



THE SCHOOL BELL

INSET DAYS

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

Autumn Term
01.10.26

KEY DATES

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

It has been another great week at school. On Wednesday, we welcomed members of our Governing Board into school for a full-day visit. Governors spent time in classrooms, spoke with pupils and staff and met with Mrs Clarke and me to discuss the curriculum and our priorities for school improvement. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn more about the important role governors play in supporting and challenging school leaders to ensure the very best outcomes for all pupils.

We currently have vacancies on our Governing Board and would love to hear from anyone who may be interested in this rewarding and influential role. Being a governor is a fantastic way to contribute to the strategic direction of the school, develop new skills and make a real difference to our community. Please see the advert below and contact Mrs Hale if you would like to find out more. She will arrange for our Chair of Governors to get in touch for an informal conversation.

Yesterday, we were delighted to welcome iRock into school for a special assembly. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to live music and having the opportunity to take part themselves - check their bags for more information on iRock and their music lessons.

A reminder to please book your appointment for Parents' Evening in a couple of weeks' time. We look forward to welcoming you into school and sharing your child's progress with you. Finally, on Monday, the children will get a sneak peek at our brand-new library. We delayed the launch slightly to allow time to install some newly arrived furniture which arrived much earlier than expected. The finished space is looking fantastic and we cannot wait for the children to start enjoying it.

Next week sees the start of our Conker Competition. Please bring in your biggest, hardest and most impressive conkers for your class heats!

Learning Behaviours and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

This week, we have been talking with the children about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and, in particular, the universal right to an education. We discussed how our behaviour can have a positive impact not only on our own learning but also on the learning of those around us. When teachers are interrupted by talking, calling out or distractions, valuable learning time is lost and the progress of the whole class can be affected.

The children and I explored what makes an effective learning environment and how we can all play our part in ensuring that everyone is able to learn to the best of their ability.

A key message was that when an adult gives an instruction in school, it should be followed promptly so that learning can continue smoothly and successfully.

We would be grateful for your support in reinforcing this message at home. The learning that takes place each day is incredibly important in preparing children for the next stage of their education and strong learning habits are a vital part of this.

If a child repeatedly disrupts the learning of others, they may be asked to complete a reflection sheet with an adult to help them consider their choices and identify any support they may need to be more successful in the classroom.

If your child's learning is consistently being affected by difficulties in managing the classroom environment, their class teacher will speak with you so that we can work together to provide support.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support in helping us create a calm, respectful and purposeful learning environment for all children.

Parents' Partnership Forum

We are keen to strengthen opportunities for parents to contribute to the strategic development of our school and are therefore establishing a Parents' Partnership Forum.

The forum will meet once each term and will provide an opportunity for parents to share their views, discuss key aspects of school life and contribute to discussions about the school's future direction. Meetings will have an agreed agenda so that discussions remain focused and productive.

If you are interested in joining the forum, please complete the form linked below. As well as registering your interest, we ask that you indicate your availability so that we can identify a meeting time that works for as many parents as possible throughout the year.

Our first meeting this term will focus on our Vision and Values. This is an important area of work that staff and governors will also be exploring during our upcoming INSET day, and we would welcome parent perspectives as we shape this together.

We look forward to working in partnership with you.

[Register of Interest.](#)

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.

Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship, we explored the well-known Bible story of The Good Samaritan, thinking about what it means to show kindness, compassion and generosity to others. We linked this to the wonderful work of the Wessex Rotary Shoebox Appeal, discussing how the simple act of giving can make a real difference to children and families in need.

A reminder to send in your allocated items for the appeal to the school office. Thank you for your support.

Next week, as we prepare for Harvest, the children and I will be learning about the important work of the local Foodbank and considering how we can help those in our community who may need extra support.

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 including pumpkins, mushrooms, berries, and leaves in shades of orange, red, and brown. The background is a solid light green.

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.

OPEN DAYS

Looking for a Reception place for September 2027?

Come and visit our caring, ambitious and inclusive school

AUTUMN OPEN DAYS
Thursday 8th October
Wednesday 14th October
Monday 9th November

***“Pupils are justifiably
happy and proud to
be at this school.”
Ofsted 2026.***

*Play with purpose: developing confident learners and
secure academic foundations.*

**SHERBORNE ST. JOHN CofE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Contact: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk or call: 01256 850180

TRUTH

TRUST

FORGIVENESS