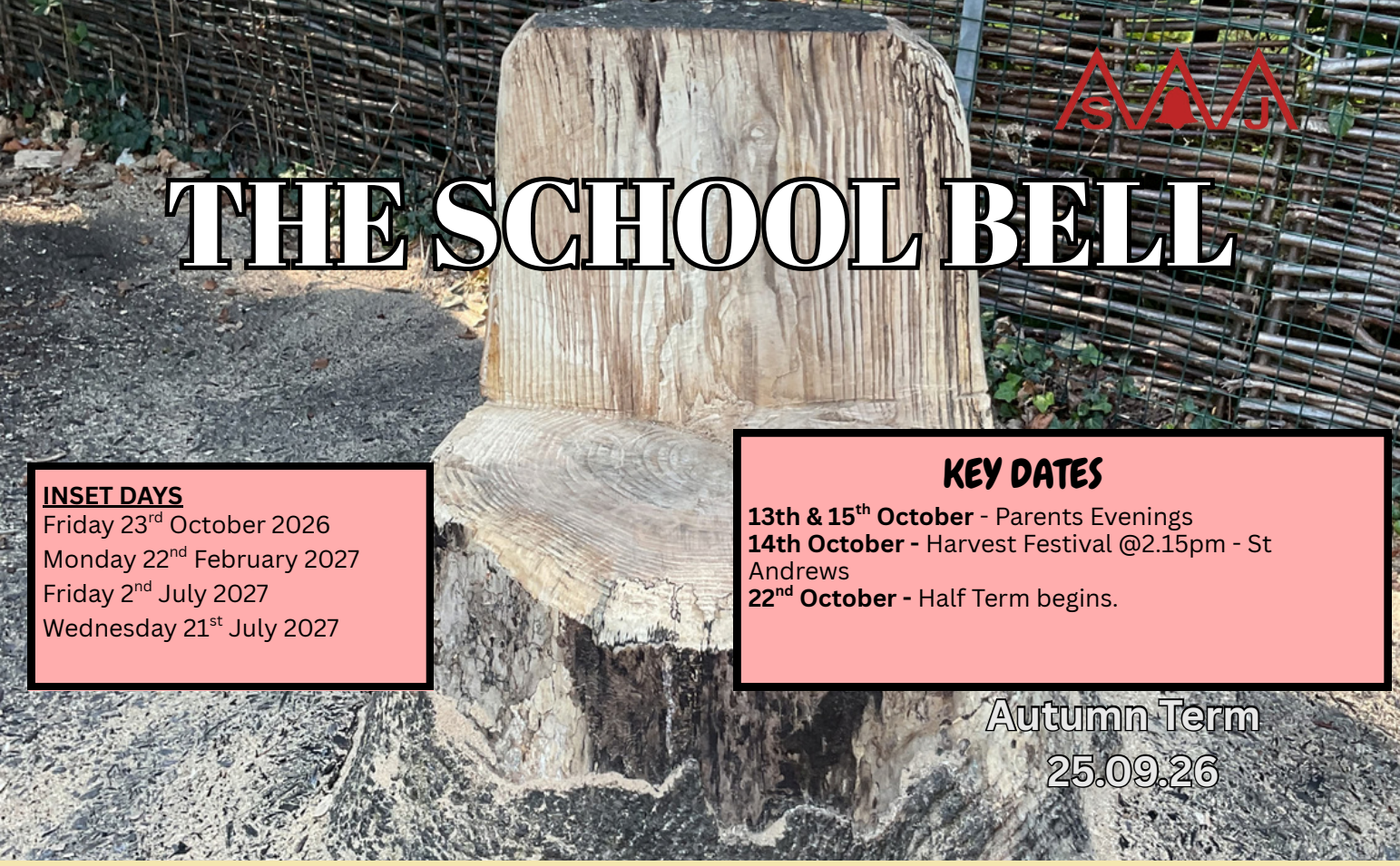




THE SCHOOL BELL

INSET DAYS

Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 22nd February 2027
Friday 2nd July 2027
Wednesday 21st July 2027

KEY DATES

13th & 15th October - Parents Evenings
14th October - Harvest Festival @2.15pm - St Andrews
22nd October - Half Term begins.

Autumn Term
25.09.26

What a busy week it has been at Sherborne St John! Earlier this week, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Kelly Betteridge, who spoke to the children about our school value of Truth and even brought along her pontifical vestments for some children to try on. We also enjoyed fantastic musical theatre workshops from Showstoppers, which were a huge hit with many of our pupils.

I had the absolute pleasure of accompanying Year 4 to swimming on Wednesday, and their behaviour, attitudes and enthusiasm were outstanding. Mrs Hewett, Mrs Lok and I were incredibly proud of them.

We also ended the week with a wonderful Celebration Assembly, including a whole Year 4 Star of the Week award!

A huge thank you goes to Mr Price and Mr King, two of our fantastic parents, who have completed work on our beautiful new Storyteller's Chair (pictured above). The children have already been enjoying it today and we are very grateful for their hard work and generosity.

A quick reminder that next Thursday is Census Day, which is incredibly important for school funding. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please ensure they order a school lunch on the day. The number of infant meals taken on Census Day directly affects the funding we receive. If a child who is entitled to a free meal does not have one recorded on that day, the school misses out on funding and the cost of providing those meals throughout the year has to be met from our already very limited school budget.

Similarly, **if you think your family may be eligible for Pupil Premium**, I would strongly encourage you to check your eligibility before Thursday. While applications can be made at any time, funding is based on the information recorded on Census Day. If eligible children are not registered by then, the school misses out on valuable funding that helps us provide additional support, resources and opportunities for pupils. Mrs Hale will be very happy to help if you are unsure whether you qualify.

Finally, we are hoping to open our brand new library next week. Our librarians have been working incredibly hard and we look forward to sharing photographs of the finished space with you soon.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Alvis

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

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

Become a School Governor at Sherborne St John CofE Primary School

Would you like to make a positive difference to the education of local children? We are currently seeking both Parent Governors and Non-Parent Governors to join our friendly and dedicated Governing Body.

School governors play a vital role in supporting and challenging school leaders, helping to shape the future direction of the school and ensuring every child receives the very best education and opportunities to thrive.

We are looking for people who are passionate about our school and community, can attend approximately two meetings per term, and are willing to share their skills, experience and perspective. We welcome interest from people with a wide range of backgrounds and, in particular, would be keen to hear from anyone with financial or business experience.

No previous experience of governance is required, as training and support are provided.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor, please contact the school office: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

Earrings

For health and safety reasons, Hampshire guidance requires that all earrings must be removed for PE lessons.

Please ensure that your child either does not wear earrings on their PE day or is able to remove and replace them independently.

Unfortunately, staff are unable to remove or put earrings back in for children. While taping earrings may appear to make them safer, it does not provide the level of protection required to meet health and safety guidelines.

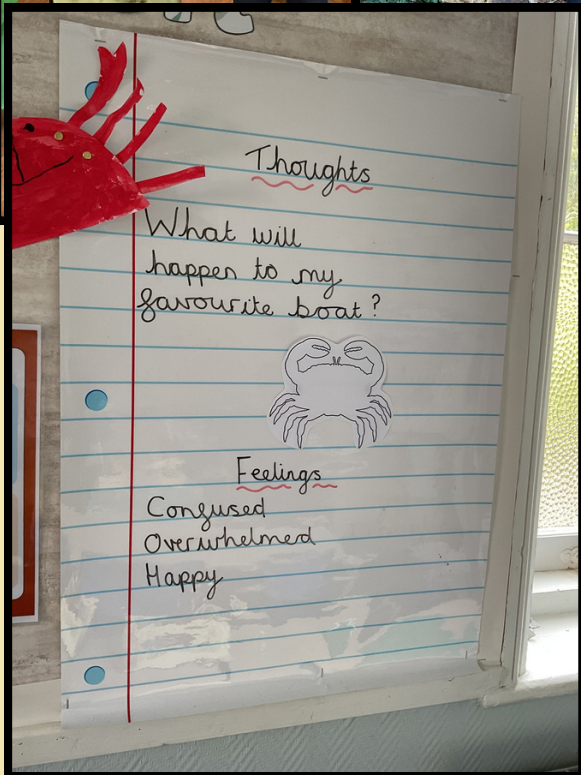
If a child is unable to remove their earrings independently, they will not be able to take part in PE lessons. We appreciate that this can be disappointing for children, so we would be grateful for your support in either ensuring earrings are not worn on PE days or helping your child practise removing and replacing them independently.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship, we have been exploring our school value of Truth. Through the Parable of the Wedding Feast, the children reflected on how easy it can be to make excuses and avoid doing what we know is right. We discussed the importance of being honest with ourselves and others, taking responsibility for our choices, and responding positively when opportunities are offered to us. As part of our reflections, we considered Jesus' words, "I am the way, the truth and the life" and thought about how telling the truth helps to build trust, strengthen relationships and set us free from worry.

The School View!





School Association News



The School Association are excited to begin the Autumn term with the return of our ever-popular adults only Quiz Night!

We're really pleased to once again be hosting this event in partnership with SSJ Social Club. Please see the attached poster for more details.

Date: Friday 16th October 2026

Time: 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Location: Sherborne St. John Social Club, Elm Road, Sherborne St. John

Tickets: £5 per head

Teams: Maximum of 6 people per team

Booking link: www.pta-events.co.uk/ssjsa-events

All funds raised via ticket sales and the on the night raffle (£1 per ticket) will be used for supporting the school.

You can book as a ready made team of 6 or we can group people together on the night to make up a team. Please do feel free to bring friends and family along even if they are not directly associated with the School. This is a community event and it's great to bring everyone together.

Doors will be open from 7pm with the quiz starting promptly at 7.30pm and finishing at approximately 9.00 - 9.30pm. The social club remains open until 11pm so please don't rush off - stay to enjoy a drink and the rest of your evening!



The poster is framed by a decorative border of autumnal elements. At the top corners are clusters of orange and red berries. On the left and right sides are branches with orange and red leaves and small round berries. At the bottom corners are large orange pumpkins with green stems. In the center bottom is a single orange flower. Two mushrooms are positioned on the left and right sides, flanking the main title. The background is a solid light green color.

Harvest FESTIVAL

—
YOU ARE WARMLY
INVITED TO THE HARVEST
FESTIVAL

Wednesday 14th October 2026
St Andrews Church @ 2.15pm

Donations for Basingstoke
Foodbank to be brought to
school in the morning.



SHERBORNE ST. JOHN CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Planning for Reception September 2027 or another
year group?**

We warmly invite you....

To visit our caring and ambitious school

AUTUMN OPEN DAYS

Monday 21st September

Thursday 8th October

Wednesday 14th October

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

or

call: 01256 850180

TRUTH

TRUST

FORGIVENESS