIS....

It has been a fantastic week at SSJ.

We have officially introduced our new emotional check-in resources, and it has been lovely to overhear the children speaking so articulately and honestly about their feelings. Helping our pupils develop this emotional literacy is a key priority for us and seeing them embrace it so quickly is wonderful. We've shared some pictures below.

I have also been incredibly impressed by the atmosphere across the school this week. The children have been moving around the building with such calmness and purpose and the levels of engagement in the classrooms have been fantastic to witness.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for our SIAMS inspection on Monday, 19th January. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school's distinctive Christian character to really shine. We look forward to sharing the values that make our community so special.

Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you to the parents who have agreed to meet with the inspector. Your support and feedback are invaluable to us.

Have a great weekend all.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Parking

The school will have a skip delivered on Monday 26th January which will remain in the car park until Friday 30th January.

This will mean we have reduced parking and so the parking outside school maybe busier than usual.

Website

I would like to update the school website with some new images of the school and pupils. If you or someone you know might be able to help with some photography please contact the office.

REMINDERS

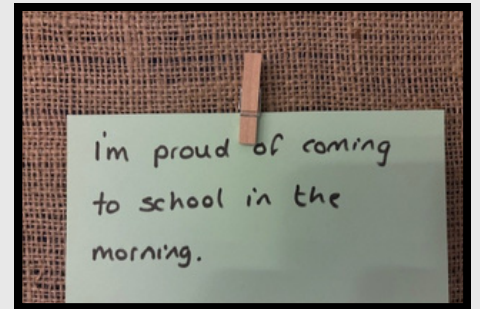
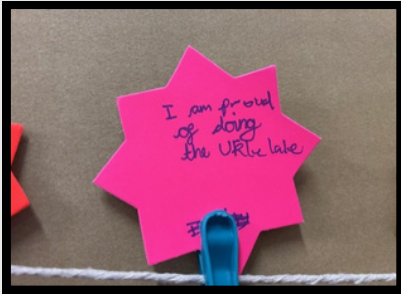
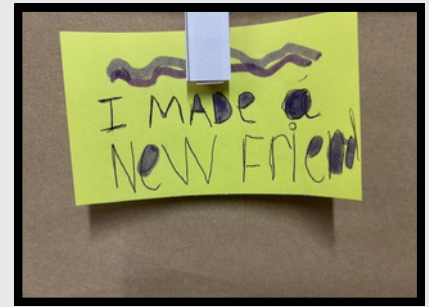
Punctuality

The school gates open at 8.35am and close at 8.45am. Please ensure your children are on time for school. It can be incredibly dysregulating for children to enter classrooms that are already in full swing - the early part of the day is used for settling in and is important for children socially.

Parents Evening

Parents Evenings dates were opened for booking at 6pm last night. Please ensure you book a time to meet your child's class teacher.

Examples of our High Five Friday board and Emotional Check Ins



Class 3 have been enjoying their ukulele lessons...



Collective Worship

This week we explored the theme of Active Inclusion, focusing on the intentional habit of making space for those on the edges. Through the stories of Zacchaeus and the Parable of the Great Banquet, we learned how Jesus went out of His way to include the overlooked. During our circle widener reflection, we discussed how moving a chair to include someone new is a powerful way to build our Body of Christ community. To put this into practice, we challenged every student to look for the "empty chair" at lunchtime and invite someone alone to join them.

PTA NEWS

Upcoming events for your diary:

Friday 27th February - Quiz Night - 7 - 9.30pm

Saturday 21st March - School disco

Monday 23rd March - Easter Movie Mob - 3.15-5.15pm

If you would like to help out the School Association then please drop them a line:

School.Association@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk

They are so important and provide wonderful opportunities for the whole school throughout the year.



We were very pleased to receive a visit from Perform on Thursday 8th January. The children had a wonderful time exploring the theme of Midnight in the Toyshop. Perform run regular weekly classes in the local area and they are offering a special introductory discount to all parents of Sherborne St John CE Primary School if they come along for a free trial session before Friday 27th February.

To claim your discount, just call Perform on 020 7255 9120 quoting SHEB270226 or book a Free Trial Session online at perform.org.uk/try.

PAPAYA BASINGSTOKE & DEANE PARENTS

Let's talk about our kids and their tech

ONLINE PARENT TALKS—REGISTER HERE:

TUESDAY 20 th JANUARY 2026	
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM — LINK	
TUESDAY 3 rd FEBRUARY 2026	
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM — LINK	
THURSDAY 26 th FEBRUARY 2026	
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM — LINK	

Hannah Verney Lloyd

Hannah is a qualified teacher with over ten years of experience and, most recently, served as an Assistant Head Pastoral at a London prep school. She is passionate about mental health and wellbeing and cares deeply about empowering parents, children, and teenagers as they navigate managing their online lives to achieve the best possible mental health and happiness.

She joined PAPAYA through her voluntary work with Smartphone-Free Childhood, and after hearing a talk by Jonathan Haidt, she became more convinced than ever that the safest space for children is one where they are free to be themselves.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

SERVICE OF WELCOME

25th January 2026 10.30am
St Andrew's Church SSJ

A service for all ages to welcome the new Headteacher of Sherborne St John Primary School to our community.

Mrs Vickie Alvis
Headteacher

NATIONAL TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Scan the QR Code to Register

FESTIVAL OF FREE TENNIS AT BASINGSTOKE TENNIS

BACK ON COURT THIS JANUARY 2026

TENNIS TASTERS

Kickstart your fitness journey with a free group coaching taster at Basingstoke Tennis starting 20th January. Whether you're a total beginner or returning to the game, our brand-new sessions are the perfect way to get active and stay social.

OPEN DAY EVENT

The perfect chance to jump on court with taster sessions for both adults and juniors. Meet our friendly coaching team, chat about our programmes, and discover our local tennis community. Plus, enjoy exclusive discounts on coaching and memberships available only to those who attend on the day!

FREE PARKS TENNIS

Free social tennis in Basingstoke every weekend for all ages! With equipment provided and qualified activators leading the way, just turn up, mix in, and meet new people in a fun group environment.

Email: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk

<https://www.ssj-school.co.uk/>



Join our new working group



We are creating a **Children and Families Participation Strategy**. This strategy will shape how we are involving children, young people and parents/carers in the Children and Families Division.

Who can join?



- Youth Ambassadors
- Parents/carers
- Staff

Whether you bring lived experience, professional insight, or a passion for collaboration, your voice matters.

What will I be doing?



As a member of the working group, you will:

- Help shape our priorities and goals for the next five years
- Help plan and support engagement with children, families, staff, and partners.
- Share your knowledge, views, ideas and experiences to help shape our engagement approach and strategy.

Dates and Times



We will meet **monthly** on **Teams**. **First Session:** 21st January 4 - 5.30pm

Meetings following this will be **Wednesdays 4-5pm** on:

25 th February	22nd April	17th June
25 th March	20th May	

If this sounds like something you'd love to be part of, please [email us to let us know you are interested and available](#):



hiowh.candfparticipationteam@nhs.net by **Friday 16th January 2025**.